

April 8, 1991

CONFERENCE CALL

MINUTES

Commission members present:

Lorna Stickel
Cliff Bentz
Hadley Akins
Jim Howland
Mike Jewett
Roger Bachman

Staff present:

John Borden
Bev Hayes
Jan Shaw
Tom Paul
Becky Kreag
Steve Applegate
Barry Norris
Doug Parrow
Bud Bartels

Others:

Audrey Simmons
Kip Lombard
Doug Meyers

The staff reports presented at this meeting, which contain the Director's recommendations mentioned in these minutes, are on file in the Office of the Director of the Water Resources Department, 3850 Portland Road, NE, Salem, Oregon. Written information submitted at this meeting is hereby made a part of this record and is on file at the above address. Audiocassette recording tapes of the meeting are also on file in the Water Resources Department office.

1. Legislature:

Bev Hayes reported that neither Water Policy Committee met last Tuesday.

On Thursday the House committee considered HB 3328, which allows certain rights to water right holders, and SB 202, the Department's springs bill.

On Thursday, the Senate committee heard SB 742, and the Department expressed its concerns to the committee on certain portions of the bill. SB 240 managed to get out of committee and is on its way to Ways & Means. Agreement was reached on most points.

On Friday, the agency budget went before Ways & Means.

(MORE)

This week, Hayes said, the Senate committee will not meet on Tuesday. On Thursday, however, they have invited testimony on SB 1147, the drinking water bill, as well as SB 1163, WaterWatch's bill.

On the House side, Hayes said that the committee will be considering a DEQ bill and a fish bill. They will hold a work session on HB 3373, the water storage bill introduced by Rep. Norris. It is expected to be passed out of committee soon.

On Thursday, the committee will hear the agency's critical groundwater bill again. The Department is making some progress on this issue and has met with most members of the committee on it.

The Commission discussed SB 1147, 1129 and 1163 in detail.

The Commission had no problems with SB 1147, the safe drinking water funding bill, and approved the provisions of the bill overall. The Commission agreed that they would support the bill in its present form.

SB 1163 was discussed section by section by the Commission. The Commission members made a number of comments or suggestions on various parts of the bill.

(Mike Jewett left the conference call meeting at this point.)

Chair Stickel asked that the Department finish discussion on the rest of SB 1163 at next Monday's conference call, to continue from Section 9A.

2. Request for authorization to conduct a public hearing on proposed amendments to OAR 690-250-150.

The Department requested authorization to go to hearing on proposed amendments to the above rule. The amendment would allow the Department to regulate to meet the stored water component of minimum streamflows in the Willamette Basin if, and when, they are converted to instream water rights.

In order to hold a rulemaking hearing in May, the agency needed to file notice with the Secretary of State by April 15. Approval of filing of the notice would not preclude the Commission from modifying the proposed rule during its April 19 meeting. In addition, the Department would be able to cancel the hearing if the Commission ultimately decided not to proceed with rulemaking.

The Commission deferred any formal action on this matter until next Monday's conference call.