



# Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

## Department of State Lands

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100

Salem, OR 97301-1279

(503) 986-5200

FAX (503) 378-4844

[www.oregon.gov/dsl](http://www.oregon.gov/dsl)

### State Land Board

Tina Kotek

Governor

LaVonne Griffin-Valade

Secretary of State

The State Land Board (Land Board or Board) met in regular session on April 9, 2024, in the Land Board Room at the Department of State Lands (DSL), 775 Summer Street NE, Salem, Oregon. The meeting audio and video was livestreamed on the DSL YouTube channel.

#### Present were:

Tina Kotek

Governor

Tobias Read

State Treasurer

Tobias Read

State Treasurer

#### Land Board Assistants

Geoff Huntington

Governor's Office

Jessica Ventura

Secretary of State's Office

Jessica Howell

State Treasurer's Office

#### Department Staff

Vicki Walker

Bill Ryan

Chris Castelli

Ted Bright

Arin Smith

Jean Straight

Ali Ryan Hansen

Linda Safina-Massey

Brett Brownscombe

Patricia Fox – via Zoom

Josh Mulhollem

#### Department of Justice

Matt DeVore

Governor Kotek called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The topics discussed and the results of those discussions are listed below. To view the Land Board (Board) meeting in its entirety, please visit our YouTube page: [April 9, 2024 Land Board Meeting](#)

### Consent Items

#### 1. Minutes

Treasurer Read made a motion to approve the minutes for the February 13, 2024, Land Board meeting.

Governor Kotek seconded the motion.

The item was approved at 10:01 a.m. without objection.

\*\*Following the approval of the minutes, testimony was taken from State legislators for items 7 and 9. More details can be found below under the associated agenda items.

## Action Items

- 2. The Department of State Lands requests approval to begin due diligence to support the acquisition of two properties in Coos County, totaling 113 acres, to increase the lands of the South Slough Reserve and protect those habitats.**

Director Walker introduced Patricia Fox, the new manager of the South Slough Reserve. Patricia gave a brief background of the item, which included a letter supporting the acquisition by the Coos County Board of Commissioners. The acquisition is also supported by the local Tribal Nations.

Governor Kotek thanked the Coos County Board of Commissioners and the Tribes for their involvement.

Director Walker gave the Department's recommendation that the State Land Board authorize the Reserve, working through the Department of State Lands' Real Property Program, to complete due diligence work in support of the acquisition of these properties in Coos County.

Treasurer Read made a motion to approve the action item.  
Governor Kotek seconded the motion.  
The item was approved at 10:17 a.m. without objection.

- 3. The Department of State Lands requests approval to initiate permanent rulemaking for administrative rules under OAR 141-082 governing the management of, and issuing of leases, licenses, and registrations for structures on, and uses of state-owned submerged and submersible land.**

Director Walker introduced Deputy Director Bill Ryan, who joined the meeting via Zoom and gave an overview of the agenda item and the Department's recommendation that the State Land Board authorize the Department to initiate permanent rulemaking for administrative rules under OAR 141-082 governing the management of, and issuing of leases, licenses, and registrations for structures on, and uses of state-owned submerged and submersible land.

Treasurer Read made a motion to approve the action item.  
Governor Kotek seconded the motion.

The item was approved at 10:24 a.m. without objection.

- 4. The Department of State Lands requests approval to sell the remaining 261 acres of the Stevens Road Tract in a brokered transaction.**

Director Walker introduced Robert Underwood, with DAS Real Estate Services, along with Bend City Planner, Damian Syrnyk, both joining the meeting via Zoom and available to answer questions if needed.

Director Walker gave a brief background of the item and noted that 20 acres of the 261 acres are deed restricted by HB 3318 (2021) to households that make less than the

median income; and that 7 of those acres are prioritized to be dedicated, to the extent provided by law, to households with at least one individual employed by an education provider.

The Director made the Department recommendation that the State Land Board authorize the Department to sell the remaining 261 acres of the Stevens Road Tract through a brokered transaction.

Treasurer Read commented that he appreciated the concise recommendation and made a motion to approve the action item.

Governor Kotek stated that she appreciated the amount of work that went into this item and thanked everyone who was involved.

She then seconded the motion.

The item was approved at 10:37 a.m. without objection.

**5. The Department of State Lands requests approval to decertify the remaining 1,920 acres of forestlands, known as Sun Pass, within the Klamath District to reduce costs to the Common School Fund.**

Director Walker gave a brief description of the item and the Department's recommendation that the State Land Board approve of decertifying the remaining 1,920 acres of the Sun Pass tract within the Oregon Department of Forestry's Klamath District, to be effective July 1, 2024.

10:43 a.m.

Treasurer Read asked if there is ever a circumstance where forestlands would be recertified?

Director Walker replied that that could be a possibility.

Matt Devore, Senior Assistant Attorney General, added that if in lieu lands or other lands are acquired by the common school fund, they could then be certified as well.

Treasurer Read then asked if beyond being managed for wildfire mitigation, are there any other plans for the forestlands?

Director Walker then invited Mike Wilson, State Forest Division Chief with ODF, to the table to assist in answering the question. Mike stated that it will be a long time before they are productive again. They are low value forestlands generally and are currently only producing costs.

Treasurer Read made a motion to approve the action item.

Governor Kotek seconded the motion.

The item was approved at 10:47 a.m. without objection.

**6. The Department of State Lands requests approval of an oversight structure for the Elliott State Research Forest, including establishment of an Elliott State Research Forest Board of Directors (ESRF Board) to ensure public accountability and transparency in State Land Board and Department administration of the Elliott**

**State Research Forest. Note: The requested action is adoption of a structure; appointments to a board, if approved, would occur at a later date.**

Director Walker introduced Brett Brownscombe, Elliott State Forest Transition Director, who joined her at the table to present the item. She also stated that Melissa Cribbins was joining via Zoom and available to answer questions as a current member of the ESRF Advisory Committee.

Brett gave a detailed overview of the proposed oversight structure for the ESRF and its Board of Directors and the recommendation that the State Land Board adopt the oversight and ESRF Board of Directors structure as captured in Appendix A and affirm its intent to appoint ESRF Board members as part of an upcoming State Land Board meeting.

Governor Kotek then called on Melissa Cribbins to give her comments. Governor Kotek thanked Melissa and the other members for their service on the Committee.

\*\*Legislative Testimony previously mentioned above under item 1:

- Representative Boice
- Representative Diehl

11:08 p.m.

Testimony was then opened to the public:

- Bob Zybach, Program Manager for Oregon Websites & Watersheds Project, Inc.

Treasurer Read and Governor Kotek both made comments in support of the item.

Treasurer Read made a motion to approve the action item.

Governor Kotek seconded the motion.

The item was approved at 11:18 p.m. without objection.

### **Informational Item**

#### **7. Elliott State Research Forest Updates**

Director Walker and Brett Brownscombe presented the update and went into detail on each of the key actions that need to be taken to make the ESRF an operating research forest.

#### **8. Legislative Update**

11:34 a.m.

Director Walker invited Chris Castelli, Government Relations Manager, to present the update from the short legislative session.

Updates on the following bills were presented:

- SB 5701

- SB 1537 (**Please note that this bill was presented as SB 1573 at the meeting and the item has since been amended to reflect the correct bill number**)
- HB 4132
- HB 4080
- SB 1576

**9. Update on Oregon’s Abandoned and Derelict Vessel Program**

11:40 a.m.

Director Walker was joined at the table by Josh Mulhollem, Waterways Stewardship Manager, who presented the update.

\*\*Legislative Testimony previously mentioned above under item 1:

- Senator Taylor
- Representative Gomberg

Treasurer Read asked what is being done as far as insurance requirements to prevent boats from getting to this point?

Josh responded that they continue to talk to insurance providers about what options may be available in Oregon in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

---

Tina Kotek, Governor

---

Vicki L. Walker, Director