



Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Meeting Agenda

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
January 19-20, 2005**

**Red Lion Hotel
304 SE Nye Avenue, Pendleton
Walla Walla Conference Room**

Business Meeting – Wednesday, January 19, 8:00 a.m.

Public comment on non-grant application agenda items may be taken as each item is considered by the Board, or at the Chair's discretion if not related to a scheduled agenda item. A public comment period will be provided at approximately 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday for comment on any issue before the Board.

A. Board Member Comments

Board representatives from State agency boards/commissions will provide an update on issues related to the natural resource agency they represent. This is also an opportunity for all Board members to report on their recent activities and share information and comments on a variety of watershed enhancement and Oregon Plan-related topics. *Information item.*

B. Review and Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 14-15, 2004, meeting will be presented for Board approval. *Action item.*

C. Executive Director Update

Tom Byler, Acting Director, will update the Board on agency business and late-breaking issues. *Information item.*

D. Reports to the Board

1. OWEB Budget 2005-2007

Tom Byler, Acting Director, and Cindy Kraai, Fiscal Manager, will describe the Governor's Recommended Budget and identify future decisions for the Board to consider. *Information item.*

2. Coastal Coho Assessment of the Oregon Plan

Tom Byler, Acting Director, and Jay Nicholas, Science and Policy Advisor, will present an overview of the draft report and findings of the Assessment of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds as it relates to Oregon coastal coho. *Information item.*

3. Biennial Report Discussion

Ken Bierly, Deputy Director, and Jay Nicholas, Science and Policy Advisor, will report on the 2003-2005 Biennial Report's proposed structure and schedule for completion, including Board involvement on recommendations. *Information item.*

4. Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) Performance Measures

Ken Bierly, Deputy Director, will share the regional discussion of performance measures associated with the use of PCSRF funds. The relationship between PCSRF performance measures and the Coastal Coho Project will be described. *Information item.*

5. OWEB Performance Measures

Allison Hensey, Policy Specialist, will present the legislatively adopted performance measures and discuss issues associated with gathering data to support the measures. *Information item.*

6. Education Policy Decision Process

Melissa Leoni, Grant Program Specialist, will describe the results of the Education Policy Subcommittee discussions, issues to be addressed, and timeframe for Board decision. *Information item.*

7. Watershed Council Support Briefing

Roger Wood, Grant Program Manager, will describe staff actions to facilitate the Council Support evaluation process. He will provide information on the number of grant applications received and the process being used to evaluate the applications. *Information item.*

E. Public Comment [approximately 10:30 a.m.]

This time is reserved for public comment on any matter before the Board. Anyone wishing to speak to the Board is asked to fill out a comment request sheet as early as possible in the morning's proceedings (available at the information table). This helps the Board know how many individuals would like to speak, and to schedule accordingly.

F. Attorney General Advice Concerning the Administration of Lottery Funds

Richard Whitman, Attorney-in-Charge, Natural Resources Section, Department of Justice, will present a letter of advice and discuss the implications with the Board. *Information item.*

G. Conservation Easement Management Rulemaking

Melissa Leoni, Grant Program Specialist, will describe the information gathered from attending the Land Trust Alliance Rally. She will discuss the implications of holding conservation easements and ask to identify a subcommittee of the Board to work with staff to develop an approach for OWEB to manage its conservation easements. The Board will consider initiating formal rulemaking on this issue. *Action item.*

H. Support for the Governor's Willamette River Legacy Plan

Tom Byler, Acting Director, will present a Governor's Office request to OWEB to support a position to develop and implement the Governor's Willamette River Legacy Plan. He will describe the efforts and opportunities to link the Legacy Plan to the work supported by OWEB in the Willamette Basin. The Board will consider the Governor's Office request. *Action item.*

I. Water Acquisition Rules Adoption

Allison Hensey, Policy Specialist, will present to the Board for consideration and possible adoption draft administrative rules addressing the acquisition of water rights. These rules required updating following the Board's adoption in September of the Land Acquisition Rules. The rules describe the process for evaluation of water right lease or transfer grant applications, and the development of staff funding recommendations to the Board. *Action item.*

J. Small Grant Program Rulemaking

Wendy Hudson, Grant Program Specialist, will discuss the need for changes to the administrative rules governing the Small Grant Program. The Board will consider initiating formal rulemaking for the Small Grant Program. *Action item.*

K. Implementation of Legal Advice on the use of Capital Funds

Roger Wood, Grant Program Manager, and Cindy Kraai, Fiscal Manager, will lead a discussion with the Board based on legal advice received about potential policy choices the Board could adopt for the use of capital funds. Staff will ask the Board to designate specific issues for further staff development. *Action item.*

L. Project E2 (Environmental and Economy) Issues and Evaluation Process

Allison Hensey, Policy Specialist, will describe the process, outreach considerations, and timeline for providing the Board with information to make a decision regarding moving forward with Project E2. *Information item.*

Business Meeting – Thursday, January 20, 8:00 a.m.

M. Alder Creek Farm Deferred Acquisition

Melissa Leoni, Grant Program/Acquisitions Specialist, will present the completed staff work on the Alder Creek Farm acquisition grant application for Board consideration and possible approval. The acquisition has been reviewed by the Regional Review Team and issues associated with the appraisal have been resolved. *Action item.*

N. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Agreement and Funding

Ken Bierly, Deputy Director, and Stephanie Page, Department of Agriculture, will discuss CREP negotiations over the last year with the federal government and finalization of the amendment to the CREP agreement. *Information item.*

O. Other Business

Local Partner Discussion [approximately 9:00 a.m.]

Bev Kopperud of the Umatilla Soil and Water Conservation District will brief Board members on the activities of the District, work under the Conservation Security Act, and other work of the District. Mike Pelissier, Coordinator of the Umatilla Basin Watershed Council, will discuss the recent basin prioritization efforts and other work of the Council.

Umatilla Basin Projects Tour – 10:00 a.m.

The Board will participate in a field tour of projects sponsored by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Board members and staff will tour projects that highlight the watershed-scale effort in the Umatilla Basin and the partnerships involved.

Meeting Procedures: Generally, agenda items will be taken in the order shown. However, in certain circumstances, the Board may elect to take an item out of order. To accommodate the scheduling needs of interested parties and the public, the Board may also designate a specific time at which an item will be heard. Any such times are indicated on the agenda.

Please be aware that topics not listed on the agenda may be introduced during the Board Comment period, the Executive Director's Update, the Public Comment period, under Other Business or at other times during the meeting.

Oregon's Public Meetings Law requires disclosure that Board members may meet for meals on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

****Public Testimony:** The Board encourages public comment on any agenda item. However, public testimony must be limited on items marked with a double asterisk (**). The double asterisk means that the item has already been the subject of a formal public hearing. Further public testimony may not be taken except upon changes made to the item since the original public comment period, or upon the direct request of the Board members in order to obtain additional information or to address changes made to proposed rules following a public hearing.

People wishing to speak to the Board are asked to fill out a comment request sheet (available at the information table). Comments relating to a specific agenda item may be heard by the Board as each agenda item is considered. Public comments regarding acquisition grant applications may be made during the public comment period at approximately 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 19. The Board will not accept any additional written materials pertaining to pending acquisition grant proposals at that time.

Tour: The Board may tour local watershed restoration project sites. The public is invited to attend, however transportation may be limited to Board members and OWEB staff. If you wish to join the tour be prepared to provide your own transportation.

Executive Session: The Board may also convene in a confidential executive session where, by law, only press members and OWEB staff may attend. Others will be asked to leave the room during these discussions, which usually deal with current or potential litigation. Before convening such a session, the presiding Board member will make a public announcement and explain necessary procedures.

Questions? If you have any questions about this agenda or the Board's procedures, please call Bonnie Ashford, OWEB Board Assistant, at 503-986-0181.

If special physical, language or other accommodations are needed for this meeting, please advise Bonnie Ashford (503-986-0181) as soon as possible but at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Membership

Voting Members

Environmental Quality Commission member: *Mark Reeve*

Fish and Wildlife Commission member: *Skip Klarquist*

Board of Forestry member: *Diane Snyder*

Board of Agriculture member: *Pat Wortman*

Water Resources Commission member: *Dan Thorndike*

Public member: *Jane O'Keeffe, Board Co-Chair*

Public member: *Dan Heagerty, Board Co-Chair*

Public member (tribal): *Bobby Brunoe*

Three public member positions are currently vacant.

Non-voting Members

Representative of Director of Agricultural Extension Service: *Scott Reed*

Representative of U.S. Forest Service: *Alan Christensen*

Representative of U.S. BLM: *Paula Burgess*

Representative of U.S. NRCS: *Dianne Guidry*

Representative of U.S. EPA: *Dave Powers*

Representative of NOAA Fisheries: *Michael Tehan*

Contact Information

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360

Salem, Oregon 97301-1290

503-986-0178

Fax: 503-986-0199

www.oweb.state.or.us

OWEB Acting Director Effective January 1, 2005 - Tom Byler

tom.byler@state.or.us

OWEB Assistant to Executive Director and Board - Bonnie Ashford

bonnie.ashford@state.or.us

503-986-0181

Upcoming OWEB Board Meetings

March 16-17, 2005 in Corvallis

May 25-26, 2005 in Salem

May 2005 tentative Joint Meeting with Washington SRFB

September 13-14, 2005 in Jordan Valley

October 2005 tentative Joint Meeting with Washington SRFB

For online access to staff reports and other OWEB publications check our website:

www.oweb.state.or.us