

Oregon Water Resources Commission
Meeting
January 14, 2000
Salem

Members

Nancy Leonard
Jim Nakano
Dan Thorndike
Tyler Hansell
John Frewing
Mike Jewett

Staff

Martha Pagel
Tom Byler
Meg Reeves
Diane Addicott
Al Cook
Tom Paul
Barry Norris
Dave Jarrett
Donn Miller

Others

Jerry Franke
Nitin Joshi
Jan Kem
Ed Henricks
Jim Mack
Doug Myers
Kimberley Priestley
Malia Kupillas
Aubrey Russell
Jim Myron

Written material submitted at this meeting is part of the official record and on file at the Oregon Water Resources Department, 158 12th Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97310. Audiotapes of the meeting are on file at the same address.

A. Commission Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the October 13, 1999, meeting and the November 8-10, 1999, workshop/meeting were offered to the Commission for approval. Frewing moved for approval of the October 1999 minutes; seconded by Nakano. All voted approval. Frewing moved for approval of the November 1999 minutes; seconded by Jewett. All voted approval.

B. Commission Comments

Nakano commented on the December 6, 1999, Powder River reservation hearing in Baker, saying it went very well. He and others were impressed with the good work and preparation done by Lara Burgel, WRD, and Steve Applegate, Department of Agriculture.

Hansell reminded staff and the Commission of the recommendations suggested by Gail Achterman regarding the Columbia River at the May 1998 WRC meeting. Pagel said staff would look into this right away and report back to the Commission.

Leonard announced that Commissioner Jim Nakano has been named the Agriculturalist of the Year by the Ontario Chamber of Commerce. He would be attending an awards banquet that evening.

C. Director's Report

Pagel introduced Meg Reeves, Acting Deputy Director. She has been the Department's Assistant Attorney General, and is now on a job rotation from the Department of Justice (DOJ). Sharyl Kammerzell will now be our contact attorney from DOJ.

Pagel explained some organizational changes that have been made within the Department. Tom Byler is now a member of the Department's agency coordinating team; his responsibilities will now include a broader level of policy coordination. The Resource Management Division has been eliminated — field liaisons assigned to work with particular regions are now part of the Field Services Division. Tom Paul is the administrator for the new Field Services Division. Barry Norris remains the administrator of the Technical Services Division.

She informed the Commissioners that the Department of Administrative Services is involved in preliminary planning for construction of a new state building that would house our Department.

Brendalee Wilson has been hired for the position vacated by Pat Lee. She is working with the Peak Flow Work Group and the Community Water Supply Work Group.

Pagel briefly updated the Commissioners on the Klamath Adjudication. Dick Bailey extended the open inspection period to provide notice of the opportunity to file contest to many more people.

She gave an update on various Grants Pass Irrigation District (GPID) issues. Two petitions for reconsideration have been received from GPID. One was filed with the Department and relates to Pagel's decision not to issue a declaratory ruling on the question of voluntary cancellations. The other came directed to the Commission on a decision to reject GPID's application for an extension of their water right.

Tom Byler reviewed the Commission's forecast for upcoming meetings and discussed possible locations for meetings throughout the state.

D. Ground Water Advisory Committee Appointments

Barry Norris and Donn Miller, Field and Technical Services Division, presented three candidates for appointment to the Ground Water Advisory Committee (GWAC). The candidates were Malia Kupillas, consulting hydrogeologist and President of Pacific Hydro-Geology Inc.; Nitin

Joshi, environmental specialist with the City of Lebanon; and Jim Mack, well constructor.

Each candidate came forward to speak briefly to the Commission regarding their interest in serving. Jewett moved that the three candidates be appointed to terms beginning immediately and expiring on November 30, 2002; seconded by Hansell. All voted approval.

E. Non-Structural Storage and Riparian Management

Dr. John Buckhouse, Professor of Rangeland Resources, Oregon State University; and Wayne Elmore, head of the Bureau of Land Management's National Riparian Service Team in Prineville, spoke on opportunities for improving riparian habitat and increasing natural water storage capacity. Using slides, overheads, and handouts they shared a wealth of information and experience. Audio tapes of their presentation are available at the Water Resources Department.

F. Public Comment

Jim Myron, representing Oregon Trout, introduced Aubrey Russell who will be replacing retiring Roger Bachman.

There being no further business, the Commissioners moved into an Executive Session to consult with counsel concerning legal rights and duties of the Commission with regard to litigation relating to Grants Pass Irrigation District, and to consider records that are exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Law. Following the Executive Session, the Commission meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane K. Addicott
Commission Assistant