



MEETING SUMMARY  
GROUNDWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (GWAC)

September 3, 2019  
Conference Call-in-Meeting  
Rogue Conference Room  
North Mall Office Building,  
725 Summer St. N.E., Ste. A  
Salem, Oregon 97301

**GWAC Members**

Marshall Gannett - Chair  
Mark Owens - Phone  
Chad Courtney - Phone  
Ken Masten  
Phillip Brown

**Visitors**

Leslie Clark, Deschutes Basin Board of Control, COID - phone  
Jerome Rosa, Oregon Cattlemen's Assn  
Donavan Sippel, Oregon Groundwater Assn.  
Genoa Ingram, Oregon Groundwater Assn  
Roxy Nayar, Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality

**WRD Staff**

Justin Iverson  
Samantha Phillips  
Kris Byrd  
Dwight French  
Lisa Jaramillo  
Sarah Henderson  
Dorothy Mortenson  
Aurora Bouchier  
Ben Scandella

● **Call to Order and Introductions**

Marshall Gannett called the meeting to order at 9:07 am.

● **Approval of Minutes**

The February 19<sup>th</sup> and June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting minutes were presented and unanimously approved.

Approved meeting minutes are available on the GWAC website:

<https://www.oregon.gov/OWRD/programs/GWWL/GW/Pages/Groundwater-Advisory-Committee.aspx>

● **Deschutes Basin Water Management (Division 522) Rulemaking Introduction**

Dwight French, Water Rights Services Division Administrator. Lisa Jaramillo, Transfers and Conservation Section Manager and Sarah Henderson, Flow Restoration Coordinator introduced the reasons behind introducing new Division 522 rules. Rules will clarify and define mitigation projects credits and make it easier to transfer or reassign mitigation credits. A detailed discussion as to why this new rule is needed was shared along with a timeline for getting the new rule implemented. Next steps

include: advisory meetings, public comment period, and public hearings. Commission will be asked to adopt new Division 522 rules in early 2020.

- **New Web-Based Well Report Query Tool**

Dorothy Mortenson, GIS Application Developer, introduced the Department's new well report query tool. ([https://apps.wrd.state.or.us/apps/gw/well\\_log/Default.aspx](https://apps.wrd.state.or.us/apps/gw/well_log/Default.aspx)) Dorothy demonstrated the improved features of the tool.

- **Mosier Groundwater Update**

Justin Iverson, Groundwater Section Manager and Aurora Bouchier, Hydrogeologist provided an update on the Mosier Basin groundwater projects, including Special Well Construction Standards, the Well Repair and Replacement Program, and the Deep Wells Project. The Department's involvement with well drilling in the area will continue via the special well construction standards rules. The latter two projects are essentially complete and the Department will continue to collect data to monitor the effects of these projects. The Commission will take a field trip through the Mosier area during their meeting later in the week.

- **Groundwater Studies Updates**

Justin Iverson Provided updates on the following ongoing groundwater projects:

Walla Walla Update - SWAMPA rules for metering are now being enforced. During the last legislative session funds were approved to begin the development of a groundwater cooperative basin study. The logistics are being looked and a plan will be developed for the funding that provided for 6 new positions. The groundwater team will be out in the area the end of September and October for the collection of data prior to the rainy season.

Harney Study Update – The OWRD/USGS cooperative study team is analyzing data collected over the past few years of the study. The study team is presenting near-final figures, graphs, and maps to the local Groundwater Study Advisory Committee (GSAC) to receive their feedback on the analysis products.

- **Upcoming Changes for Well Construction and Compliance (Added Agenda Item)**

Kris Byrd, Well Construction and Compliance Section Manager, informed the committee of four measures related to professional licensing will require implementation by the Department's well driller licensing program. These measures include:

- House Bill 3030 and Senate Bill 688: Requires professional licensing boards to issue temporary authorization to a person who currently holds authorization to provide the regulated service in another state and who is married to a US Armed Forces member stationed in Oregon.
- Senate Bill 854: Requires professional licensing boards to accept federally-issued identification numbers (e.g. taxpayer identification number) on professional licensing applications in lieu of Social Security Numbers.
- Senate Bill 855: Requires professional licensing boards to study, develop, implement, and report to the Legislature about methods to reduce barriers to authorization for applicants who may be immigrants or refugees.

- **Committee Member Priority Discussion**

Committee held a brief discussion on clarifying what the role of this Committee is. The statutes state that the committee is to “Advise the Commission on all matters relating to (A) rules for ...groundwater; and (B) Licensing of well constructors...” (ORS 536.090(1)(A) and (B)). Justin briefly explained how he develops Committee agendas based on the current Commission agenda. If there are other topics the committee would like to discuss Justin can add them to the agenda. Open to more discussion and ideas from members.

No public comments.

Meeting Adjourned approximately 12:10 PM

This meeting summary was prepared by Samantha Phillips and Justin Iverson

An audio recording of this meeting is available upon request.