

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE
September 25-27, 2018
Spruce Conference Room
The Mill Casino
3201 Tremont Avenue, North Bend, OR 97459

MINUTES (Audio time stamps for reference)

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Wednesday, September 26, 2018 (Audio = 0:00)

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Chair Tyson Raymond. Introductions of members, followed by ODA staff and guest introductions.

Board members present: Tyson Raymond, Barbara Boyer, Bryan Harper, Laura Masterson, Stephanie Hallock, Pete Brentano, Tracey Liskey, Luisa Santamaria, Marty Myers, Director Alexis Taylor, Interim Dean Bill Boggess

Others present: Jim Johnson, Casey Prentiss, Stephanie Page, Isaak Stapleton, Lisa Hanson, Andrea Cantu-Schomus, Samantha Bayer, Mateusz Perkowski, Regan Coordes, Karla Valness, Nancy Fitzpatrick, Hugh Link, Tim Novotny, Jamie Doyle, Dwight Collins

Minutes (Audio = 0:43)

Draft minutes from the June 5-7 2018 board meeting held in Hood River, Oregon were presented to the Board for review and approval. A motion was made by Tracey Liskey to approve the minutes as presented. Laura Masterson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Director's report (Audio = 1:08)

Director Alexis Taylor updated the Board on several items including:

- Two new board members have been appointed to the Board effective November 1, 2018. Director Taylor thanked outgoing Board members Tracey Liskey and Laura Masterson for sharing their willingness to serve the past 8 years and they will be greatly missed on the Board.
- Legislative Days – Director Taylor presented to the Senate Business and Transportation committee along with Business Oregon and the Port of Portland to talk about the States perspective on International Trade. Director Taylor also spoke to the Senate Natural Resources and Environment Committee and provided an update on Lost Valley. In addition, Deputy Director Hanson presented to the House Ag Committee along with DEQ and OWEB on the Ag Water Quality Programs. A similar presentation on Ag Water Quality will be given to the Board in November.
- Lost Valley Farm – An update was given on the status of Lost Valley Farm. Currently the ODA is on three separate tracks with the operator and facility 1) Federal Bankruptcy Court 2) ODA and DEQ have jointly moved to revoke their permit which has been appealed and is subject to the Administrative Procedures Act. The case has been referred

to an administrative hearings officer and no date for a hearing has been established. 3) Multnomah County Court – Back in February 2018, the State asked for a temporary restraining order to stop waste production at the facility. The judge issued a stipulated judgement which put additional constraints on the operator and facility which made them a party of it and they could be held in contempt of court. Since that time, they have been found in contempt.

Senator Dembrow is interested in setting up a work group to talk about lessons learned from the Lost Valley Farm example to see what if any changes need to be made to how permits are issued or any necessary changes to the statutes to ensure this example does not repeat.

The ODA also reported on the cost of additional inspections required, additional travel, legal costs incurred and the impact to the ODA budget. Typically, an individual permit holder with no compliance issues has 3-4 visits per year. Since March 2017 the ODA has been to Lost Valley Farm 62 times.

- The Director reported on an issue with 1,454 Ponderosa pine trees on US Forest Service land outside of Sisters on Hwy 20 that have died. The herbicide product used as part of the weed management work along the right of way may be the issue. The label on the product is slightly confusing regarding the use around trees. The ODA has established emergency rule making to prohibit the use of this product along right of ways until and investigation can be done to determine under what conditions this product should be used. This product is used in Eastern Oregon in areas with less desirable trees and it is an important product for that use.
- Oregon is scheduled to host the Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture (WASDA) meeting in 2021.
- ODA staff changes – Kathryn Walker has left the ODA and Sue Gooch has retired. Going forward, the positions will change to focus more on government relations and a rules coordinator. The positions descriptions are under review and will be posted in the near future. The Market Access Program Area Director position, previously held by Lindsay Eng, will also be posted.

2019-21 ODA Proposed budget, legislative concepts, policy option packages discussion Emergency Board (Audio = 19:05)

Deputy Director Lisa Hanson presented and discussed with the Board the ODA Agency Request Budget (ARB) and reviewed the following handouts.

Resources:

- ODA 2019-21 Proposed Legislative Concepts 091918
- ODA 2019-21 Draft Policy Packages 083118
- ODA 2019-21 Program Prioritization ARB 083118
- ODA 2019-21 Reduction Options ARB 083118
- ODA Emergency Board Request – Cyanotoxins
- ODA Emergency Board Request – Gypsy Moth
- ODA Emergency Board Request – Japanese Beetle

ODA Program Director Update (Audio = 44:32)

Food Safety and Animal Health Program Area Director Isaak Stapleton provide an update to the Board on programs in both areas. Updates included:

- Food Safety backlog of routine inspections – As a result of a 2015 Secretary of State audit they identified a backlog of routine inspections. The program has been working to reduce the backlog down to 500 firms. A computer glitch in the reporting system had been discovered and since repaired that had increased the backlog to 2200 firms. The program has worked to reduce the backlog and is now down to approximately 1500 firms. This backlog represents about 12% of the total licensed firms.
- FSMA – The ODA has contracted with FDA to conduct a limited number of inspections.
- Water – As a result of the water advisory in the Salem the Food Safety program had several inquiries from food processing firms regarding the use of water. No method has been developed to test the impact on finished food products. The Emergency Board request for funding will assist with the development of a method to test.
- Shellfish – A recent audit was conducted by Canada on the US practices regarding shellfish. The audit was conducted in both Oregon and Washington.
- Crab – Work has been done to increase the water monitoring to detect and report domoic acid earlier. This increased monitoring is an effort to open the season and keep it open as much as possible.
- Dairy/Cattle – Oregon will soon adopt the new PMO which will align with FSMA. Work continues to deal with the unmanaged herd of cattle that strays on to Hwy 101 along the South Coast.

The Board recessed at 10:00 am and reconvened at 10:15 am.

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Public comment (Audio = 0:00)

No members of the public requested public comment.

(Audio 0:28)

Director Taylor reported that all three ODA Emergency Board requests have been approved and we will be moving forward with those projects.

Oregon Fire Season update (Audio = 1:04)

Jim Johnson, Land Use & Water Planning Coordinator for the ODA provided an update to the Board on the 2018 fire season in the North Central area and its impact on agricultural land. Jim played a lead role for the Department on following the issues and reporting the impact. Approximately 340,000 acres have burned in that part of the state with the Substation fire including the greatest amount of crop land.

ODA partnered with several agencies USDA, NRCS and OWEB to help navigate the issues faced by farmers and landowners. Balancing the use of cover crops to control erosion and jeopardizing the risk of loss federal crop insurance is an important issue.

Other parts of the state reported impacts as a result of the fires, while the ground in the Willamette Valley has burned, the smoke resulted in sending some workers home and in southern Oregon fresh market vegetables farms were dealing with ash.

Impacts under review by both the Federal and State government in an effort to manage state and federal lands and make changes where necessary.

Resources:

- 2018 North Central Oregon fires presentation
- Map handout

Seafood Industry panel discussion (Audio = 37:24)

Executive Directors and Commissioners of the four Oregon Seafood Commissions gave an overview of the work done by the commissions and some of the challenges facing the commercial fishing industry. Representatives on the panel included: Crystal Adams, Hallmark Fisheries; Mike Retherford, Jr., F/V Winona J; Dwight Collins, Handler Oregon Salmon Commission, Yelena Nowak, Director, Oregon Trawl Commission; Hugh Link, Executive Director, Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission; Nancy Fitzpatrick, Director, Oregon Albacore/Salmon Commissions.

- Seafood Oregon (Audio = 40:13)
- Oregon Albacore Commission (Audio = 45:42)
- Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission (Audio = 56:10)
- Oregon Salmon Commission (Audio = 1:21:27)
- Oregon Trawl Commission (Audio = 1:33:33)

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The panel discussion continued with an overview of the Oregon Seafood Education work. (Audio = 0:00)

Resources:

- Oregon Seafood Commissions overview presentation
- Oregon Seafood Education – Farm to School Grant presentation
- Oregon Albacore Tuna Commission presentation
- Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission presentation
 - ODCC commercial 2017
 - ODCC commercial 2018
- Oregon Salmon Commission presentation
- Oregon Trawl Commission handout

The Board meeting continued in the afternoon with a dock walk tour with Jamie Doyle, Oregon Sea Grant and tours of Oregon Seafoods LLC and Chuck's Seafood Market.

*****Audio file 2018_09_27 1*****

Thursday, September 27, 2018 Spruce Room (Audio = 1:45)

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Chair Tyson Raymond. Introductions of members, followed by ODA staff and guest introductions.

Board members present: Tyson Raymond, Barbara Boyer, Bryan Harper, Laura Masterson, Stephanie Hallock, Pete Brentano, Tracey Liskey, Luisa Santamaria, Director Alexis Taylor, Interim Dean Bill Boggess

Others present: Jim Johnson, Casey Prentiss, Stephanie Page, Isaak Stapleton, Lisa Hanson, Samantha Bayer, Mateusz Perkowski, Regan Coordes, Karla Valness, Jim Seeley, Ken Bailey, Doug Krahmer, Lois Loop, Mary Wahl, Eric Williams, Meta Loftsgaarden, Woody Wolfe, Dennis Bowman

Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP) Update (Audio = 5:00)

OAHP Commissioners Doug Krahmer, Lois Loop, Mary Wahl, Ken Bailey, Woody Wolfe and OWEB's Executive Director Meta Loftsgaarden and staff member Erick Williams discussed with the Board the status of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program and the proposed rules for the Program.

Resources:

- Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program presentation
- Handouts

Gorse Action Group Update (audio = 1:14:22)

Jim Seeley, Executive Director, Wild Rivers Coast Alliance gave a presentation to the Board on the gorse control efforts in the region. Gorse is a highly invasive weed, extremely flammable and poses a serious fire risk that threatens the environment and the economy impacting farming, grazing, forestry, access to waterway, the native plant communities and recreation opportunities.

Resources:

- Gorse Action Group presentation

Cranberry Industry Update (Audio = 1:41:19)

Dennis Bowman, cranberry farmer in the Bandon area shared with the Board the history and current status of the cranberry industry in the southern Oregon region.

Public comment

No members of the public requested public comment.

The Board recessed at 10:30 am and reconvened at 10:45 am.

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The meeting was reconvened by acting chair Laura Masterson.

Board Business (Audio = 0:55)

Subcommittee reports

Government Relations subcommittee did not meet. No report. (Audio = 1:27)

Food Safety and Marketing subcommittee did not meet. No report (Audio = 1:41)

Natural Resources subcommittee (Audio = 1:52)

The Natural Resources subcommittee met to review resolutions Resolution 281 – Conservation Plan for the Oregon Coast Coho, Resolution 305 – The Native Plant Conservation Program and Resolution 308 – Adoption of Rules for Inland Rogue Water Quality Management.

Resolution #305 was tabled for further discussion by the subcommittee. Resolution

Resolution #107 Priority for Agricultural Use of Water is presented today with one amendment to bullet point 4 to remove the word many in the sentence. Subcommittee recommends a vote on this resolution.

Resolution #281- Conservation Plan for the Oregon Coast Coho it is recommended that this resolution remain active.

Resolution #308 was reviewed and the subcommittee is recommending archiving this resolution and will be brought to the full board at a future meeting.

A motion by Stephanie Hallock to approve Resolution #107 as amended and Resolution #281 to remain active. Seconded by Barbara Boyer. The motion passed unanimously.

Subcommittee work group (Audio = 6:18)

A small working group will be established to talk about the future need of subcommittees and general Board meeting structure. The group will discuss options and provide recommendations to the Board and the Director for consideration. The group will also review guidelines and expectations about meeting attendance. Members of the work group will be Stephanie Hallock, Tyson Raymond, Barbara Boyer and Luisa Santamaria.

Trawl Commission Letter of Support (Audio = 9:48)

Stephanie Hallock asked if the Board wanted to consider a letter of support for the trawl buyback loan relief. Director Taylor suggested that we would collect additional information and get back to the Board.

Land Use Subcommittee (Audio = 11:00)

The Land Use subcommittee met to review and discuss Resolutions #270 – Oregon Land Use System and Resolution #272 – Protection of Viable Grazing and Vineyard Lands. Both resolutions deal with issues related to Measure 37 and have been settled by Measure 49.

Recommendation from the subcommittee is to recommended that these resolutions become inactive.

A motion was made by Tracey Liskey to archive Resolution #270 and #272. Seconded by Stephanie Hallock. Motion passed unanimously.

A review of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program was discussed at the subcommittee meeting and today with the full Board during the panel presentation today.

Discussion followed by the Board on the OAHP Program and proposed rules.

The OAHP has extended the comment period for the proposed rules to allow for additional comments. The comment period will close on October 5.

The Board discussed some of the themes that should be included in the letter submitted by the Board. Themes include: support for funding the program, support for the program and the overarching policy goals the program will fulfill, reiterate the program should protect agricultural lands and that conservation is important and other programs exist to support the conservation efforts, ODA should be included as part of the technical review process and reinforcing getting program information out to the farmer and ranching communities is important and that the information is accessible and written in plain language. The letter should encourage the OAHP Commission to work with the ODA around some of the technical definitions. The Board supports the program and recommends appropriate funding by the State. This is a long-term project and must have a commitment from the State to support funding for future use.

A motion was made by Tracey Liskey to prepare a letter from the Board to provide comments on the proposed rules by October 5. Seconded by Barbara Boyer. The motion passed unanimously.

Laura Masterson will work with ODA staff to draft a letter for Board members to review for final comments prior to being submitted to the OAHP.

Other Board business

A question regarding the transition of Board members. Terms for Tracey Liskey and Laura Masterson will end 10/31/2018. New Board member terms begin 11/1/2018.

Newsletter topics (Audio = 33:12)

The Board discussed potential topics for the Winter edition of the Oregon Ag Briefing Newsletter. Possible topics include: Update on the Oregon Ag Heritage Program, highlights from the Oregon seafood panel discussion and tour, cranberry industry, ODA Food Safety updates and highlights of Tracey Liskey and Laura Masterson's service to the Board.

OWEB report (Audio = 36:44)

Laura Masterson reported on the June OWEB meeting. Laura will attend the next meeting mid-October in Gold Beach since her term on the Board does not end until October 31. Director

Taylor has asked Barbara Boyer to serve as the Board of Agriculture representative on the OWEB board beginning in November 2018.

Active Board Resolutions update (Audio = 41:15)

Karla Valness distributed the packet of all active resolutions. The resolution packet is also posted on the ODA website on the Board of Agriculture page.

New Board member orientation (Audio = 43:12)

New member orientation binder for new board members. Two members and dean of ag Director Taylor to give each new board Pete and Barbara will serve as mentors to new board members. Check with a peer on the Board to ask questions. Add ODA orientation

2019 meeting dates & locations (Audio 45:40)

The Board discussed meeting dates and locations for 2019. The list of meeting locations from previous years were taken in to account and they have an interest in coordinating a joint meeting with the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC). The following dates and locations were selected February 12-14, 2019 in Salem, June 11-13 in Salem, September 24-26 in Madras joint meeting with EQC and December 3-5 in Astoria.

Closing comments (Audio = 59:00)

Board members Tracey Liskey and Laura Masterson spoke about their time on the Board and thanked fellow Board members and ODA staff.

Meeting adjourned at 11:52 am.

**Next meeting
November 27-29, 2018
McMinnville, Oregon**