



Meeting Summary
GROUNDWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, February 24, 2026
9:00 to 11:00

Rogue Conference Room, Oregon Water Resources Department, Salem, OR
with Online Video/Phone Conference option

ATTENDANCE

GWAC members

Zach Freed, Chair
Richard Smith
Dave Noble
Robyn Cook
Steve Patten

OWRD staff

Justin Iverson
Annette Liebe
Bryn Hudson
Jake Zelenka
Kris Byrd
Linda Ray

Attendees

Call to Order and Introductions <https://youtu.be/jGERhohuw78?t=2>

Election of Officers <https://youtu.be/jGERhohuw78?t=279>

Richard Smith moved to re-elect Zach Freed to serve as chair and elect Steven Patten as co-chair for 2026. Dave Noble seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

- Zach Freed – yes
- Richard Smith – yes
- Robyn Cook – yes
- Dave Noble – yes
- Steven Patten – yes

During election discussion, Robyn and Dave offered to be eligible for elections to serve as either chair or co-chair in 2027.

Legislative Update <https://youtu.be/jGERhohuw78?t=693>

Bryn Hudson, Legislative Coordinator, provided an overview of 2026 legislative session activities and preparation for the 2027 legislative session.

GWAC Member Q/A regarding 2026 update: <https://youtu.be/jGERhohuw78?t=1800>

GWAC Member Q/A regarding 2027 update: <https://youtu.be/jGERhohuw78?t=2340>

Startcard Fee Update <https://youtu.be/jGERhohuw78?t=2601>

Jake Zelenka, Fiscal Manager, provided an update on start card fee revenues and expenditures for committee review as per [ORS 536.090](#).

GWAC Member Q/A: <https://youtu.be/jGERhohuw78?t=3215>



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Water Resources Department

Technical Services Division

725 Summer St NE, Suite A

Salem, OR 97301

Phone 503 986-0900

Permit Condition Enforcement <https://youtu.be/jGErhohuw78?t=3393>

Justin Iverson, Groundwater Manager, presented an update on the Department's efforts to achieve compliance with permit conditions requiring measurement and reporting of annual static water levels from permitted wells.

GWAC Member Q/A: <https://youtu.be/jGErhohuw78?t=4533>

Public Comment

There were no public comments received.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned 10:48 am.