

**Oregon State Board of Agriculture  
June 7 & 8, 2016  
Grant County Fairgrounds, John Day**

Board members in attendance: Laura Masterson, Pete Brentano, Barbara Boyer, Tracey Liskey, Stephanie Hallock, Tyson Raymond, Sharon Livingston and Director Coba.

Others in attendance: Deputy Director Lisa Hanson, Assistant Director Lauren Henderson, Ray Jaindl, Stephanie Page, Lindsay Eng, Kathryn Walker, Bruce Pokarney, Helmuth Rogg, Jim Johnson, Mary Ann Nash, Les Ruark, Ron Sarazin, Nellie McAdams, Tom Salzer, Mateusz Perkowski, Elaine Eisenbraun, Rodger Huffman, Rob Pentzer, Brad Armstrong, Steve Beverlin, Angel Carpenter, Mark Webb, Ken Holliday, Grant County Commissioner Boyd Britton, Jerome Rosa, Tom Demianew, Theresa DeBardelaben, DEQ Director Pete Shepherd, DEQ Deputy Director Joni Hammond, Jane O'Keeffe, Gary Springer, Melinda Eden, Ed Armstrong, John Byers, Kirk Cook, Jerome Rosa, Greg Aldrich, Jennifer Flint, Kevin Masterson, Eric Nigg, Gene Foster, Jason Kehrberg, Mark Brown, Pat Holliday, Randy Jones, Linda Hayes, Pat Holiday and Jeff Thomas.

Chair Masterson called the meeting to order at 8:31 AM. The meeting opened with the Pledge of the Allegiance. Board member introductions preceded introductions of staff and guests.

*Minutes*

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Minutes were distributed in advance of the meeting. Stephanie Hallock moved to approve the minutes as presented. Tracey Liskey seconded. There was a discussion about the length of the minutes and if there was interest in shortening them. Past minutes formats were reviewed. It was decided to keep current meeting minute format as is. Motion passed unanimously.

*Director's Report, Director Coba, Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)*

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Director Coba reported that she was leaving Friday for a USDA trade mission to the Ukraine. Five states were asked to participate on this trade mission. There could be potential trade opportunities for Oregon.

Director Coba spoke about the recent issues associated with air toxics and lead. There is renewed interest in air toxics, which could mean impacts to agriculture.

Stephanie reported that she would be doing an interview with Oregon Public Broadcasting to talk about the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) budget history.

There was continued discussion about air toxics and federal requirements for air emissions. DEQ will be conducting random air inspections of permitted facilities; some agricultural companies have DEQ air permits.

*2017-19 Budget, legislative concepts, policy option package development update,  
Director Coba, Deputy Director Lisa Hanson and Assistant Director Lauren Henderson*

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Director Coba reported that legislative concepts (LCs) and policy option packages (POPs) were submitted to the governor's office in April. Since that time, there were a few LCs removed. ODA is working on developing its budget, which is due September 1. The 2017 draft list of proposed LCs and POPs was distributed.

Deputy Director Hanson spoke about the LCs that have been removed since the last Board of Agriculture meeting which included the stop work order concepts for both the pesticide and food safety programs. These LCs were removed after a thorough review of the agency's authorities. Current language allows the department, under certain situations, to achieve similar results as the LC. The placeholder LC for the pesticide program has also been removed.

Deputy Director Hanson reviewed each of the LCs from the handout.

A question was asked about the "housekeeping" concepts. Staff identifies these changes as they encounter challenges with their work. ODA has tried to clean up statutes over the last five years so that they are user-friendlier.

Director Coba reviewed the budget process. With the current revenue forecast, the state is anticipating a \$1 billion shortfall, which is approximately a six percent cut. However, if initiative petition 28 passes, this would raise an additional \$5 to 6 billion. The governor, by statute, has to submit a budget by December 1, thus two different budgets (one with cuts, one with additional revenue) is being developed.

Director Coba reviewed the POPs. Some of the POPs were developed in response to the data collected during the strategic planning process. POPs will be ranked.

Assistant Director Henderson spoke about other fund balances. Six to eight programs are financially struggling. These programs will need to look at fee increases, changes in program size/implementation, and other options to address the financial issues. The biggest budgetary challenge for ODA is increased personal service costs. Changes to federal regulations could shift work away from ODA so ODA is looking at new business opportunities. There was a brief discussion about fee-for-service levels.

*ODA strategic plan, Ron Sarazin, Olympic Performance, Inc.*

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Ron distributed three documents to the board: strategic plan timeline, ODA Executive Team Strategic Plan draft, ODA Strategic Plan Board Prioritization Exercise.

Ron reviewed the strategic planning work that has been done to date. Since the last board meeting, Ron Sarazin and Kathryn Walker met with the two lobby groups (Ag Lobby and Conservation lobby), staff cross-functional teams and the executive team. Ron explained what steps will be taken next.

Director Coba spoke about the data that was collected thus far. There were themes from staff, themes from board and themes from stakeholders.

Staff themes: concerns about agency funding, agency infrastructure (IT and lab investments), succession planning and how voids are going to be filled when staff retire, employee safety and communication, internally and externally.

External themes: funding and more stable funding, external communication, ODA's role for outreach and education, co-existence and ODA's role in promoting co-existence and the balance of promotion and regulation.

Ron reported that the executive team used this information to develop key initiatives. The draft initiatives are as follows:

- Top-notch organization
- Culture of compliance and support
- Culture of collaboration
- Excellent employees
- Communication
- Supporting the diversity of agriculture

The next step will include developing the strategy behind each initiative, metrics (to determine how we are accomplishing the process), and tactics (the specific action items that need to be done to implement the strategy).

The board provided feedback on the initiatives. Director Coba also asked if there are tactics that ODA needs to consider. It was suggested to formally acknowledge that the strategic planning work during budget development. There was also discussion about the millennial workforce and what it means for ODA. The strategic planning work should also tie into the board report.

A robust discussion also took place in how the initiatives could/should be used for priority setting and if there are opportunities within these initiatives to evaluate of program work.

A comment was made about the term "environmental scan" and that it was a confusing term. Feedback was also received regarding the lobby groups meeting independently. Director Coba reported that ODA will look for opportunities to have the groups meet together.

The board recessed at 10:47 AM and reconvened 11:04 AM.

*Public Comment*

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No public comment

*Local panel discussion, Grant County Commissioner Boyd Britton, Mark Webb, Elaine Eisenbraun, Ken Holliday, Shaun Robertson*

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Grant County Commissioner Britton reported that the county has maintained the mill and expanded into the biomass industry. After the devastating fire (Canyon Creek Complex) last year, the county has been working with environmental communities to salvage log 4,000 acres. Commissioner Britton reported that agriculture is an important strength to this county and farmers and rancher's voices need to be heard. Grant County is also feeling the impacts from the Port of Portland transportation issues. Government over-reach is also of concern to the community. Finally, there are concerns about funds being diverted away from the soil and water conservation district (SWCD) to other entities. This could result in job loss at the district.

Mark Webb, Blue Mountains Forest Partners executive director, spoke about collaborative work on public lands. Work on allotments needs to support both ranching and wildlife. In Grant County, 60 percent the land is federally owned. In 2006, there was gridlock regarding the management of the Malheur National Forest. Stakeholders met and after significant time agreed to the common goal of healthy communities and healthy forests by using science to achieve healthy ecosystems. This has been a unique template for natural resource management. This work has lead to additional restoration efforts in the Malheur National Forest.

Elaine Eisenbraun, North Fork John Day Watershed Council executive director, feels ODA has an incredible opportunity because of relationships with agriculture and the community. There is a disconnect as information moves from agencies/legislature to 'on the ground'. Electronic communication does not always help with this. As agencies implement more regulations, ODA has the opportunity to use their mission to be proactive and allow grass roots processes to germinate. At the North Fork John Day Watershed Council, the focus is on community first and landscape second. Youth play a large role in the watershed's work. There is an opportunity for ODA to connect with youth programs. Elaine spoke about a recent concern at the Local Advisory Committee (LAC) meeting. Before stakeholders were in the room, the North Middle Fork Water Quality Plan was written by ODA. ODA staff heard these concerns and worked with the local community to identify a compromise. There was also discussion about the John Day Basin Partnership. This partnership has been exclusively agency dominated. Although it brings money to the area, the money will not be used to get on the groundwork done. The development of the partnership has excluded landowners. ODA could help influence this process so stakeholders have more of a voice in the process.

Ken Holliday, owner of Holliday Ranch, has been ranching in the areas since 1947. Ken spoke about the many regulations (state and federal) he complies with on a

daily basis in order to ranch. Ken also spoke about the damage his operation sustained in last year's fire including the loss of four pairs (cow and calf) and one piece of property burned. There was also a significant fire in the community the year prior. Government interference has inhibited the ability to ranch. In addition, "tunnel vision" coming out of Salem has not been good for the community. Finally, Ken is concerned about the lack of young people in Grant County.

Shaun Robertson's family has been in the community since 1872. Shaun, a fish biologist, has spoken across the country on fishery issues. In his experience, a cattleman generally knows more about fish than fishery people know about cattle. John Day is nationally recognized fishery resource as it is the last remaining basin with wild fish runs. Local landowners have been working with local agencies for the last five years to create this outcome. In the last 10 to 15 years, John Day has been the bright spot for the community and as such everybody wants to do business here and exploit the community. Unfortunately, this has created a disconnect to the benefit of using local connections to achieve results. The community is also having challenges filling jobs. ODA, and the board, can be a voice for the community.

There was discussion from the local panel regarding the John Day Basin Partnership. This project is part of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) Focused Investment Program (FIP). The partnership is designed to set up an action plan for private landowners and federal land yet there was no representation from local landowners in the development process. The plan being developed is agency heavy. There is also a misalignment of incentives for desired outcomes. The partnership is supposed to create incentives to drive outcomes, but landowners have been left out of the development therefore incentives will not yield the desired outcomes. Project success comes from partnerships with the local entities, like SWCDs. There is concern that OWEB has "analysis paralysis" which takes away from getting projects done on the ground. There is also concern that if you are not part of this partnership, you will not receive project funds.

Director Coba thanked the local panel for their comments. Director Coba reaffirmed that it is ODA's goal to make programs workable.

The board recessed for lunch at 12:03pm and was called back to order at 12:57 PM.

*Land tenure, land access, and business succession in Oregon, Nellie McAdams, Rogue Farm Corps*

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Nellie presented information about a study conducted with Oregon State University and Portland State University regarding agricultural land, in particular farm and ranch succession and beginning farmer and rancher (BFR) access to land in Oregon.

Goals of this research is to assess current knowledge and identify gaps on land access and tenure in Oregon, identifying trends and their potential consequences on the state's long term economic, social and environmental well being, and identify

existing and potential effective future actions to ensure that Oregon's agricultural lands remain in production agriculture.

The project focused on four counties that have agricultural land facing development pressure. These counties were Benton, Clackamas, Polk and Washington. The project used secondary data, like census data, conducted interviews and connected with focus groups.

Three questions identified in this research are:

- 1) Succession of agricultural land and businesses: who owns the land now and what happens next?
- 2) Access to land for BFRs: can BRFs, especially first generation, afford land?
- 3) Land use: will changing ownership change land use over time? How can agricultural land be kept in ag use?

In the next 10 to 15 years, 50 to 70 percent of farmland will change hands and up to 25 percent of farmers and ranchers will retire within the next 20 years. Ten percent of US agricultural land, 11 percent in the West, is expected to change hands in the next five years. In Oregon, up to 10.5 million (64 percent) acres will change hands in the next two decades.

Oregon farmers are aging and are older than any time in history; baby boomers (55 years and older) hold more of the farm businesses and land that is being consolidated into fewer and older hands. The age range with the most Oregon farm operators and the age of farmer and ranchers that manage the largest share of land have both increased from 45 to 54 years old in 2002 to 65 years old and over in 2012.

2012 was the first time that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) collected retirement farming data. Retirement operators own 35 percent of Oregon farms, much higher than the US, which is 12 percent. There could be a possible data skew and Nellie spoke to this.

Farmers were also interviewed. When asked about their future plans for their operation, two-thirds of the Clackamas County farmers responded that they did not have a succession plan. In 2006, a study found that 82 percent of US farmers lacked an exit strategy or did not know how to create one. The research team is planning on doing a statewide succession survey but in the mean time, the team had to rely on proxy data.

It seems that fear of death, the need for family discussions, feeling overwhelmed and not knowing where to start are some of the primary reasons for not having a plan. Nellie spoke about existing resources to assist farmers with succession planning as well as potential opportunities including a farm/ranch succession specialist, Oregon succession toolbox and working lands conservation easements.

Director Coba commented that through the strategic planning data collection, ODA heard succession planning is an issue for the industry. This could be a great opportunity for OSU extension. ODA does not currently have resources for this but if there were a way to provide help and/or support, ODA would be open to that.

Nellie responded that there is an opportunity for ODA to be a convener and help connect the agricultural community with the resources. A change in policies, such as a change in estate taxes, can also help benefit the succession process. ODA could also be more involved with working land conservation easements.

Nellie spoke about the succession data the researchers would like to collect.

The second part of this research was regarding BFRs. Using the USDA definition; a BFR is defined as a person farming less than 10 years. Although the ages of BFRs are evenly distributed, there are fewer BFRs entering the business. For example, in 2012, Oregon had 8,339 BFRs, down 35 percent (12,866) from 2002. BFRs and non-BFRs are equally likely to own all of the land that they operate, but BFRs are more likely to be full tenants and not own land.

Although the research team is asking about land access for BFRs, if land is not affordable, then for all practical purposes, it is not available. Oregon average estimated market value of land and buildings was \$1,882 per acre in 2012 up from \$1,534 a decade before. Nationally, value of land has doubled. Comparing land value in Oregon counties, land value ranged from \$5,314 per acre in Polk County to \$29,817 in Clackamas County. In the Willamette Valley, land is selling 20 to 30 times higher than average. Eastern Oregon counties have also seen price increases. For example, land value has increased 106.1 percent in Grant County.

Jim Johnson commented that exclusive farm use (EFU) land that can be rezoned for urban grown has been valued at \$150,000 to 200,000 per acre.

Agricultural land is an attractive investment as it consistently outperforms the S&P 500; this is especially true for land near urban growth boundaries. It is estimated that five to 10 percent of Oregon land is owned by out-of-state (but within the US) buyers. Foreign ownership has also increased from 0.46 percent in 2002 to 1.52 percent in 2012.

Nellie spoke about existing resources for BFRs however there is potential to consolidate these resources, expand them, making them more useful for BFRs.

Some of the next steps for this research include gathering data to determine the number and characteristics of BFRs and statewide data on who is buying Oregon farmland.

Finally, Nellie spoke about changes in agricultural land use. Oregon has a unique land use program, but it is not sufficient. From 1989 to 2013, over 56,000 of EFU

land was rezoned, 57 percent of this land was rezoned for rural development and 43 percent was rezoned for urban growth. Parcelization of agricultural land, increase in the number of structures on agricultural land and Measure 49 claims have also decreased available agricultural land.

Resources to protect agricultural land include working land easements, natural resources tax credits, no net loss policies and taxation. To do this work, it is important to understand which high value agricultural land is most at risk for permanent conversion.

Nellie shared two flow charts with the board. The first focused on options for landowners and the second chart outlined future uses for land use and land tenure.

*Canyon Creek Complex wildfire details and update, Steve Beverlin, US Forest Service*

Steve shared a video of the Canyon Creek Complex. The Canyon Creek Complex was a result of two fires, Berry Creek and Mason Springs, merging into one. Lightening strikes started these fires. Over 110,00 acres were burned and 43 primary residences and 50 buildings were destroyed. This was the nation's highest priority fire.

Discussion regarding the Canyon Creek Complex occurred. Two hundred cattle were killed, wildlife was lost and grazing pastures were destroyed. Very few houses have been rebuilt following the fire. The fire also created potential flood impacts to the community because the Canyon Creek watershed runs through town.

Steve spoke about rehabilitation efforts. The US Forest Service completed aerial mulching to stabilize the soil, conducted roadside rehabilitation, salvage logging and replanting.

11,000 fire fighters were assigned to fight the fire. The state fire marshal's office came three different times to help protect building structures. The suppression cost for this fire was \$33 million; this does not include calculated losses.

2015 was a long fire season. The first fire began on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Current fire conditions are moderate and the fire season is expected to be slightly above average.

Ken Holliday commented that if there are not enough resources on the ground, it does not matter how the land was managed. Ken spoke of collaboration efforts on his allotment. Four permittees lost grazing land and options for them are limited. Grazing will most likely not occur on these allotments for at least five years.

There was a discussion about salvage logging. One of the challenges to this is that the log market is flooded.

Finally, Steve reported that 52 percent of the US Forest Service budget last year was spent on fighting fires.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM to tour the damage of the Canyon Creek Complex.

**Wednesday, June 8, 2016**  
**Grant County Fairgrounds**

Meeting called to order at 8:03 AM by Chair Masterson. Introductions of Board of Agriculture (BOA) and Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) members followed by introductions of the guests

Ray Jaindl spoke about the various programs where ODA and DEQ interact including the NPDES permit for the pesticide program, the Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) program, Pesticide Stewardship Partnership and the Ag Water Quality Program.

Commissioner O’Keeffe reported that individual EQC members serve as liaisons to other boards and commissions. Commissioner O’Keeffe is the liaison to the BOA. Stephanie Hallock is the board’s liaison to the EQC.

Commissioner Armstrong spoke about his liaison experience to the Board to the Forestry (BOF). Commissioner Armstrong attends BOF meetings and tours. The liaisons also meet informally to share information and discuss potential issues. Information sharing will hopefully limit unintended consequences.

Director Coba commented that of all of the agencies that ODA interacts with, DEQ is the one that ODA interacts with the most. There has been emphasis to work closely on issues. Although the agencies have different statutory mandates, the two agencies work together make sure that perspectives are heard and respected.

*Pesticide Stewardship Program (PSP) update, Kirk Cook, ODA and Kevin Masterson, DEQ*

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Kirk and Kevin provided an updated on PSP.

The success of this program is due in large part to the collaboration between the partners. The Water Quality Pesticide Management Team includes: DEQ, ODA, OSU, Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon Health Authority and OWEB. Local partners such as watershed councils and natural resource groups, landowners, SWCDs and tribal governments are an important part of the partnership. This team works together to identify potential concerns and improve water quality affected by pesticides around Oregon, works with local expertise to encourage voluntary changes, identifies ways to reduce pesticide levels while measuring improvements in water quality and crop management, schedules waste collection events and provides technical assistance to local watershed partners.

Kevin reviewed the genesis of PSP. During a monitoring project in Hood River, organophosphates were detected above water quality standards. Stakeholders approached DEQ to work together and develop solutions. As a result, water quality improved and the experience led to the development of the PSP. The program expanded over the years and between 2005 through 2011, seven watershed-based PSP projects were initiated.

Today, there are nine monitoring locations. Project areas have expanded into areas with mixed land use. Subsequently, pesticide monitoring has been refined. Monitoring is occurring at a sub-watershed level. If high levels are detected, the program works with partners within that micro area to find success and then expand out to the larger watershed. Kevin spoke about the refined focus that occurred in the Clackamas watershed.

Kirk spoke about waste pesticide collection activities. These events are free to the community. As of June 2016, almost 61,000 lbs. of pesticides have been collected. Three more collection events are scheduled for Roseburg, Tillamook and McMinnville. The program is also working with local government in The Dalles to develop a tri-county agreement for a pesticide collection event.

With respect to technical assistance, data is being used to help partners focus on solutions. Technical assistance grants have been distributed to watersheds mostly on the west side of the state due to the complexity of use in these watersheds. Kirk reviewed the program's budget. An additional \$10,000 was received from Oregon Department of Forestry to expand technical assistance and other partners have provided funds for pesticide collection events.

Kirk spoke about next steps for the PSP.

There was discussion about the importance of controlling invasive species. If invasives are managed before they are established, it can reduce the need for pesticide treatments.

*Ag water quality program and strategic implementation area update – John Byers, ODA, and Gene Foster, DEQ*

John provided brief background of the ag water quality program. In short, the program's role is to prevent and control water pollution from agricultural activities. This has been achieved through the development of 38 management areas. Each area includes a local advisory committee, which develops water quality rules for that area.

ODA also works with local SWCDs regarding the implementation of the ag water quality program. SWCDs accompany ODA on investigation since SWCDs can provide solutions to the landowner to achieve compliance.

In 2012, ODA and DEQ entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) relating to Agricultural Nonpoint Source Pollution. The purpose of this MOA was intended to assist DEQ and ODA in collaborative efforts to meet their legal responsibilities relating to agricultural nonpoint source pollution. This has resulted in a partnership with other agencies.

John also covered Section 5 of the MOA: monitoring and evaluating effectiveness of area plans. With this section, ODA will determine the percentage of lands achieving compliance with area rules. As a result, ODA developed strategic implementation areas (SIA). The SIA process was piloted in Clackamas and Wasco Counties.

John reviewed the methodology on how land is prioritized for SIAs. Once priority land was identified, a compliance evaluation was complete. The evaluation was completed using publically available information. During the evaluation, ODA looks for agricultural activities on the agriculture land that could cause potential pollution. A map of Moyer Creek, part of the Clackamas County SIA, was shared.

All properties that were evaluated received an invitation to attend an open house at the SWCD. At the open house, ODA provided the landowners the outcome of their evaluation. The process continues with the potential of onsite visits.

The number of SIAs has been expanded to seven, for a total of nine. ODA has been asked to identify six new SIAs each year. Datasets from other partners, who have also identified priorities, will be used to determine opportunities.

One of the challenges with this approach is that SWCDs are an important part of the process. Not all districts have the capacity to provide support/technical assistance. If this is a state priority, SWCDs need additional resources.

Focus areas have also been established. With the focus area, ODA will work with the SWCD to help implement the ag water quality plan and identify areas of opportunity within the district's area.

Finally, John focused on Section 6 of the MOA: area plans rely on a combination of voluntary and regulatory measures to prevent and control water pollution from agricultural activities. As a result, ODA and DEQ have developed further consultative processes.

John reported that in 2015, the ag water quality program conducted 66 complaint inspections. As of May 2016, 119 complaints have been filed.

An additional challenge is change in land ownership. This means there is a need for constant education.

Sharon spoke about her experience with her local LAC and the importance of landowner involvement. Sharon also re-affirmed the previous point about change in landownership can mean change in land management.

Gene Foster spoke about DEQ's role with data evaluation and interpretation. DEQ is developing tools to determine in-stream water quality in response to landscape changes. It is important to know when changes are working or not. DEQ is working very hard to have coordinated activities and programs to better evaluate where work needs to be done but to document good work as well.

Gene recently spoke at meeting with clean water administrators and departments of agriculture. Several states shared their approach for ag water quality management. Oregon's approach is unique.

Ray spoke about the difference between SIAs and focus areas. SIAs are achieving compliance with rules where as focus areas is about achieving water quality standards. Legacy issues, activities that occurred many years ago that are no longer occurring, also need to be addressed in order to impact water quality.

It is important that SWCDs are not seen as regulatory entities as they are the ones with the relationships with the landowners.

There was a discussion about data management at DEQ and the challenges associated with the current process. There are challenges being able to gather information on natural/background levels of some for the monitoring elements. DEQ is able to use other sources of data as long as the data meets quality objectives.

A question was asked about the sufficiency of resources currently available for monitoring. Ray responded that the legislature authorized additional funding for ambient monitoring sites in addition to what DEQ has been doing. ODA and DEQ are also looking at ways to be strategic with monitoring and identifying future opportunities.

Gene reported that partnerships are important but there are challenges in that there is not enough in stream water quality data to talk about trends.

A question was asked if there have been a change in water quality since the implementation of SIAs. It is too soon to tell. Some parameters of concern will respond more quickly than others. For example, bacteria, nutrients and sediment can change more rapidly whereas temperature is something that could take more time.

Tom Salazar spoke about the work that the Clackamas SWCD has been doing with their local watershed councils. Barbara expressed appreciation for the partnership between DEQ and the Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

Director Coba commented that farmers and ranches have done work on the ground that is not being counted. With the SIAs and focus areas, that work is now being counted. Overall, a small percentage of land needs work. The ag water quality program began in 1993. At first, the ag community did not welcome the program but now the ag community is proud. Landowners are vocal about the need for more monitoring, however when budget are cuts, monitoring is one of the items cut. Without monitoring, we cannot answer the question about what is getting done.

Following the ag water quality discussion, there was a brief discussion about current field burning regulations and the shellfish program.

DEQ Director Shepard expressed appreciation of this opportunity. The board and commission will look for further opportunities to meet.

Meeting recessed at 9:51 AM. Meeting reconvened at 10:16 AM.

#### *Subcommittee reports*

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*Government relations:* Tracey reported that the committee received an update on sudden oak death. There was request for funding in the short session but it did not get funded. Oregon Department of Forestry went to the emergency board and received some funds for education. Oregon businesses have been working together to develop a food and beverage road map. The legislature has expressed interest supporting craft consumables (cheese, beer, cider, cannabis, etc...). These efforts could results in future funds for food marketing and research. ODA is also accepting hemp applications. So far, 1,200 acres and 45 growers have been licensed. There was discussion regarding the tracking and testing of hemp and marijuana. During the May legislative days, ODA went to the emergency board to request limitation for the FSMA grant, it was approved. Finally, board member's introductions for the Board Report are due to Kathryn by September 1, 2016.

*Marketing and food safety:* Tyson reported that there was a FSMA update. ODA applied for the education and outreach grant (\$700,000). ODA did not apply for the compliance portion of the grant. ODA also conducted a survey of individuals who potentially could be regulated by FSMA. Forty-five people responded and there was not consensus in the response. This demonstrates implementation challenges. Stephanie Page provided an overview of the Food safety and animal health program area. It was requested to be able to meet staff at a future meeting.

The committee also discussed a draft resolution: Oregon Department of Agriculture's role in the Food Safety Modernization Act produce rule implementation. There was consensus that work should not be done until federal funds are received. Everyone is supportive of education and outreach. There has been much discussion regarding developing an inventory of farms that could be regulated by FSMA. ODA will have a voluntary system and re-assess if it is not working. Concern was expressed that there was a case of food borne illness; it could

be perceived that ODA was not being proactive on this issue. Discussion about specific resolution language ensued.

Stephanie Hallock moved to approve the resolution Oregon Department of Agriculture's role in the Food safety Modernization Act produce rule implementation as corrected. Tyson Raymond seconded. No further discussion. Passed unanimously.

The committee also received a black leg update. Laura reported that she was part of the black leg committee appreciated the use of a facilitator for the committee. The rules will be filed June 15<sup>th</sup> and in place by early July. Lindsay provided additional information on black leg. There was further discussion about the use of facilitators and opportunities for ODA to be more transparent during rulemaking.

*Land use:* Laura reported that the committee had a local panel to discuss working land easement challenges and opportunities in the Grant County community. The panel included members from three different SWCDs, landowners, a land trust consultant and NRCS. Topics covered included, technical assistance, legal protections, and land eligibility. With working land easements, landowners do not want land trusts and environmental communities to hold easements; they would prefer a trusted partner like a SWCD.

Jerome Rosa added to the report. He briefly spoke about the governor's task force on this issue. The Oregon Cattleman's Association is also working on a legislative concept for this in the 2017 legislative session.

Jim Johnson reported that the Drought Readiness Council meets next week. May precipitation is 50 percent below normal, temperatures are above normal, streams are already at base flow and reservoirs are low, but not as low as last year.

Tracey reported that the tribes have made a call on the Klamath River (upper basin).

Jim reported that he has received several calls about the siting of solar facilities. Land use laws make it easy to site these panels on prime farmland. Solar is land dependent, not soil dependent. If this is going to change, there needs to be a discussion at the policy level. Barbara spoke that this is an issue in Yamhill County. There are opportunities for farmers to put panels on buildings and strategically in fields to minimize impact on high value farmland.

*Natural resources:* During the Natural Resources Subcommittee, there was discussion about the board's role for setting priorities. This is a broader discussion for the whole board. During this discussion, it was recommended that staff reach out to board members if an advisory committee is being put together.

There was discussion about succession planning with respect to board members. One item discussed was possible mentorship for new board members or if the board

can support leadership training. It was recommended that a local panel could include a youth member. Kathryn spoke about the natural resource community's effort to create a leadership program, REAL Oregon.

Ray reported that Wym Matthews provided a CAFO Program update. The program is working on noticing for permit renewals. There has been a request for a hearing in Area I. A question was asked about new applications for CAFOs. The program has received eight new applications for the NPDES permit (seven in eastern Oregon and one in Marion county) and 10 new applications for the Water Pollution Control Facility permit.

Helmuth provided an update on the gypsy moth eradication. This was the fourth largest eradication effort in Oregon. The success of the project was due to the collaborative effort. GM eradication. There was an equipment failure during the treatment phase, which meant the emergency plan was implemented. Traps have been set to monitor for gypsy months. Total cost project cost was \$2.3 million. The federal government and emergency board provided funds for the project.

Japanese beetle eradication is also underway. With only four detections, treatment has been limited to turf. Eradication efforts for the light brown apple moth are also taking place. This is a tropical species that should not survive in Oregon's climate but climate change has allowed this pest to persist. Helmuth is also seeking input for weed program POP.

Finally, Ray reported that Rose Kachadoorian provided an update on the state's pollinator work and EPA's new worker protection standards. And Dale Mitchell reported that litigation for pesticide cases is ongoing.

#### *Nominating committee*

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The Nominating Committee, consisting of Stephanie Hallock, Tracy Liskey and Laura Masterson, recommended Pete Brentano as Chair and Barbara Boyer as Vice Chair.

Laura Masterson recommended approving the Nominating Committee's recommendation as presented. Tracey Liskey seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### *OWEB report*

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Laura reported that OWEB met in April. The meeting was in La Grande and included a tour of Catherine Creek to view the restoration work and irrigation improvements. Laura also commented on the forest collaborative partnership. In addition, there was discussion about FIPs. The John Day Partnership was funded through FIPs. Laura will share the concerns of the local panel regarding this partnership to OWEB.

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*Other reports*

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Barbara reported that the Soil and Water Conservation Commission met recently. The meeting focused on cannabis (marijuana and hemp). There was also joint meeting with the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts.

Barbara has been serving on the Specialty Crop Block Grant Committee. The committee is meeting next week to select projects for full proposal.

Director Coba reported that the governor's office is working on board appointments.

*Upcoming meeting dates*

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September 11-September 13, 2016, Wildhorse Resort and Casino, Pendleton.

November 29-December 1, 2016, West Linn area.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.