



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Water Resources Department

North Mall Office Building
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301-1271
503-986-0900
FAX 503-986-0904

MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Resources Commission

FROM: Phillip C. Ward, Director

SUBJECT: Agenda Item G, November 17, 2006
Water Resources Commission Meeting

Commission Approval of Appointments to the Ground Water Advisory Committee

I. Issue Statement

The nine-member Ground Water Advisory Committee (GWAC) has three members whose terms expire on November 30, 2006. OAR Chapter 690, Division 235 rules describe a process for soliciting candidates. Staff used this process to generate a list of candidates for the three positions.

II. Background

The Commission's Ground Water Advisory Committee is appointed and charged with certain duties pursuant to ORS 536.090. These duties include: (1) advice on all matters relating to rules for the development, securing, use and protection of ground water; and the licensing and examination of well constructors; and (2) review of the proposed expenditure of start card fee revenues. The Committee is to consist of nine members who represent a range of interests and expertise, with at least three of the members actively engaged in some aspect of the water supply or monitoring well drilling industry.

The Commission's rules under OAR Chapter 690, Division 235 provide a process to identify GWAC candidates, prescribe categories of expertise which may be represented on GWAC, and allow appointments for up to three years. The rules result in expiration of three terms per year, thus staggering membership. Any mid-term vacancy is filled for the remainder of the term. Each year, staff seek Commission action on GWAC appointments and/or reappointments.

In accordance with the rule process, GWAC has three regular membership positions that must be filled. In order to comply with the GWAC statute, a person who is active in the well construction industry must fill one of the positions. The other two positions may represent other interests or expertise. Current GWAC membership is listed in the Attachment.

Recruitment for GWAC candidates included reviewing recommendations from individuals, organizations, and Department staff, as well as letters of interest from current members wishing to continue to serve. Notice of the recruitment was sent to individuals on the GWAC mailing list maintained by the Department. The notices advised interested parties of the committee vacancies and asked that those wishing to be considered for a position on GWAC notify the Director.

III. Discussion

A total of eight individuals expressed interest in filling the three vacant positions. The candidate pool was very impressive. The recommended candidates include one current member and two new appointments. The Department recommends reappointment of John Stadeli as a drilling industry representative and appointment of Lynne Paretchan and Bob Jones. Terms for these three members would begin immediately and end November 30, 2009.

John Stadeli is a well constructor and owner of Arrow Well Drilling of Newberg. Mr. Stadeli has been a licensed well constructor in Oregon for more than 18 years and has been a licensed monitoring well constructor for more than 15 years. In addition, he farmed near Mt Angel for several years in the 1980s. He is a member, current board member, and past President of the Oregon Ground Water Association (OGWA). At present, Mr. Stadeli primarily constructs domestic-sized water supply wells. Mr. Stadeli has a strong background in well construction and has served one term on GWAC.

Lynne Paretchan is an attorney with Perkins Coie in Portland. Ms. Paretchan practices environmental and water law and holds advanced degrees in civil engineering and water resources. She has extensive knowledge of land use laws in Oregon and has authored journal articles on in-stream flow protection and Deschutes Basin water management strategies. She currently represents the City of Hermiston on water supply issues and routinely participates in the Umatilla Ground Water Task Force on the city's behalf. Ms. Paretchan has a strong technical and legal background that includes understanding local government issues and other interest categories.

Bob Jones is a geologist with the Medford Water Commission. Mr. Jones has over 25 years experience involving ground water, water quality, geothermal exploration, engineering geology and watershed protection. He is a registered geologist, certified engineering geologist, certified water rights examiner (CWRE), and certified field hydrographer. Mr. Jones has a strong technical and local government background that satisfies multiple interest categories.

IV. Alternatives

The Commission may consider the following alternatives:

1. Appoint Bob Jones and Lynne Paretchan and reappoint John Stadel to terms beginning immediately and expiring on November 30, 2008.
2. Direct staff to return to the next Commission meeting with another slate of appointments to GWAC which reflects a different set of interest categories and/or candidates.

V. Recommendation

The Director and staff recommend that the Commission follow Alternative 1 and appoint the recommended slate of candidates for the stated terms.

Attachment: Current GWAC Membership

Barry Norris
(503)986-0828

**OREGON WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION
GROUND WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Barry Beyeler
Comm. Development Director
Boardman, OR

Serving in Local Government Category
Term Expires 11/30/06

Paul Christensen
Christensen Well Drilling
Eugene, OR

Serving in Monitoring/Water Well Ind. Category, Vice-chair
Term Expires 11/30/07

David Graham
Environmental Mgmt Services, Inc
Medford, OR

Serving in Hydrogeologist Category
Term Expires 11/30/06

Nitin Joshi
City of Salem
Salem, OR

Serving in Local Government Category, Chair
Term Expires 11/30/08

Greg Kupillas
Pacific Hydrogeology Inc.
Mulino, OR

Serving in Hydrogeologist Category
Term Expires 11/30/08

Jim Mack Sr.
Bandon Well & Septic Company
Bandon, OR

Serving in Monitoring/Water Well Industry Category
Term Expires 11/30/08

Merilyn Reeves
Amity, OR

Serving in Environmental Category
Term Expires 11/30/2007

Tim Smith
Burns, OR

Serving in Groundwater User Category
Term Expires 11/30/2007

John Stadel
Arrow Drilling Co.
Newberg, OR

Serving in Monitoring/Water Well Industry Category
Term Expires 11/30/2006

October, 2006