



Oregon State Board of Agriculture Minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
12/17-19/2024	Newport, OR and hybrid	5:00 pm	12:00 PM

FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL	CONTACT PHONE
Karla Valness	Karla.Valness@oda.oregon.gov	503.986.4554

Meeting Recordings:

Meeting recording – December 17 – Part 1: <https://youtu.be/5Qlfaxl3DXs>

Meeting recording – December 18 – Part 2: <https://youtu.be/KXmu5ARDVq0>

Meeting recording – December 18 – Part 3: <https://youtu.be/WnPlkvefSaY>

Meeting recording – December 19 – Part 4: <https://youtu.be/FPbp3WKTGzs>

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

Agenda Item 01 – Welcome and Introductions

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. Introductions of board members followed.

- Board members present: Chair Elin Miller, Chad Allen, Barbara Boyer, Ty Kliewer, Miguel Lopez, Eric Orem, Josh Zielinski, ODA Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson, Dean Staci Simonich
- Board members remote: Ellie Norris
- Board members absent: Bryan Harper, Luisa Santamaria
- Others present in-person/remote: Ericka Carlson, Kristen Penner, Dave Wright, Crystal Adams, James Sulikowski, Lynn Mattes, Alana V, Peter Kenagy, Erick Garman, Jonathan Sandau, Lindsay Eng, Karla Valness, Chris Benemann, Rusty Rock, Sherry Kudna, Isaak Stapleton, Laura Passage, Sunny Summers, Casey Prentiss, Bill Miller, Three Rivers Audio Visual.

Agenda Item 02 – Local panel – Seafood Commodity Commissions

Executive Director Yelena Nowak, Oregon Trawl Commission; Executive Director Crystal Adams, Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission; and Executive Director Ericka Carlson, Oregon Albacore Commission and Oregon Salmon Commission provided an overview of each fishery and the Commodity Commission and discussed industry topics and successes with the board.

Oregon Trawl Commission represents three fisheries Oregon pink shrimp, Pacific whiting and the bottom and midwater ground fishery. These three fisheries have more than ten commercially harvested species. The trawl sector is a very important economic driver on the Oregon coast. In 2024 these fisheries collectively produce \$62 million in fishermen's value alone and harvested more than 400 million pounds of sustainable healthy seafood of various kinds. These fisheries represent 60-70% of Oregon's total commercial harvest. The sustainability and stewardship efforts of all three fisheries are certified under the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) including Oregon Pink shrimp which is the first shrimp fishery in the world to ever achieve this certification. Ground fish fishery has 18 certified species and is considered the most diverse and complex fishery under MSC certification.

One of the most immediate issues of concern the industry is facing is with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and wastewater issues related to removing heavy metals from the water. The West Coast Seafood Processors Association and DEQ have been working together to resolve these issues. Another difficult issue is competing with imported seafood. She thanked the ODA for supporting market access and promotion activities for Oregon/US seafood and for the Commodity Commission Oversight program support.

Crystal Adams, Executive Director of the Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission presented to the board on the crab fishery in Oregon. The Commission was established in 1977 and is one of 23 commodity commissions. In the 2023-2024 season the industry harvested 24.6 million pounds with an ex-vessel value of \$93.6 million dollars. The crab fishery was previously MSC certified and is looking now to get re-certified to sell to the European Union market. The presentation included photos of recent promotional advertisements, and a view of the gear, harvesting methods, and season testing used to harvest crabs. The Oregon Dungeness Crab fishery is well managed and sustainable, environmentally friendly with minimal impacts, and important economic driver for coastal communities, and a part of our commercial fishing and seafood heritage here in Oregon.

Erica Carlson, Executive Director of the Oregon Albacore and Oregon Salmon Commissions talked about each of the fisheries. Albacore and Salmon fishermen are independent business owners, maintain a coastal cultural heritage, and in many cases are multi-generational operations.

Oregon caught albacore is caught one at a time by hook and line by hand. The fish is washed and pre-chilled to get the fish cold as soon as possible. Albacore has been fished off Oregon since 1929 and have recorded variable landings as low as 27,600 lbs in 1936 and as high as 38 million lbs in 1968. The last decade averaged 5.71 million lbs/year.

Oregon caught salmon is caught and processed in a similar way and have been commercially fished off Oregon since 1912. A near 4 million lbs in 1925-41 and low near 1 million lbs in 1945-50. The last decade has averaged about 608 lbs per year.

Albacore and Salmon products are sold in many market forms, whole fish, albacore loins, salmon fillets, custom canned, custom pouches and many value-added products.

Issues facing these fisheries include the consolidation among buyers and processors reducing market opportunities, the need to develop and invest in new programs to encourage new entrants to the fleet, and the timeliness of federal disaster support programs.

The panel answered questions from board members regarding the presentations.

The meeting recessed at 6:30 pm until Wednesday, December 18, 2024

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

Meeting recording – December 18 – Part 2: <https://youtu.be/KXmu5ARDVq0>

Meeting recording – December 18 – Part 3: <https://youtu.be/WnPlkvefSaY>

Agenda Item 03 – Welcome and Introductions

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Introductions of board members followed.

- Board members present: Chair Elin Miller, Chad Allen, Barbara Boyer, Ty Kliewer, Miguel Lopez, Eric Orem, Josh Zielinski, ODA Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson, Dean Staci Simonich
- Board members remote: Ellie Norris
- Board members absent: Bryan Harper, Luisa Santamaria
- Others present in-person/remote: Scottie Jones, Molly Pearmine McCargar, Nargess Shadbeh, Ira Cuello-Martinez, Alana V, Peter Kenagy, Barb Iverson, Samantha Bayer, Andrea Cantu-Schomus, Christina Higby, Natallia Simpson, Jessica Sandrock, Amanda Hoey, Mike Dill, Representative Scharf, Tami Kerr, Peggy Lynch, Sandra Bishop, Martha Sonato, Lauren Link, Cassi Newton, Jeff Stone, Courtney Moran, Megan Kemple, Sophie Els, Bobbi Harrold Frost, Emili Lopez, PCUN 2020, Lesley Tamura, Oregon Pride Nurseries, Amy Wong, Scott Dilley, Jenny Dresler, Lauren Kuenzi, Jeremy, Jan Lee, Mickey Killingsworth, Comerford, Les Ruark, Claire Albright, Peter Kessinger, Gordon Howard, Kady Adelman, Heather Miller, Levy, Ryan Krabill, Erick Garman, Jonathan Sandau, Lindsay Eng, Karla Valness, Chris Benemann, Rusty Rock, Sherry Kudna, Isaak Stapleton, Laura Passage, Sunny Summers, Casey Prentiss, Ryan Scholz, Bill Miller, Three Rivers Audio Visual.

Approval of minutes

Draft minutes from the September 10-12, 2024, board meeting was presented for review and approval.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Ty Kliewer to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Josh Zielinski. Motion passed unanimously by: Chad Allen, Barbara Boyer, Ty Kliewer, Miguel Lopez, Elin Miller, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem, Josh Zielinski.

Director's report

Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson reported on several items in her update to the Board.

- Board member appointments. The Governor has re-appointed Elin Miller and Josh Zielinski to serve a second term on the board. The Governor has appointed Kirk Maag as a public member. Currently, one position remains to be filled.
- The meeting packet included the first quarterly progress report on the 2024-27 ODA Strategic Plan. Highlights include some foundation work done by the agency in the last quarter. Specifically, an in-person all managers meeting was held to continue to build consistency across all the programs in the agency. With many new managers, the need to focus on standard operating procedures will help us to build our foundation. In addition to the all-managers meeting, monthly virtual all-department meetings have been implemented to complement the two in-person all-department meetings held each year. There are several themes we will focus on including policies and procedures, and a focus on safety training.
- We have completed a restructure in the agency in terms of the organizational structure. We have gone to a dual Deputy system, much like other agencies. The Director has asked Jonathan Sandau and Lindsay Eng to serve as agency Deputy Directors. We are in the process of recruiting to fill the Chief Operating Officer position previously held by Lindsay Eng.

Additionally, we have re-aligned programs to create an Agriculture Services Division that will be led by Division Director Casey Prentiss. See updated ODA org chart for details. The goal is to increase efficiencies and the ability to serve customers around the state. The Director also noted the change from Program Area Directors to Division Directors.

The Director introduced her Executive Assistant Laura Passage who has in attendance at the meeting.

- Agency work continues around High Path AI and animal health. Dr. Ryan Scholz will be here on Thursday to provide an update.
- Other items completed in the last quarter and included in the meeting packet include the Oregon Government to Government tribal report and the Customer Service Survey results.
- The new ODA website has launched. Thank you to Taylor Harding who has been working on this update for months. The new website is customer focused and supports the goal to support the customer service and interactions at ODA.
- Themes for 2025 – Resilience in Agriculture and at the Oregon Department of Agriculture and how do we build our systems to be resilient, thrive and support future generations.

Agenda Item 04 – ODA’s Budget and Legislative Update

The 2025-27 Legislative session will begin in January. As agencies prepare for the long session, Deputy Director Jonathan Sandau shared during the long session every two years the state budget is rebalanced and reappropriated and each agency budget is reviewed. In addition, during a long session members of the legislature have the opportunity to introduce an unlimited number of bills and agencies can introduce bills through the Governor’s office. The six legislative concepts submitted by the ODA will be introduced in the 2025 session.

Deputy Director Lindsay Eng walked through the 2025 ODA’s Governor’s Budget summary document. The Governor’s budget for ODA is close to the current service level. The ODA summary document includes funding for a bonding package that was in our agency request budget that will provide the ability to sell bonds to modernize our infrastructure as part of the ODA Strategy Plan. Deputy Director Eng highlighted the significant changes to the budget listed on the document which reflect the significant changes from our agency budget request into the Governor’s budget.

Resource:

- 2025-27 ODA Governor’s Budget Summary

Agenda Item 05 – Panel Discussion on Agricultural Worker Overtime

To learn more and hear a variety of perspectives, panelists Molly Pearmine McCargar, Owner/President, Pearmine Farms Inc., Nargess Shadbeh, Farmworker Director, Oregon Law Center, Ira Cuello-Martinez, Policy & Advocacy Director, PCUN, Lesley Tamura, Tamura Orchards and Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers, Bobbi Harrold Frost, Harrold’s Dairy and President, Oregon Dairy Farmers Association were invited to participate in a panel discussion on agricultural worker overtime. Each panelist provided background on the implementation of agriculture worker overtime laws and how the law has impacted their operations and agricultural workers. A desire to work together to support an agricultural overtime policy for Oregon that allows for farm operations to stay in business and provide additional compensation for agricultural workers was expressed by all. Discussion followed with the panel and board members. The board will discuss a new resolution on agricultural worker overtime tomorrow during board business.

Break

The Board recessed for a 5-minute break and reconvened.

Agenda Item 06 – Public Comment

Written comments were received from LandWatch Lane County related to Resolution 314 – Permitted Uses on Lands Zoned Exclusive Farm Use and on High Value Farmland.

Verbal comments were provided by Jenny Dresler, Oregon Farm Bureau on housing issues and the cost of labor in Oregon. Ryan Krabill, Oregon Farm Bureau provided comments on Oregon's general agricultural economy.

Agenda Item 07 – Oregon Ag Heritage Commission

As required in statute five members of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission shall be recommended by the Board of Agriculture. Today, ODA Deputy Director Jonathan Sandau highlighted three applications for consideration for one farmer/rancher position and one agricultural water quality position. Current commissioners are not eligible for re-appointment. Terms for the new commissioners begin January 2025.

Board members reviewed and discussed the applications from Penny Feltner and John O'Keeffe who applied for the farmer/rancher position and recommended John O'Keeffe.

Board members reviewed and discussed the applications from Penny Feltner and Jan Lee who applied for the agricultural water quality position and recommended Jan Lee.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Ty Kliewer to recommend John O'Keeffe for the farmer/rancher position on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. Second by Eric Orem. Motion passed unanimously by: Chad Allen, Barbara Boyer, Ty Kliewer, Miguel Lopez, Elin Miller, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem, Josh Zielinski.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Barbara Boyer to recommend Jan Lee for the Ag Water Quality position on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. Second by Miguel Lopez. Motion passed unanimously by: Chad Allen, Barbara Boyer, Ty Kliewer, Miguel Lopez, Elin Miller, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem, Josh Zielinski.

Recommendation letters will be sent to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board with the approved recommendations.

The meeting recessed at 11:40 am and reconvened at 12:45 pm.

Agenda Item 08 – Panel Discussion on Agri-tourism and Land Use

Panelists Peter Kenagy, Ag for Oregon, Barb Iverson, Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm, Samantha Bayer, Oregon Property Owners Association, Gordon Howard, Department of Land Conservation and Development presented to the board on the topic of Agri-tourism and land use in Oregon. This was an opportunity to learn more about Agri-tourism and land use issues from a variety of perspectives. Discussion followed with panelists and board members.

Resource:

- Peter Kenagy, Ag for Oregon presentation
- Barb Iverson, Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm presentation

The meeting recessed at 2:30 pm until Thursday, December 19 at 8:30 am.

Agenda item 09 - Afternoon Site Visit

A site visit of the Hatfield Marine Science Center was arranged for board members and ODA staff.

Thursday, December 19, 2024

Meeting recording – December 19 – Part 4: <https://youtu.be/FPbp3WKTGzs>

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Introductions of board members followed.

- Board members present: Chair Elin Miller, Chad Allen, Barbara Boyer, Ty Kliewer, Miguel Lopez, Eric Orem, Josh Zielinski, ODA Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson, Dean Staci Simonich
- Board members remote: Ellie Norris
- Board members absent: Bryan Harper, Luisa Santamaria
- Others present in-person/remote: Andrea Cantu-Schomus, Mike Dill, Sandra Bishop, Jeff Stone, Nichole Mann, Emiliene Lopez, Cynthia Ramirez, Amy Wong, Lauren Kuenzi, Mickey Killingsworth, James Sulikowski, Erick Garman, Jonathan Sandau, Lindsay Eng, Karla Valness, Chris Benemann, Rusty Rock, Sherry Kudna, Isaak Stapleton, Sunny Summers, Casey Prentiss, Ryan Scholz, Bill Miller, Three Rivers Audio Visual.

Agenda Item 10 – OSU College of Agricultural Sciences – Dean’s Update

OSU Dean Simonich shared updates on the College of Agriculture and the Experiment Stations including enrollment and preparations for the upcoming legislative session.

Dean Simonich introduced James Sulikowski, Director of the Coastal Oregon Marine Experiment Station (COMES) who talked about the history of the station and the work being done to support the seafood industry.

Resource:

- COMES OSU handout
- COMES OSU presentation

Agenda Item 11 – ODA Collaboration with coastal agriculture, dairies, and fisheries

ODA staff members Erick Garman, Trade Development Manager, Rusty Rock, Food Safety and Animal Health Division Director, and Dr. Ryan Scholz, State Veterinarian presented on the various ODA programs and industry collaboration with coastal agriculture, dairies and fisheries.

Erick Garman presented on the ODA’s market access and trade development work both domestic and international with the seafood industry. This included information about seafood products in Oregon schools and the development of videos and recipe cards developed for schools. ODA has been working with the seafood industry by hosting international inbound buying missions, attending trade shows, and restaurant promotions.

Rusty Rock spoke about the programs and services provided by the ODA Food Safety and Animal Health Division. He highlighted programs such as retail food distribution, food manufacturing, dairy farms and processing, state meat inspection, shellfish and seafood programs done by the Division.

Dr. Scholz presented on the Animal Health and State Veterinarian programs and responsibilities. He also provided an update on the current Avian Influenza situation and an update on the H5N1 influenza in dairy cattle.

Discussion followed with the panelist and board members.

Resource:

- ODA presentation

Break

The Board recessed for a 5-minute break and reconvened.

Agenda Item 12 – Public Comment

Verbal comments were provided by Jeff Stone, Oregon Association of Nurseries related to agricultural worker overtime and the board resolution and upcoming legislative priorities.

Agenda Item 13 – Overview of Board of Agriculture Resolutions under review in 2025

ODA Deputy Director Jonathan Sandau, Division Director's Isaak Stapleton and Casey Prentiss presented an overview of board resolutions scheduled for review in 2025. ODA staff have reviewed and provided recommendations to keep the background statements as written or recommend proposed edits to background statements for each resolution.

Board members will review and determine what action needs to be taken on each resolution. Based on ODA review and public comment, board members will 1) accept/decline ODA recommendation 2) determine if resolution statement should remain a) active with no edits b) active and review for possible edits c) no longer active and archive resolution.

The board will accept public comment on these resolutions during public comment opportunities listed on the board agenda beginning at the 2025 Q1 meeting.

Board members requested a panel presentation related to resolution 318 at a future board meeting.

Resolutions under review in 2025

Resolution	Title	Recommendation
107	Priority for Agricultural Use of Water	Review in 2025
281	Conservation Plan for the Oregon Coast Coho	No changes recommended
301	Minimizing conflicts of coexistence in agriculture	No changes recommended
307	Farmworker Housing	Review in 2025
309	Coordinated Streamside Management Approach to Water Quality	Review in 2025
313	Water Quality Strategic Implementation Areas (SIAs) and SWCD Focus Areas	No changes recommended
317	ODA's role in the Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Rule Implementation	Review in 2025
318	Siting of Energy Transmission and Generation Facilities on Agricultural Land	Review in 2025
319	Climate Change Policy Considerations	Review in 2025

For a full list of State Board of Agriculture resolutions visit: <https://oda.direct/BOAResolutions>

Resource:

- December meeting packet – Draft 12/10/2024 – Agenda item 13

Agenda Item 14 - Board Business

OWEB Report

Board member Barbara Boyer reported to the board on the October OWEB meeting held in Coos Bay. Boyer reported the 2025-27 Governor's budget for the OWEB looks favorable. She also reported OWEB has received requests to stand-up one-time funding programs.

Industry Report Update

The draft industry report was presented and discussion followed for each section of the report. Workgroups were selected for each key issue topic to review and provide additional content. Key issue 1) water and climate resilience (Ty and Ellie), 2) labor and cost of business in Oregon (Josh, Ellie, Miguel) 3) avian influenza and animal health (Chad and Eric) 4) USDA 2024 agricultural census (Miguel and Barbara) 5) economic investments in agriculture (Elin and Ty) 6) wildfires and natural disasters (Eric, Elin, Josh) 7) transportation infrastructure and farm access (Eric, Josh, Chad). ODA will assign a staff person for each key issue and coordinate a workgroup call to discuss edits to the content. A full board meeting will be scheduled for the end of January to approval final content for the report.

Resolutions

Chair Miller presented the following 2024 resolutions for review and recommendations.

Resolution Title	Resolution No.	Recommendation
Need for Documented Agricultural Work Force	169	Recommend approval with minor edits.
Collective Bargaining for Agricultural Workers and Employers	266	Recommend approval including edits.
Permitted Uses on Lands Zoned Exclusive Farm Use and on High-Value Farmland	314	Recommend approval with minor edits.
Federal Minimum Wage Parity	316	Recommend approval with minor edits.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Josh Zielinski to approve Resolution 169 as presented. Second by Miguel Lopez. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously by: Chad Allen, Barbara Boyer, Ty Kliewer, Miguel Lopez, Elin Miller, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem, Josh Zielinski.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Miguel Lopez to approve Resolution 266 as presented. Second by Eric Orem. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously by: Chad Allen, Barbara Boyer, Ty Kliewer, Miguel Lopez, Elin Miller, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem, Josh Zielinski.

