

The background of the slide is a deep blue color with a pattern of numerous water droplets of varying sizes, creating a textured, bubbly effect.

Water Resources Commission

Revenue Subcommittee

Report to January 2012 Commission Meeting
John Roberts, Chair
Jeanne LeJeune
Ray Williams

Revenue Subcommittee

- **Background**
 - WRD charged with ensuring that Oregon has water for economy and environment
 - Majority of funding from General Fund (64%)
 - Funding is declining and of grave concern
 - Revenue Enhancement Subcommittee formed

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- **Revenue options guided by key criteria**
 - **Those who benefit should help pay**
 - **Solutions should be equitable between user groups**
 - **Fees should be tied to services provided**
 - **Funds should be dedicated to the purpose for which they are collected**

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- **Overview of process**
 - **Revenue Enhancement Subcommittee formed in August, 2010 to find an equitable way to stabilize funding**
 - **Stakeholder forum Nov, 2010 (30+ Orgs)**
 - **Developed potential alternatives**
 - **Currently exploring four proposals**

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Goal: Fee revenue supports 50% of costs
Current budget is \$10-12 Million annually

Type of Fee	Fee Amount	Fee Base	Total Annual Revenue	Net Annual Revenue
1) Water Rights Management Fee	\$100 Annual	60,000	\$6.0 million	\$5.0 million
2) Exempt Well Fee	\$50 Annual	170,000	\$8.5 million	\$7.0 million
3) Expand existing Reimbursement Authority	Varies by transaction		\$100,000	\$100,000
4) Instream / Recreation Fee (Continuing to review this)				

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- **Benefits of Water Right Management Fee**
 - Fully support distribution of water to senior water right holders through field watermasters
 - Faster resolution to water right conflicts
 - Accurate Water Right ownership information
 - Installation and management of stream gages to manage flows
 - Provide staffing to enable the Water Resources Department to fulfill statutory mandates

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- **Benefits of Exempt Well Fee**
 - Support of scientific information needed to make groundwater management and allocation decisions
 - Groundwater availability evaluation
 - Resolution of well to well and well to surface water interference/conflicts
 - More effective and timely management of groundwater resources
 - Provide staffing to enable the Water Resources Department to fulfill statutory mandates

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- **WRD currently has a \$10 - \$12 million annual General Fund budget**
- **Legislative concepts presented to Governor in April, 2012**
- **Next step is to determine which, if any, fees to move forward and amounts**

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- **Subcommittee Recommendation:**
 - **Pursue**
 - **Water Right Management Fee**
 - **Exempt Well Fee**
 - **Increased Reimbursement Authority**
 - **Move forward with development of legislative concept**

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Discussion

