

May 6, 1991

CONFERENCE CALL

MINUTESCommission members present:

Lorna Stickel
Cliff Bentz
Hadley Akins
Jim Howland
Roger Bachman

Absent:

Mike Jewett

Others:

Audrey Simmons

Staff present:

Bill Young
Bev Hayes
John Borden
Jan Shaw
Becky Kreag
Tom Paul
Vern Church
Mike Ladd
Bob Main
Randy Moore
Lonnie Leinenbach
Steve Applegate
Fred Lissner
Barry Norris.

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. Legislation: Becky Kreag reported on the activity at the House Water Policy Committee last week.

She said that the House Water Policy Committee considered HB 2677 and HB 3323. On HB 2677, the discussion focused on a third version developed by Legislative Counsel after working with a number of interest groups, Parks and Fish and Wildlife. There had been discussion about a temporary amendment for issuing findings to allow use for domestic and livestock purposes. The agency and Legislative Counsel put together a proposal but no one had a good chance to examine it before the committee meeting. Chair Stickel asked for copies of that bill to be sent to the Commission members.

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The other bill the committee considered was HB 3323, which exempts portions of the Nestucca River from scenic waterways designation. Lengthy hearings have been held on this bill.

The Director reviewed the Senate committee meeting from last Tuesday.

The committee spent a fair amount of time, he said, on whether reestablishing the Columbia River Compact would be a good idea. The committee also heard testimony on this from the Department, from Angus Duncan (Northwest Power Planning Council) and others. No conclusion was reached, and the committee will probably hold further hearings on the bill.

On Thursday, the Senate Water Policy Committee ended its session at 7:30 pm. They considered SB 742, which modifies requirements for ponds or reservoirs. The agency presented to the committee the same alternatives that it presented to the House committee, which was a water-use license that would be less costly and complicated to obtain but also would offer less security than a standard permit. The committee was interested in that concept but were also interested in limiting that ability to apply for water-use licenses.

The committee also invited testimony on SB 1183, but there was no public comment. They will hear that bill again this week.

The committee also considered SB 1012 which would have allowed water associations the same kinds of privileges as municipalities have to bank water for future use. Senator Larry Hill was not inclined to move the bill at this point.

Sen. Gene Timms held a hearing on SB 878 which would allow a water supply corporation to supply water for industrial use to a user in a critical groundwater area. No one testified on the bill, and it was tabled.

The committee did not hear the streamflow restoration bill nore the district management bill.

SB 1080, which has to do with some problem on the coast, was heard. There was no testimony and it was expected to be passed out of committee.

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This week on the Senate side, the committee will be considering SB 906 and will be taking public testimony on SB 1183. On Thursday, the Senate committee will consider SB 969 and SB 1147, the bill which deals with the Clean Water Act problems and which would use other funds for improvements. The Senate committee will also consider SB 1154.

On the House side, the committee will consider two of the agency's bills on Tuesday. They are SB 201, the reporting bill which contains changes in language, and SB 202, the springs bill up for a work session. The Department has suggested amendments, and the committee may move forward with its amendments.

The committee is also expected to consider HB 3465. There is much opposition to that bill from the agencies involved but support from user groups.

On Thursday, there will be a work session on HB 2926 and on a number of other bills which the agency is not tracking.