



Oregon Water Resources Commission

SECOND REVISED Meeting Agenda

June 12 – 13, 2025

Pendleton Center for the Arts

214 N Main St

Pendleton, OR 97801

and virtual via Zoom

Day 1 of Commission Meeting

TOUR – 8:00 - 11:00 am

The Oregon Water Resources Commission (OWRC) and the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (OFWC), with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) and the US Bureau of Reclamation, will be hosting a tour in the Umatilla basin on June 12th, 2025. The Commissions will tour McKay Dam and Reservoir to learn more about dam operations, water management and fisheries opportunities and challenges in the McKay Creek system. The tour will also include a stop at the Lower Birch Creek restoration site to learn more about restoration projects that the CTUIR have been working on and their impact on mid-Columbia Steelhead populations. The OFWC will then travel to the Walla Walla basin and the OWRC will travel to the Furnish Dam and Diversion to learn more about the CTUIR Umatilla River Water Rights Settlement. The OWRC meeting will begin at 12:00 PM at the Pendleton Center for the Arts.

The public is invited to attend the tour in person. No virtual option is available for the tour. Individuals attending the tour should be prepared for sun or rain, bringing comfortable closed-toed shoes or boots, water, a hat, sunscreen, jacket, and umbrella or rain jacket. If you wish to join the tour, please make your own transportation arrangements. If you would like to RSVP, please send an email to Cassidy Fredlund at cassidy.a.fredlund@water.oregon.gov by close of business, Monday, June 9th. A more detailed itinerary will be provided to participants that RSVP once details are finalized.

Lunch – 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

A. Irrigation Modernization Funding Recommendations – 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Louisa Mariki, Grant Analyst, and Adair Muth, Grants Manager, will present the Technical Review Team's scoring results, evaluation summaries, funding recommendations, and public comments received for the first 2025 funding cycle of Irrigation Modernization Funding. *The Commission will be asked to make a funding award decision.*

B. *Proposed Rule OAR 690-601-0600 – 1:00 - 1:15 pm

Margo Mashkovskaya, Policy Analyst, and Adair Muth, Grants Manager, will present on the proposed rule OAR 690-601-0600, titled "Public Notice", related to community

engagement best practices when the department funds community engagement plans for water projects funded through Feasibility Study Grants and Water Projects Grants and Loans. *The Commission will be asked to consider adoption of the proposed rule.*

C. Integrated Water Resources Strategy, Draft 2 Public Review and

Comment – 1:15 - 2:15 pm

Crystal Grinnell, Integrated Water Resources Strategy Specialist will present an overview of the public comments that were received on Draft 2 of the 2025 Strategy. *The Commission will be asked to provide direction for the third and final draft of the 2025 Strategy.*

Break 2:15 - 2:30 pm

D. Draft Strategic Plan Discussion – 2:30 - 3:30 pm

Laura Tesler, Policy Analyst, along with Director Ivan Gall, will present a draft 2025-2030 strategic plan for the Department. *The Commission will be asked to comment and give feedback on the proposed draft.*

J. Budget & Legislative Update – 3:30 - 4:00 pm

Bryn Hudson, Legislative Coordinator, and Lisa Snyder, Administrative Services Division Administrator, will present an update of legislative and budget activities related to the 2025 legislative session. *This is an informational report.*

F. Division 512 Rulemaking Update – 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Jason Spriet, East Region Manager, Tim Seymour, Assistant Groundwater Section Manager, and Kelly Meinz, Water Policy Analyst, will present on how the proposed amendment to the Division 512 rules will address declining groundwater in the Harney Basin. *This is an informational report.*

Adjourn

Day 2 of Commission Meeting

G. Lower Umatilla Groundwater Management Area Update – 8:00 - 8:45 am

Chris Kowitz, North Central Region Manager, Laura Gleim, LUBGWMA Project Manager (ODEQ), and Isaak Stapleton, Natural Resources Division Director (ODA), will provide an update on the State's Nitrate Reduction Plan implementation and other ongoing work in the LUBGWMA. *This is an informational report.*

H. Walla Walla Basin – Strategic Plan Implementation Update – 8:45 - 9:15 am

Chris Kowitz, North Central Region Manager, Brooke Beeler, Eastern Region Director (Washington State Department of Ecology), and Anton Chiono, Habitat Conservation Project Leader (Confederation Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation), will provide an update on the implementation of the Walla Walla Water 2050 Strategic Plan. *This is an informational report.*

I. Umatilla and Walla Walla Basin Water Management Update – 9:15 - 9:45 am

Chris Kowitz, North Central Region Manager, Greg Silbernagel, District 5 Watermaster, and Luke Martin, District 23 Watermaster, will provide an update on water management in the Umatilla and Walla Walla basins. *This is an informational report.*

Break 9:45 - 10:00 am

E. Director's Report – 10:00 - 10:30 am

Ivan Gall, Director, will provide an update on Department business and late-breaking issues. *This is an informational report and includes informational report outs.*

K. Meeting minutes – 10:30 - 10:35 am

The minutes of the March 2025 meeting will be presented for Commission approval. *The Commission will be asked to approve the minutes.*

L. Commissioners' Comments – 10:35 - 11:05 am

Commissioners will report on their recent activities, share information, and comment on a variety of water resource topics.

M. Public Comments and Other Issues – 11:05 am

Adjourn

Meeting Location and Procedures

Meeting Format: Members of the public may attend in-person, by phone or join the Zoom webinar.

In-Person: Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N Main St, Pendleton, OR 97801

Virtual Meeting Information – Day 1

[Zoom Link](#) Passcode: 802065
Phone: (669) 444-9171 Webinar ID: 848 6780 0087 Passcode: 802065

Virtual Meeting Information – Day 2

[Zoom Link](#) Passcode: 923491
Phone: (669) 444-9171 Webinar ID: 823 1130 8859 Passcode: 923491

Members of the public who want to give oral comment must [submit an oral public comment request form from our website](#) by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, June 10, 2025. If registration isn't received by this deadline, we cannot guarantee that your comment will be heard.

Timing of Agenda Items: Agenda items are generally taken in the order listed above. However, under certain circumstances, the Commission may elect to take an item out of order. If a specific time is indicated for an agenda item, every effort will be made to consider the agenda item as close to the scheduled time as possible. However, because of the uncertain length of time needed for each agenda item, scheduled times may be modified.

Meeting Materials: Staff reports for individual agenda items, when available, can be found on the Commission's [website](#).

*** Public Testimony and Comments:** Items marked with an asterisk have been subject to a formal public hearing or contested case hearing. Please note the Commission cannot accept testimony or comments on items with an asterisk, as the public comment period for those items has closed.

Written Comments: Early delivery of written comments is strongly encouraged. To ensure full consideration by the Commission, written comments should be sent to the staff contact below via email by 5:00 PM on Monday, June 9th, 2025. *Please note Commissioners may not have sufficient time to review materials received after the recommended deadline.* A confirmation email will be sent. If you do not receive a confirmation email or have questions about submission of written public comment, please follow up with the staff contact below.

Oral Comments: Oral comments may be limited to three minutes. Comments relating to a specific agenda item will be heard by the Commission as each agenda item is considered. Comments on other topics may be made during the public comment period. To make an oral comment, you must electronically submit an Oral Public Comment Request Form or notify the staff contact below by phone or email by 5:00 PM on June 10, 2025. *The Commission will do its best to accommodate requests received after the registration deadline, however, please note it may not be feasible.* Oral Public Comment Request Forms can be found on the Commission [website](#).

Executive Session and Meals: The Commission may also convene in a confidential Executive Session where, by law, only members of the press and Department staff may attend. Before convening such a session, the presiding Commissioner will make a public announcement and explain the necessary procedures. Oregon's Public Meetings Law requires disclosure that Commission members may meet for meals during the days prior to and days of the meeting.

Special Accommodations: If special accommodations are needed, please advise staff contact below as soon as possible, *but at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.*

Staff Contact: If you have any questions about this agenda or the Commission's procedures, please contact:

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(541) 551-1399

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Oregon Water Resources Commission

Commissioner	City of Residence	Region	Term Expires
Eric Quaempts, Chair	Adams	North Central Region	2025
Julie Smitherman, Vice Chair	Talent	Southwest Region	2025
Janet Neuman	Portland	West Side at Large	2028
Jan Lee	Sandy	Northwest Region	2025
Kathy Kihara	Bend	East Side at Large	2025
Woody Wolfe	Wallowa	Eastern Region	2025
Joe Moll	Eugene	West Central Region	2025

Oregon Water Resources Department

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