



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Water Resources Department

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Water Resources Commission Minutes

Thursday, November 16, 2023

Hybrid, Salem, Oregon

(V)=Virtual Attendance

Commissioners	Attendees OWRD Staff	Others
Eric Quaempts (V)	Doug Woodcock	April Snell
Joe Moll	Racquel Rancier	Chris Schull
Julie Smitherman	Ivan Gall	Glenn Barrett
Jan Lee Weinberg	Danielle Gonzalez	Gene Souza (V)
Woody Wolfe	Mindy Lane	Ryan McIntire (V)
	Annette Liebe	Ken Yates (V)
	Justin Iverson (V)	Arnold Irrigation (V)
	Kim Fritz-Ogren	Bruce Scanlon (V)
	Kristi Seyfried (V)	Steve Pappas (V)
	Grant Nasset	Jacob Kimiecik (V)
	Dwight French	
	Laura Hartt (V)	
	Tom Skiles (V)	
	Adair Muth (V)	

Written material submitted at this meeting is part of the official record and is on file at the Oregon Water Resources Department, 725 Summer Street NE, Suite A, Salem, Oregon 97301-1271.

Agendas, minutes, PowerPoint presentations, staff reports, and audio/video files are available on the Department's [website](#).

Commission Meeting

Chair Quaempts convened the meeting.

https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=t8tHgKoS_l6Tkhuz&t=214

L. Klamath Dam Removal Update

Richard Whitman, Special Assistant to the Director, provided an update on activities in the Klamath Basin, with a specific focus on dam removal.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=U2hIJFTN519OW3aG&t=341>

A. Commission Appointments to the Groundwater Advisory Committee

Justin Iverson, Groundwater Section Manager, presented recommendations for appointments to the Groundwater Advisory Committee.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=xWDtMkseyqhdoM8t&t=4652>

Commissioner Moll moved, Commissioner Smitherman seconded, to appoint Lance Lindow

as the local government representative to fill the vacancy of Susan Baker; to reappoint Richard Smith to a second term as the representative of the domestic well owner community; to appoint Zach Freed as the science-focused representative to fill the vacancy of Marshall Gannett; and to appoint Chuck Fobert as the representative of the monitoring well construction industry to fill the open drilling vacancy with all terms starting December 1, 2023 and expiring November 30, 2026. Votes in favor: Commissioners Wolfe, Weinberg, Moll, Smitherman, and Chair Quaempts. Excused: Commissioners Kihara and Reeves. Motion passed unanimously.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SsVUvZ8Nbgs&t=5050s>

B. Director's Report

Doug Woodcock, Acting Director, provided an update on Department business and late-breaking issues.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=IpWVnX7IvvvNDqIA&t=5112>

Chair Quaempts announced for the record that Commissioners Kihara and Reeves are excused from the Commission meeting.

https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=6lF_fxOOxPM4gUs2&t=6290

C. Project Implementation

Racquel Rancier, Deputy Director of Strategy and Administration, and Ivan Gall, Acting Deputy Director of Water Management, provided an overview of agency work and projects.

https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=6lF_fxOOxPM4gUs2&t=6312

D. 2025 Session – Legislative and Budget Preparation

Bryn Hudson, Legislative Coordinator, provided an overview of the Department's intended approach for developing the 2025-2027 Agency Request Budget and 2025 legislative agenda.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=xlu2U-W98zo1XKxv&t=8661>

E. Water Project Grants and Loans Award Funding Recommendations

Adair Muth, Grant Coordinator, and Kim Fritz-Ogren, Planning, Collaboration, and Investments Section Manager presented the Technical Review Team's scoring results, evaluation summaries and funding recommendations, public comments received, and the Department's funding recommendations.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=GbBUB0h3DQoLARoa&t=12394>

Public Comment, April Snell

<https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=fOtCJ3mnJOeO3WSD&t=13873>

Commissioner Smitherman moved, Commissioner Weinberg seconded, to adopt the funding recommendation contained in Table 2 of the report to fund six applications for a total award of \$13,984,445. Votes in favor: Commissioners Wolfe, Weinberg, Moll, Smitherman, and Chair Quaempts. Excused: Commissioners Kihara and Reeves. Motion passed unanimously.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=hR1eZumdPrpOxJeq&t=15593>

F. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 2023 meeting were presented for Commission approval.

Commissioner Wolfe moved, Commissioner Smitherman seconded, to approve the September 2023 Water Resources Commission meeting minutes as presented. Votes in favor: Commissioners Weinberg, Wolfe, Moll, Smitherman, and Chair Quaempts. Excused: Commissioners Kihara and Reeves. Motion passed unanimously.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=n5RKOpfGEyMtgW95&t=15661>

G. Integrated Water Resources Strategy Work Session

Crystal Grinnell, Integrated Water Resources Strategy Specialist, provided an overview of the 2023 IWRS draft framework and associated documents.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=L3EhBSz1qn9qNjnF&t=16665>

Chair Quaempts adjourned the meeting for the day.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/SsVUvZ8Nbgs?si=yHuoxmt32AxsspBG&t=24610>

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Hybrid, Salem, Oregon

(V)=Virtual Attendance

Commissioners	Attendees	Others
Eric Quaempts (V)	Doug Woodcock	April Snell
Joe Moll	Racquel Rancier	Greg Kupillas
Meg Reeves	Ivan Gall	Glenn Barrett
Julie Smitherman	Danielle Gonzalez	Brenda Bateman
Jan Lee Weinberg	Mindy Lane	Ethan Stuckmayer
Woody Wolfe	Annette Liebe	Lisa Brown (V)
	Justin Iverson	Gene Souza (V)
	Kim Fritz-Ogren	Malia Kupillas (V)
	Kristi Seyfried (V)	Brenda Bateman (V)
	Grant Nasset	Lauren Link (V)
	Dwight French	Mike Tripp (V)
	Travis Brown	Chris Hall (V)
	Laura Hartt	Doug Riggs (V)
	Emelie McKain	Paul D (V)
		Michael Preedin (V)
		KID Board Room (V)

Chair Quaempts called the meeting to order.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=h4d0ZVM9NC7KHI8A&t=236>

H. Groundwater Level Declines – Impacts and Managing for Sustainability

Ivan Gall, Acting Deputy Director, Water Management, presented a general discussion about declining groundwater levels and management approaches.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=wMZC4YIp4XveXP0P&t=252>

Public Comment: Malia Kupllias

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=tuqE7LWbXHhNLTjA&t=4920>

Public Comment: Sisters Mayor Michael Preedin

https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=QW7fk4ZDNO1bSKL_&t=5310

I. Groundwater Allocation Rulemaking Update

Annette Liebe, Technical Services Division Administrator, Laura Hartt, Rules Coordinator, Justin Iverson, Groundwater Section Manager, and Emelie McKain, Senior Water Advisor, presented an update of the Groundwater Allocation Rulemaking process.

https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=ndlJBIfcq5y_SjZ3&t=5816

Public Comment: Brenda Bateman, Director, Department of Land Conservation & Development (DLCD) and Ethan Stuckmayer, Housing Services Division Manager, DLCD

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=eS7qF340d6tuq6A1&t=11507>

J. Commissioner Comments

Commissioners reported on their recent activities, shared information, and commented on a variety of water resource topics.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=Y5ZskbRkjUg2bRVU&t=14457>

K. Public Comment and Other Issues

Public Comment: Greg Kupillas

https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=v9MIUmT_9f8v381e&t=12450

Public Comment: Glenn Barrett

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=leLss5OLbdFw0KVI&t=12847>

Public Comment: Doug Riggs

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=t5cuMNUPsuyWEPLw&t=13059>

Public Comment: Lauren Link

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=8khfkXele27FWxWY&t=13520>

Public Comment: Lisa Brown, WaterWatch

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=AgKWaASSL3buLrCH&t=13656>

Public Comment: Mike Tripp

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=vb9wFDDCOxTnRVFP&t=13935>

Public Comment: April Snell, Oregon Water Resources Congress

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=wvvDzdfDxGL4CUNn&t=14128>

Public Comment: Chris Hall, Executive Director, Water League

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=Fclra3SaKPAYq4z4&t=15525>

Chair Quaempts adjourned the meeting.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/xDeIOfsfyIw?si=A6AaA2I45dchOvu2&t=15768>

Submitted by Mindy Lane, Executive Support, Director's Office.