



Oregon State Board of Agriculture Minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
01/17-18/2024	Virtual Meeting	8:30 AM	12:00 PM

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

Meeting recordings available at:

January 17 - <https://youtu.be/tggJ3OHr1Jk>

January 18 - <https://youtu.be/XcfmCIRBC5A>

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

Agenda Item 01 – 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, Barbara Boyer, Bryan Harper, Miguel Lopez, Eric Orem, Luisa Santamaria, Chad Allen, ODA Interim Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson
- Board members absent: Josh Zielinski, Dean Staci Simonich
- Others present: Lauren Henderson, Jonathan Sandau, Chris Benemann, Isaak Stapleton, Jess Paulson, Rusty Rock, Casey Prentiss, Jim Johnson, Karla Valness, Andrea Cantu-Schomus, Troy Abercrombie, Cody Holthouse, Taylor Harding, Kevin Bailey, Katy McDowell, Dave Losh, Tracy Loew, Ryann Gleason, Les Ruark, Lauren Poor, Jessica Sandrock, Alice Morrison, Dan Miller, Lauren Kuenzi, Greg Addington, Andrea Kreiner, Jana McKamey, Jan Lee, Megan Chuinard, Representative Scharf, Michael McDaniel, Mike Doke, Peggy Lynch, Tiffany Monroe, Tammy Dennee, Dave Dillon, Whitley Sullivan, Mike Eliason, C Barter, Sherri Noxel, Sid Friedman, Nellie McAdams, Dani Madrone, Stacey Detwiler

Approval of minutes

Draft minutes from the November 15-16, 2023, board meeting was presented for review and approval.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Barbara Boyer to approve the minutes with no changes or corrections. Second by Miguel Lopez. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously by: Barbara Boyer, Bryan Harper, Miguel Lopez, Elin Miller, Eric Orem, Luisa Santamaria.

Interim Director’s report

Interim Director Charpilloz Hanson was asked by Governor Kotek to serve as the ODA Director in October and officially started at the ODA December 1, 2023. Charpilloz Hanson grew up on a family farm in Monitor, Oregon, spent a few years in Eastern Washington working as an agricultural field representative for Green Giant. She joined the ODA in 1996 as the Commodity Commission Program manager and worked her way up in the organization. She spent almost 25 years at ODA, 16 years serving as the Deputy Director. In 2021 she left to serve as the Executive Director at the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). Her experience at OWEB gave her a strong introduction and integration into the conservation community and there built many relationships that will give her a new perspective in returning to the ODA. Since returning in December, she has met with program directors and managers in the agency to understand where things are going well and where we have opportunities for improvement and thinking about how to use this information to develop our agency requests budget and what our organizational structure looks like today and how to best align ourselves to provide excellent customer service. She advised the board the Governor received resignations from Randi Svaty and Shantae Johnson since the November board meeting. So, we have two partial producer positions to recruit and for the Governor to fill. Individuals interested in serving on the board need to apply through the on-line WorkDay system. Interim Director Charpilloz Hanson has also been meeting with ag organizations to get re-connected since being back on board since December. Governor Kotek has submitted appointments, including Interim Director Charpilloz Hanson, for Senate confirmation and the hearing is scheduled for February 6.

Agenda Item 02 – ODA’s Budget and Legislative Update

Assistant Director Jonathan Sandau provided a brief update as we head into the 2024 Legislative short session that will start on February 5 and will run through March 10. The ODA does not have any legislative concepts for this session. One piece of legislation we will be tracking and engaging with will be around the canola production in the Willamette Valley. Other topics of interest will be a pilot project for elk and deer damage and funding requests around the grasshopper and Mormon cricket. Looking ahead to the 2025 Legislative session we will have Legislative concepts and working to develop our agency budget request. Deputy Director Henderson talked about looking ahead to the 2025 ODA agency budget request. The ODA will need to look internally and focus on our foundation to rebuild our core programs and infrastructure needs.

Agenda Item 03 – Industry Panel – Legislative priorities and updates

Industry representatives from 11 organizations shared information and legislative priorities with the Board. Topics ranged from water and land use, specialty seed and canola production in the Willamette Valley, support for food safety programs, investments in meat processing, housing needs, environmental, climate and other natural resource issues.

Organizations:

1	Mike Doke	Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers
2	Peggy Lynch	League of Women Voters of Oregon
3	Jana McKamey	Oregon Winegrowers Association
4	Stacey Detwiler	Wild Salmon Center
5	Dave Dillon	Food Northwest
6	Alice Morrison	Friends of Family Farmers
7	Andrea Kreiner	Oregon Association of Conservation Districts
8	Katy McDowell	Oregon Association of Nurseries
9	Tammy Dennee	Oregon Cattlemens Association
10	Greg Addington	Oregon Farm Bureau
11	Tiffany Monroe	Oregonians for Food and Shelter

Resource:

- Food Northwest
- Friends of Family Farmers
- League of Women Voters Oregon – 2024 What We need for Housing 2024
- League of Women Voters Oregon – LWVOR Advocacy Priorities 2024
- Oregon Association of Nurseries – Legislative Agenda 2024
- Oregon Association of Nurseries – Legislative Agenda Facts 2024
- Oregon Wheat Growers League

Break

The Board recessed for a 15-minute break and reconvened.

Agenda Item 04 – The Use of Easements in Protecting Working Lands Panel

Representatives Dani Madrone with American Farmland Trust, Nellie McAdams with Oregon Agricultural Trust, and Sid Friedman a Yamhill County Farmer gave presentations regarding the use of easements in protecting working lands. They talked about research that has been done around the loss of farmland across the country and here in Oregon. The research provided an analysis of the loss of farmland due to development and the future projections if development patterns continue the same. Between 2001 and 2016, Oregon lost 65,800 acres to urban high-density development and low-density residential development and if these trends continue, then by 2040 another 109,000 acres will be lost. Policy recommendations from this body of work is to encourage smart growth. Oregon’s strong land use protections will help reduce the threats of losing farmland. Other policy recommendations include protect agricultural land, support farmland access with succession planning, and advance smart solar siting.

Nellie McAdams, Executive Director of the Oregon Agricultural Trust talked about programs established in Oregon for promoting working lands protection through Working Lands Easements. Her presentation covered what is a conservation easement, how a conservation easement works, and conveying an easement. She also talked about the work done by the Oregon Agricultural Trust, they provide programs to protect agricultural land, technical assistance, education and advocacy.

Sid Friedman is a Yamhill County Farmer who has an agricultural easement and his experience with setting up an easement and helping others understand the value of a working lands easement.

Resource:

- American Farmland Trust
- Coalition of Oregon Land Trust, Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program, Oregon Agricultural Trust
- Sid Friedman, Yamhill County Farmer

Agenda Item 05 – Public Comment

Board members received no written public comments.

The Board received verbal comments from Dave Losh, USDA NASS. Mr. Losh shared the new Census of Agriculture will be available February 13, 2024, and other survey work and reports underway at this time.

Afternoon site visits and tours

Due to inclement weather, this meeting was held virtual and all afternoon site visits and tours were canceled.

The meeting recessed at 11:50 AM until Thursday, January 18, 2024

Meeting recording available at:

January 18 – <https://youtu.be/XcfmCIRBC5A>

Thursday, January 18, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chair Elin Miller. Introductions of board members, ODA staff and guests.

- Board members present: Chair Elin Miller, Chad Allen, Barbara Boyer, Eric Orem, Luisa Santamaria, Interim Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson, OSU Dean Staci Simonich, Bryan Harper, Josh Zielinski
- Board members absent: Miguel Lopez
- Others present: Lauren Henderson, Jonathan Sandau, Chris Benemann, Isaak Stapleton, Jim Johnson, Karla Valness, Jess Paulson, Andrea Cantu-Schomus, Taylor Harding, Megan Chuinard,

Agenda Item 06 – OSU College of Agricultural Sciences – Dean’s Update

Dean Simonich shared some updates about the OSU College of Agricultural Sciences. OSU ranks #2 Ag college in the US related to student success and faculty engagement, they had a record of \$114 million in research expenditures last year and anticipate it being higher this year. Enrollment is at 3,300 students, including Ecampus, and continues to grow. All 36 counties in Oregon have Extension and 14 Ag Experiment Stations. She spoke about the statewide public services funding for the 23-25 budget for the Ag Experiment Station research, OSU Extension Service, and the Forest Research Laboratory. She also talked about staffing at the Agricultural Experiment Stations and some of the positions that have been funded.

Agenda Item 07 – Discussion on the ODA Strategic Plan

Interim Director Charpilloz Hanson began the discussion by clarifying the timeline for the next strategic plan. Governor Kotek rolled out expectations to all agencies in January 2023 that all agencies received. Agencies are required to submit an updated strategic plan by June 1, 2024. The ODA is behind in getting this work underway and we have a lot of work to do to meet that timeline. We will use this updated strategic plan to develop two or three goals to help move the agency forward and to help us build future budget requests. This will be a multi-year, multi-biennium process as we rethink about how we do our work, what and where we do our core work, and the focus for Oregon agriculture moving forward and how to position agriculture for viability and resilience in a changing world.

Assistant Director Jonathan Sandau shared the outline that we are working with to update the strategic plan. Since we are on a shortened timeline, we are going to rely on the 2018 strategic plan to build from, however it is a very different world in 2024 for many factors. We will revisit our mission, vision, and core values for the updated plan. We will engage our staff and external partners to move forward to complete the SWOT and PESTLE analysis and other elements of the plan. We will also incorporate the agency IT strategic plan and the DEIB action plan going forward. We have created an internal team to work on the process and to keep the project on timeline. Discussion followed about board members could assist. A request for an additional board meeting in April was discussed to get feedback from the board on the progress of the draft plan.

Resource:

- Agency Strategic Plan Outline Template

APPROVED – January 2024

- ODA Strategic Plan Summary 2018-2023
- ODA Strategic Plan 2018-2023

Break

The Board recessed for a 10-minute break and reconvened.

Agenda Item 08 – Public Comment

The Board received no requests to provide public comment.

Agenda Item 09 – Board Business

Workgroup A Report

Board member Luisa Santamaria reported on the workgroup A meeting on Tuesday evening and the review of resolutions.

Resolution Title	Resolution No.	Work Group Recommendation
Pesticide Use for Pest Control	024	Proposing minor edits. Edits will be posted for public comment.
Need for Documented Agricultural Work Force	169	Proposing minor edits. Edits will be posted for public comment.
Collective Bargaining for Agricultural Workers and Employers	266	Hold for further review. ODA will provide additional context to background statement and return to the workgroup for review.
Collaboration of the Board of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture with the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board	274	Hold for further review. ODA will work on edits and return to the workgroup for review.
Federal Minimum Wage Parity	316	No proposed edits.

Resolution Title	Resolution No.	Work Group Recommendation
Coexistence of wolves and livestock on Oregon’s rural landscape	298	No proposed edits.
Permitted Uses on Lands Zoned Exclusive Farm Use and on High-Value Farmland	314	Hold for further review.
Working Lands Conservation Easements	315	Hold for further review.

Workgroup B Report

Board member Bryan Harper reported on the workgroup B meeting on Tuesday evening and the review of resolutions.

ODA Program Area Reports

Chair Miller thanked the ODA staff for preparing a quarterly report and asked Board members for any comments or questions on the ODA Program Area Reports. Karla Valness added an additional item for the Administrative/Special Projects section, to let board members know the ODA will be participating in the FFA State Convention, March 21-24 in Redmond.

Resource:

- ODA Program Area Updates to the Board January 2024

OWEB Report

Board member Barbara Boyer reported on the OWEB meeting in Klamath Falls and the visit to the JC Boyle Dam. The OWEB board has committed \$15 million in restoration projects on the Oregon side. This is one of the largest dam removals in the world. The OWEB board awarded open solicitation grants during the meeting. Barbara also shared she has been elected as the OWEB co-chair for another two years. Boyer also reported that OWEB has established a Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) to review their small grant rules to review the small grant criteria for updates.

Nominating Committee for Vice-Chair

As a result of the resignation of Vice-Chair Shantae Johnson, Chair Miller has asked board members Barbara Boyer, Bryan Harper, and Luisa Santamaria to meet and provide a recommendation for a vice-chair. The nominating committee will meet and provide a recommendation at the next board meeting.

Newsletter Topics

Status of the newsletter was discussed.

Other Business

The next scheduled meeting will be June 4-6, 2024, in SE Oregon. The board discussed meeting in the Burns area to learn about local groundwater management projects and tour and learn about the precision agriculture and livestock work at OSU's Burns Experiment Station. Location and agenda details will be posted on the ODA website when finalized.

In addition, board members selected April 29, 2024, to hold a special meeting to focus on the ODA's strategic plan. Meeting location and agenda details will be posted on the ODA website when finalized.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM

Next meetings:

April 29, 2024 - TBD

June 4-6, 2024 - SE Oregon

In-person and virtual options will be available.