



Water Resources Commission Meeting Minutes

September 11 - 12, 2025

Hybrid Meeting in Warm Springs, Oregon

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](https://www.oregon.gov/owrd).

Commission Meeting Day 1 – Thursday, September 11, 2025

Attendees

<i>(V) = Virtual</i>				
Commissioners	OWRD Staff		Others	
Janet Neuman	Ivan Gall	Crystal Grinnell	Regan Coordes	April Snell
Julie Smitherman	Doug Woodcock	Katie Ratcliffe	Kimberley Priestley	Chris Hall (V)
Kathy Kihara	Cassidy Fredlund	Angella Rinehold	Rep Greg Smith	Chris Schull
Joe Moll	Garrett Vian	Kim Fritz-Ogren	Calvin Bennett	Max Jones
Jan Lee	Mindy Lane	Danielle Gonzalez	Mario Petrilli (V)	Gordon
	Jason Cox	Justin Iverson (V)	Gen Hubert	Zach Freed
	Bill Nashem	Louisa Mariki (V)	Karen Moon	Jim Bond
	Alexandria Scott	Lisa Snyder (V)	Sarah Kelly	Lisa Seales
	Kelly Meinz	Laura Hartt (V)	Hayley Siltanen	Tom Tebb (V)
	Annette Liebe	Matt Day (V)	Jeremy Austin	Ken Yates (V)
	Adair Muth	Linda Ray (V)	Shane McDonald	Stan Dean (V)
	Maggie Sommer	Alyssa Mucken (V)	Mike Britton	Alex Ehrens (V)
	Carolyn Sufit	Chris Kowitz (V)	Matthew Bearden	Theresa Burcsu (V)
	Michael Coiner	Darrick Boschmann (V)	Cole Hendrickson (V)	Melissa Petschauer (V)
	Eliot Crafton (V)	Sarah Henderson (V)	Vernice Williams-Scott	Ben Kittell (V)
	Julie Wagner (V)	Charlotte Regula-Whitefield (V)	Anna Glueder (V)	Shane Cossel (V)
	Matt Day (V)	Jordan Beamer (V)	Danette Faucera (V)	Harmony Burright (V)
	Linda Ray (V)	Adam Frederick (V)	Steve Parrett (V)	Mateusz Perkowski (V)
	Lisa Kingsley (V)	Alyssa Mucken (V)	Shane Corel (V)	Ben Kittell (V)
	Stacie Duffey (V)	Patrick Rectenwald (V)	Maggie Anderson (V)	Mike Britton (V)
	Sue Parrish (V)		Mac Corthell (V)	Claire Ruffing (V)

			Andrew Purkey (V)	David Pilz (V)
			Jason Nuckols (V)	Kyle Gorman (V)
			Brett Golden (V)	Robyn Cook (V)
			Janelle Gaun (V)	Andrew Dirks (V)
			Brent Stevenson (V)	Owen McMurtrey (V)
			Peggy Lynch (V)	Gordon Lyford (V)

TOUR

The Oregon Water Resources Commission (OWRC) toured several locations in Madras and Warm Springs on the morning of September 11, 2025.

[Vice-Chair Smitherman convened the meeting.](#)

[Representative Greg Smith made opening remarks.](#)

A. [Consideration for Adoption – Oregon’s 2025 Integrated Water Resources Strategy](#)

Crystal Grinnell, Integrated Water Resources Strategy Specialist, presented a summary of the final draft of the 2025 Integrated Water Resources Strategy. The Commission was asked to adopt the 2025 Integrated Water Resources Strategy.

[The Commission gave comments, asked questions, and engaged in discussion with the presenter.](#)

[Commissioner Moll moved to adopt the Integrated Water Resources Strategy with the addition of the appendix of the 2017-2022 progress report.](#) Commissioner Lee seconded the motion. Votes in favor: Commissioners Neuman, Kihara Lee and Moll, and Vice-Chair Smitherman. Motion passed unanimously.

[Public Comment, Max Jones](#)

[Public Comment, April Snell](#)

B. [Strategic and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Justice Plan](#)

Ivan Gall, Director, and Danielle Gonzalez, Policy Section Manager, presented the final 2025-2030 Oregon Water Resources Department Strategic Plan.

[The Commission gave comments, asked questions, and engaged in discussion with the presenters.](#)

D. [Central Region Update](#)

Carolyn Sufit, Central Region Manager, Bill Nashem, District 24 Watermaster, and Angella Rinehold, Senior Water Advisor, provided an update on local water management issues in the Central Region.

[The Commission gave comments, asked questions, and engaged in discussion](#)

[with the presenters.](#)

C. [Feasibility Study Grants – Funding Recommendations and Program Updates](#)

Maggie Sommer, Planning, Collaboration, and Investments Division Administrator, Adair Muth, Grants Manager, and Louisa Mariki, Grants Analyst, presented the funding recommendations for the 2025 funding cycle of Feasibility Study Grants and provide program updates. The Commission was asked to make funding decisions.

[The Commission gave comments, asked questions, and engaged in discussion with the presenters.](#)

[Kate Fitzpatrick, Deschutes River Conservancy, was asked to speak on some questions the Commissioners had.](#)

[Commissioner Lee moved to adopt alternative 2, a modified funding recommendation, to fund this project now.](#) Commissioner Moll seconded the motion. Votes in favor: Commissioners Kihara, Lee, Moll, Neuman, and Vice-Chair Smitherman. Motion passed unanimously. Funding for all 5 projects was approved.

E. [Director's Report](#)

Ivan Gall, Director, provided an update on Department business and late-breaking issues.

[Commissioner Neuman recused herself from discussions related to the East Valley Case.](#)

I. [Meeting Minutes](#)

The minutes of the June 2025 meeting were presented for Commission approval. The Commission was be asked to approve the minutes.

[Commissioner Moll moved to approve the June 2025 Water Resources Commission meeting minutes.](#) Commissioner Kihara seconded. Votes in favor: Commissioners Lee, Neuman, Kihara, Moll, and Vice-Chair Smitherman. Motion passed unanimously.

[Day 1 was adjourned.](#)

Commission Meeting Day 2 – Friday, September 12, 2025

Attendees

<i>V=Virtual</i>					
Commissioners	OWRD Staff		Others		
Janet Neuman	Ivan Gall	Carolyn Sufit	April Snell	Karen Moon	Melissa Petschauer (V)
Julie Smitherman	Doug Woodcock	Jesse Ratcliffe (counsel) (V)	Lisa Brown	Kim Bentz	Shane Otley (V)
Joe Moll	Annette Liebe	Eliot Crafton (V)	Lorissa Singhose	Rob Fran	Ryan Krabill (V)
Kathy Kihara	Katie Ratcliffe	Darrick Boschmann (V)	Regan Coordes	Bobby Cochran	Scott Fein (V)
Jan Lee	Danielle Gonzalez	Laura Hartt (V)	Sabrina Maki	Angela Ketscher	Shaylee Jinlyn (V)
	Kim Fritz-Ogren	Lisa Snyder (V)	Erick Keerins	Ross Ketscher	Sheyanne Root (V)
	Jason Spriet	Alyssa Mucken (V)	Ken Bierly	Holly Stanitsas	Steve Parrett (V)
	Tim Seymour	Ben Scandella (V)	Rep Mark Owens	Jacob Davis	Merissa Moeller (V)
	Kelly Mainz	Jordan Beamer (V)	Chris Hall (V)	Erik Steen	Roxane Worley (V)
	Angella Rinehold	Sarah Henderson (V)	Mario Petrilli (V)	Matthew Bearden	Sayge Shanlyn (V)
	Michael Coiner	Sue Parrish (V)	Caylin Barter (V)	Brenda Smith (V)	Shane Cossel (V)
	Garrett Vian	Adair Muth (V)	Gordon Lyford (V)	City of Hines (V)	Sheryden Cary (V)
	Cassidy Fredlund	Adam Frederick (V)	Kimberley Priestley	Andy Root (V)	Skye Root (V)
	Mindy Lane	Charlotte Regula-Whitefield (V)	Breanna O'Connor (V)	Gordon Lyford (V)	Tahnaya Miller (V)
	Maggie Sommer	Crystal Grinnell (V)	Dominic Bachman (V)	Greg Addington (V)	Kyle Gorman (V)
	Jason Cox (V)	Kris Byrd (V)	Harmony Burright (V)	Jana Root (V)	Jerry Grondin (V)
	Sarah Henderson (V)	Linda Ray (V)			

[Vice-Chair Smitherman re-convened the meeting.](#)

F. [*Division 512 Rulemaking Update](#)

Jason Spriet, East Region Manager, Tim Seymour, Assistant Groundwater Section Manager, and Kelly Mainz, Water Policy Analyst, presented details of the proposed Division 512 rules, reasoning, and intent for the proposal, and a brief summary of themes from comments received during the public comment period.

[The Commission gave comments, asked questions, and engaged in discussion with the presenters.](#)

[The Commission continued in the discussions after a temporary interruption with the audio/visual technology/internet.](#)

G. [*Update on Guidance for Voluntary Agreements Among Groundwater Users](#)

Jason Spriet, East Region Manager, and Laura Hartt, Water Policy Analyst, presented an update on Departmental guidance to assist the Commission when evaluating whether a submitted voluntary agreement is consistent with statutory requirements (ORS 537.745).

[The Commission gave comments, asked questions, and engaged in discussion with the presenters.](#)

[Comment by Director Gall](#)

[Public Comment, Lisa Brown](#)

[Public Comment, Mario Petrilli](#)

[Public Comment, Erick Keerins](#)

[Public Comment, Jacob Davis](#)

[Public Comment, Ken Bierly](#)

[Public Comment, Chris Hall](#)

[Public Comment, Mario Petrilli](#)

[Public Comment, Mario Petrilli](#)

[Public Comment, Erik Steen](#)

H. [*State Recognition of the Harney Community-Based Water Planning Collaborative's Integrated Water Resources Plan](#)

Holly Stanitsas, Project Manager, Harney CBWP Collaborative, Lili Prah, Planning Coordinator, and Alexandria Scott, Engagement Coordinator, presented on the Harney Integrated Water Resources Plan and the accompanying state agency recommendation for state recognition of the plan. The Commission was asked to recognize the plan.

[The Commission gave comments, asked questions, and engaged in discussion with the presenters.](#)

[Commissioner Kihara moved to adopt alternative 1, to formally recognize the Harney County Community Based Water Planning Collaborative Integrated Water Resources Plan included as Attachment 4 by resolution of the Commission.](#) Commissioner Neuman seconded the motion. Votes in favor: Commissioners Moll, Lee, Neuman, Kihara, and Vice-Chair Smitherman. Motion passed unanimously.

J. [Commissioners' Comments](#)

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

K. [*Public Comment and Other Issues](#)

[Public Comment, Rob Frank](#)

[Public Comment, Sabrina Maki](#)

[Public Comment, Scott Fein](#)

[Public Comment, Lorissa Singhose](#)

[Public Comment, Angela Ketscher](#)

[Public Comment, Crystal Otley](#)

[Public Comment, Chris Hall](#)

[Public Comment, Ryan Krabill](#)

[Public Comment, Rep Mark Owens](#)

[Meeting was adjourned.](#)

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