



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Water Resources Commission

**FROM:** Thomas M. Byler, Director

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item F, December 7, 2017  
Water Resources Commission Meeting

### **Commission Appointments to the Groundwater Advisory Committee**

#### **I. Introduction**

The nine-member Groundwater Advisory Committee (GWAC) has three members whose terms expire on November 30, 2017. During this agenda item, the Commission will consider approving appointments to GWAC.

#### **II. Background**

The Groundwater Advisory Committee is a nine-member committee charged with certain duties pursuant to ORS 536.090. These duties include: (1) advice on all matters relating to rules for the development, securing, use, and protection of groundwater; (2) licensing and examination of well constructors; and (3) review of the proposed expenditures of start card fee revenue.

The Commission's rules under OAR Chapter 690, Division 235 provide a process to identify GWAC candidates, prescribe a range of categories of expertise that may be represented on GWAC, and allow appointments for up to three years. The rules require the expiration of three appointments each year, thus staggering membership. Any mid-term vacancy is filled for the remainder of the term. Each year, staff seeks Commission action on GWAC appointments and/or reappointments. Members are limited to two terms (six years).

The Committee's membership is required to represent a range of interests and expertise, including at least three members from the well drilling industry and the remainder representing interests from hydrogeology, irrigation, local government, Indian Tribes, environment, public health, industry, commerce, water project development, watershed enhancement, instream flow, agriculture, well pump installation, exempt ground water users, or any other category with a ground water interest (OAR 690-235-0005).

The current members of the committee are outlined on the next page, with expiring positions highlighted.

**Groundwater Advisory Committee**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area of Residence</u>	<u>Category Represented</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Term #</u>
Michael Campana, Chair	Corvallis	Hydrogeology	2017	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Scott Kruger	Corvallis	Public Health	2017	1 <sup>st</sup>
John Stadel, Co-chair	Newberg	Monitoring/Water Well Industry	2017	1 <sup>st</sup>
Said Amali	Portland	Water Project Development	2018	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Ryan Galbreth	Clackamas	Monitoring/Water Well Industry	2018	1 <sup>st</sup>
Tom Pattee	Springfield	Public Health	2018	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Chad Courtney	Pendleton	Monitoring/Water Well Industry	2019	1 <sup>st</sup>
Chris Hyatt	Portland	Environmental	2019	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Mark Owens	Crane	Irrigator, Local Government	2019	1 <sup>st</sup>

**III. Discussion**

The terms for Michael Campana, Scott Kruger, and John Stadel expired on November 30, 2017. Mr. Campana is completing his second term and has reached his limitation of service on the committee. Mr. Kruger and Mr. Stadel are completing their first terms and have expressed interest in appointment to a second term.

In accordance with the Department's rules, GWAC has three positions that must be filled. In order to comply with statute, one of the open positions must be filled by a person who is actively engaged in some aspect of the water supply or monitoring well drilling industry. The other two positions may represent other groundwater interests, expertise, or geography.

Recruitment for GWAC candidates included reviewing recommendations from individuals, organizations, and Department staff. Notice of the recruitment was sent to individuals on the GWAC mailing list maintained by the Department and was distributed to members of professional and trade organizations. The notices advised interested parties of the vacancies and directed individuals wishing to be considered to notify the Director. The Director received five applications for membership and two letters of recommendation.

As discussed below, the Department recommends the reappointment of Scott Kruger and John Stadel, and the appointment of Marshall Gannett to replace Michael Campana in the hydrogeology category. Terms for these three members would begin upon appointment and continue through November 30, 2020.

Scott Kruger is a Registered Environmental Health Specialist working for the Benton County Environmental Health department. Mr. Kruger provides contract services to the Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Services program, including oversight of public groundwater systems in Benton County. Mr. Kruger routinely performs water well inspections and has supported the Department's well location and well tagging programs.

John Stadel is a third-generation water and monitoring well driller and owner of Arrow Drilling in Newberg, Oregon. Mr. Stadel is an active member of the Oregon Ground Water Association (OGWA) where he served several terms as a representative of the Board of Directors, as President and Vice President of the Executive Board of Directors, and on many committee positions. Mr. Stadel has served on rules advisory committees for updating well construction rules and on a technical committee with Department staff to evaluate water well construction rules for Oregon.

Marshall Gannett is a retired USGS Research Hydrologist. Mr. Gannett's career has largely focused on understanding Oregon's groundwater resources, including work on several of the cooperative USGS/OWRD groundwater basin studies published in the last two decades. Mr. Gannett was awarded the 2017 Outstanding Scientist Award by the Oregon Academy of Science, which noted in its proceedings that "...his scientific work has transformed understanding of groundwater systems and furnished tools to improve management of scarce water resources. Gannett's contributions have had impact on the lives of millions of people across vast tracks of land in the region."

#### **IV. Alternatives**

The Commission may consider the following alternatives:

1. Appoint Scott Kruger, John Stadel, and Marshall Gannett to GWAC terms beginning December 1, 2017 through November 30, 2020.
2. Direct staff to return to the next Commission meeting with another slate of appointments, which reflects a different set of interest categories and/or geographic locations.

#### **V. Recommendation**

The Director recommends that the Commission select Alternative 1 and appoint the recommended slate of candidates for the stated term.

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