

Oregon Water Resources Commission
Work Session
February 13, 2003
Salem

WRC Members

Dan Thorndike
Susie Smith
Tyler Hansell
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Phil Ward
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Cindy Smith
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Debbie Colbert
Adam Sussman
Tom Paul
Mike Ladd
Kyle Gorman
Al Cook
Doug Parrow
Dave Jarrett
Juno Pandian
Barry Norris
Bill Ferber
Bernadette Williams
Bob Rice
Gary Ball
Greg Nelson

Others

Rep. Bob Jenson
Karen Russell
Kimberley Priestley
Mary Meloy
Gail Achterman
David Newton
Brad Taylor
Brad Harper
Ed Clay Goodman
Jan Lee
Ed Henricks
Steve Applegate
Scott Ashcom
Bill White
Matthew Rea
Roger Prowell
Ed Olson
Rick Bastasch
Jerry Schmidt
Fred Ziari
Lorna Stickel
Anita Winkler
Harold Shepherd

Written material submitted at this work session is part of the official record and on file at the Oregon Water Resources Department, 158 12th Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301-4172. Audiotapes of the work session are on file at the same address.

I. Water Right Transfer Policy Issues

Doug Parrow, Natural Resources Specialist, opened this discussion at the request of Transfer Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) members who wanted an opportunity to brief the Commission on unresolved policy issues. Using a PowerPoint presentation he reviewed the written staff report with Commissioners and responded to their questions.

The following Transfer RAC members formed a panel to express their individual opinions and respond to Commissioners' questions: Gail Achterman, Deschutes Resources Conservancy; Ed Goodman, Oregon Water Trust; Brad Harper, Water for Life; and Karen Russell, WaterWatch.

Panel members responded to four questions: How much water are junior water users “legally entitled” to when considering potential injury associated with a transfer? What quantity of water is available for transfer? What constitutes enlargement? How should claims of forfeiture through nonuse of a water right proposed for transfer be addressed?

II. Long-Term Water Supply Management

Adam Sussman, Senior Policy Coordinator, introduced the topic of long-term water supply management and facilitated presentations of four stakeholder panels. In observation of the 94th birthday of Oregon’s water code and in anticipation of the code’s 100th birthday in 2009, he announced that the Department is initiating discussions of “Oregon’s Second Century of Water Management: Where Do We Want to be in 2009?”

Each panel member was given 10 minutes to engage in dialog with the Commission regarding their vision of long-term water supply management for Oregon. Following the panel comments there was a discussion on common themes and approaches to water supply management.

Stakeholder panels included the following:

Senate Bill 93 Task Force Members - Representative Bob Jenson, Ed Olson of Medford Water District, and Ed Henricks of Willamette Industries

Process Perspectives - Karen Russell of WaterWatch, Gail Achterman of the Deschutes Resources Conservancy, and Rick Bastasch of the Willamette Restoration Initiative

User Perspectives - Jerry Schmidt of the Oregon Groundwater Association, Fred Ziari of IRZ Consulting, Lorna Stickel of the Portland Water Bureau, and Anita Winkler of Oregon Water Resources Congress

Federal and Tribal Perspective - Harold Shepherd of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla, Matt Rea of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Bill White of the Federal Natural Resources Conservation Service

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Addicott
Commission Assistant