



Oregon State Board of Agriculture Minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
03/12-14/2025	Salem, OR and virtual	5:00 pm	12:00 PM
FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL	CONTACT PHONE	
Karla Valness	Karla.Valness@oda.oregon.gov	503.986.4554	

Meeting Recording:

March 12 - Meeting recording Part 1 – <https://youtu.be/k2uzal1TP5I>

March 13 – Meeting recording Part 2 – <https://youtu.be/DUrkIRurQUQ>

March 14 – Meeting recording Part 3 – <https://youtu.be/u9P7s5FXKD8>

March 14 – Meeting recording Part 4 – <https://youtu.be/tiaMDQJQBJU>

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

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, Ty Kliewer, Miguel Lopez, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem, ODA Director Lisa Charpillouz Hanson
- Board members absent: Barbara Boyer, Kirk Maag, Josh Zielinski, OSU Dean Staci Simonich
- Others present in-person/remote: Jonathan Sandau, Lindsay Eng, Isaak Stapleton, Casey Prentiss, Chris Benemann, Rusty Rock, Karla Valness, Courtney Crowell, Megan Kemple, Dave Dillion, Rachel Hankins, Katie Murray, Lesley Tamura, April Snell, Amanda Hoey, Tami Kerr, Senator Jeff Golden, Karen Withers, Tammy Dennee, Alice Morrison, Tess Milio, Sarah Reif, Representative Alek Skarlatos, Lauren Kuenzi, Ryann Gleason, Andrea Kreiner, Sherry Kudna, Three Rivers Audio Visual.

Guest speaker

Chair Elin Miller welcomed Courtney Crowell from Governor Kotek's office to the meeting and invited Ms. Crowell forward to introduce herself and share remarks with the board.

Agenda Item 02 – Industry Panel – Legislative priorities and updates

Industry representatives from 16 organizations shared information, legislative priorities and updates with the board. Representatives from the Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers, Food Northwest, Friends of Family Farmers, League of Women Voters of Oregon, Oregon Association of Conservation Districts, Oregon Association of Nurseries, Oregon Cattlemen's Association, Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network, Oregon Dairy Farmers Association, Oregon Farm Bureau, Oregon Organic Coalition, Oregon Seed Association, Oregon Seed Council, Oregon Water Resources Congress, Oregon Wheat Growers League, and Oregonians for Food and Shelter joined the recent meeting.

Themes from the industry representatives included, but were not limited to, concerns with market disruptions in export markets and support to continue domestic and international marketing programs, support for the state meat inspection program, concerns with the agriculture worker overtime rules, support for OSU statewide budgets, support for a competitiveness study to deepen the understanding of the challenges and opportunities that face Oregon agriculture and food processing, wildfire funding, brand inspection fees, wolf compensation, community food system resilience, protecting working lands statewide, support for funding ODA and natural resource agency budgets, and concerns related to establishing an ag workforce standards board.

Resource:

- League of Women Voters of Oregon handout
- Oregon Cattlemen's Association handout
- Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network handout
- Oregon Friends of Family Farmers handout

The meeting recessed at 6:30 pm until Thursday, March 13, 2025

Thursday, March 13, 2025

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, Ty Kliewer, Miguel Lopez, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem, ODA Director Lisa Charpiloz Hanson, OSU Dean Staci Simonich
- Board members absent: Barbara Boyer, Kirk Maag, Josh Zielinski
- Others present in-person/remote: Jonathan Sandau, Lindsay Eng, Isaak Stapleton, Casey Prentiss, Chris Benemann, Rusty Rock, Karla Valness, Troy Ambercrombie, Sunny Summers, Andrea Cantu-Schomus, Sherry Kudna, Catherine Macdonald, Sophie Els, Lauren Link, Tom Reitmann, Theresa Yoshioka, Mat Goddard, Three Rivers Audio Visual.

Approval of minutes

Draft minutes from the December 17-19, 2024, board meeting was presented for review and approval.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Ellie Norris to approve the December 2024 minutes as presented. Second by Ty Kliewer. Motion passed unanimously by: Chad Allen, Ty Kliewer, Miguel Lopez, Elin Miller, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem.

Draft minutes from the January 31, 2025, board meeting was presented for review and approval.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Eric Orem to approve the January 2025 minutes as presented. Second by Ty Kliewer. Motion passed unanimously by: Chad Allen, Ty Kliewer, Miguel Lopez, Elin Miller, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem.

Director's report

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

- Director Charpiloz Hanson introduced Adam Crawford as the ODA Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Crawford joined the ODA about six weeks ago from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS)

Approved – March 2025

Chief Financial Office. He has worked with the ODA in 2023 as the Agency budget analyst and became familiar with the agency. Prior to DAS he worked for about 5 years in the legislature.

- The NASDA Winter Policy meeting was held in February in Washington, DC. In addition to the NASDA meetings, the director attended meetings on the Hill as part of the NASDA board to discuss the relationship the states have as co-regulators with many of the federal programs and the concerns in terms of the cuts being announced including the FDA cuts and concerns about what food safety programs will look like and how those co-regulator relationships will look going forward. OSU and the Tri-State Potato Commissions were in Washington DC during this time, in separate meetings, however all advocating for the importance of research and statewide funding for programs.
- The Director discussed the proposed fees in the brand inspection program and animal identification. The program is running at a deficit each month and the agency did not request a fee increase to the cap in a timely manner. This has resulted in questions about how the program should look going forward. The industry and leadership in the organizations have been working together to identify a solution to move forward.
- The Director highlighted the work being done in the agency around safety. We are working to hire a safety officer to assist with this work including job hazards, equipment and working in remote locations.
- Director Charpillot Hanson asked ODA Natural Resources Division Director Isaak Stapleton to give an update on the actions to protect groundwater from nitrates in the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA).
- Included in your meeting packets is follow-up from the seafood processing wastewater discussion at the December meeting for your reference. In addition, the Director included updates on the ODA strategic plan, a review of the agency progress on Governor Kotek's expectations for state government agency operations, the ODA 2025 planned rulemaking, 2024 Key Performance Measures report, and the ODA Ag Water Quality management Plan Biennial reviews between June 2024 and January 2025.

Resource:

- ODA Strategic Plan quarterly update
- ODA Division Area Reports
- Oregon Agency Expectations
- 2025 ODA Planned Rulemaking and Other Activities
- 2024 ODA KPM Report
- ODA Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan Biennial Reviews

Agenda Item 04 – ODA Budget and Legislative Update

Deputy Director Jonathan Sandau, Chief Operating Officer Adam Crawford, and Deputy Director Lindsay Eng provided updates on the legislative session, the Governor's Budget, and Federal funding. Deputy Director Sandau talked about the session and the preparation for the ODA budget presentation and noted that ODA continues to work on our three fee bills and three policy bills. We continue to follow about 350 bills that may have an impact on the agricultural industry. COO Adam Crawford discussed the ODA budget, the current service level funding, and the fee increases we anticipate moving through the legislature. He also talked about the One ODA IT project which will help to modernize the agency IT systems and processes. Deputy Director Eng talked about the agency federal funds and the numbers reflected in our agency budget represent our federal limitation and not actual funding. The agency is in a period of uncertainty and potential cuts in federal spending and those impacts to our staff and other funding.

Resource:

- 2025-27 ODA Agency Governor's Budget Summary
- ODA Bill Summary by Priority as of February 28, 2025

Agenda Item 05 – Working Lands in Oregon

Cathy MacDonald, Oregon Climate Action Commission, Sarah Reif, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Troy Abercrombie, Oregon Department of Agriculture provided a joint presentation on Working Lands in Oregon and the collaborative efforts using the Climate Action Committee Working Lands funds.

Natural and Working lands are foundational to Oregon. They provide a variety of ecosystems services, contribute to food security, as well as, natural climate solutions and as a result the stakes are high and the list of threats to these lands is long. Each of the representatives discussed how working together to conserve and protect new lands is important to maintain the shared vision of an Oregon with resilient natural working lands that provide for our culture and economic needs.

In 2023 HB 3409 established the Natural and Workings Lands Fund with an initial appropriation of \$10M. The fund is administered by the Oregon Climate Action Commission and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). The legislation directs the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Oregon Department of Forestry, OWEB, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to use these funds to implement projects that support the adoption of Natural Climate Solutions across five different land sectors, with an emphasis on carbon sequestration and co-benefits. Each representative discussed the projects and investments made in using these funds.

Updates on these projects will be presented at future board meetings or as requested.

Resource:

- Working Lands in Oregon presentation

Agenda Item 06 – Conservation Management Planning and Grant Program

Taylor Larson, Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program coordinator, provided an overview of the Conservation Management Planning (CMP) and Grant Program established under the Natural and Working Lands fund.

The CMP grant program provides funding to develop, implement, and monitor CMPs on working lands. These grant funds are designed to pay for long range conservation planning and then the implementation of those plans through a payment to agricultural producers. His presentation included eligible applicants, program components, implementation and monitoring, and financial incentives. Applications are due for this program April 1, 2025, and will be awarded by late July 2025.

Resource:

- OAHC Conservation Management Planning presentation

Break

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

Agenda Item 07 – Public Comment

One written public comment received by Building Ag Futures and distributed to board members in the meeting packet and posted on-line on the Board of Agriculture webpage. The Board received no requests from the public to make verbal comments at the meeting.

Agenda Item 08 – Legislative visits at the State Capitol

During the afternoon, board Chair Elin Miller and Vice-chair Eric Orem, and ODA Director Lisa Chapilloz Hanson introduced the board members and the 2025 State Board of Agriculture industry report at the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. Following the public hearing, board members met with Legislative members and staff.

Friday, March 14, 2025

Agenda Item 00 – 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, Ty Kliwer, Miguel Lopez, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem, ODA Director Lisa Chapilloz Hanson, OSU Dean Staci Simonich
- Board members remote: Chad Allen
- Board members absent: Barbara Boyer, Kirk Maag, Josh Zielinski
- Others present in-person/remote: Jonathan Sandau, Lindsay Eng, Isaak Stapleton, Casey Prentiss, Chris Benemann, Rusty Rock, Karla Valness, Gordon Howard, Sherry Kudna, Sunny Summers, Sandy Childress, Mat Goddard, Jon Jinings, Sophie Els, Three Rivers Audio Visual.

Agenda Item 09 – OSU Update

Dean Staci Simonich shared OSU's College of Agricultural Sciences, along with other universities across the nation, is facing significant uncertainty with respect to federal funding for agricultural research with the new Federal administration. Last year, the college brought in \$110M in grant funding and 60% of this was Federal funding. As part of the federal grant funds, indirect costs linked to this funding are used to pay the infrastructure and equipment costs associated with conducting agricultural research and without these funds, they would not be able to maintain the 14 Experiment Stations across Oregon. Dean Simonich talked about her recent travel to Washington DC as part of the Association of Public Land Grant Universities for meetings on Capitol Hill to talk about agricultural research in the U.S.

OSU has been working hard to track the status of the USDA, Ag Research Service staff across the state that were fired on February 14. In Oregon about 22 USDA, ARS staff were fired. As of today, about seven or eight of those have been re-hired in large part due to the support of Oregon's farmers and ranchers.

Lastly, the Dean shared a summary of House Bill 2408 to support Oregon statewide public service programs that includes agricultural research, OSU Extension and the Forest Research Lab within the College of Forestry. The handout walks through the 2023-25 legislatively approved budget and the 2025-27 total budget request.

Resource:

- OSU Statewide Public Service Programs handout

Agenda Item 10 – ODA Plant Protection & Conservation Division Overview

Chris Benemann, ODA's Division Director for the Plant Protection & Conservation programs provided an overview of the division programs including Hemp, Insect Pest Prevention & Management (IPPM), Native Plant, Noxious Weeds, and Nursery. The IPPM, Native Plant, and Noxious Weed programs lean heavily on partnerships with other entities, whether that is state, local or federal partners. The Hemp and Nursery programs are license fee supported.

Many of the state led programs require continuous enhancement and financial support. These programs are facing significant threats with the potential reduction in federal funding. The primary programs at ODA responsible for invasive species response work are greatly reliant on federal funds, which make up about 275% of their total operating funds. USDA APHIS PPQ, US Forest Service and US Fish and Wildlife are the largest sources of federal funds.

Resource:

- ODA Plant Protection & Conservation Division presentation

Break

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

Agenda Item 11 – Public Comment

The Board received no requests from the public to make verbal comments at the meeting.

Agenda Item 12 – Oregon’s Integrated Water Resources Strategy

Crystal Grinnel Integrated Water Resource Strategy Specialist with the Oregon Water Resources Department provided an overview and update on Oregon’s Integrated Water Resource Strategy.

Oregon’s first Integrated Water Resources Strategy (Strategy) was published in 2012. The document provides a roadmap for better understanding and meeting Oregon’s instream and out-of-stream water needs. The Legislature charged the Oregon Water Resources Department with guiding the development of Strategy, with input from many state and federal agencies, tribes, interest groups, and the public.

Statute required the Strategy be updated every five years, with the second Strategy published in 2017. In 2023, statute was modified to require the Strategy to be updated no more than every eight years.

The Water Resources Department released Draft 1 of the revised Strategy in March 2024. Development and release of Draft 2 was delayed to conduct an action prioritization effort with the Governor's Office and leadership from several water agencies, including the Department of Agriculture. Several natural resource agencies received new directors in 2024, providing an opportunity for new leadership input on the next Strategy.

The Water Resources Department is currently finalizing the prioritization effort with the Governor's Office and expects to release Draft 2 for public review and comment in April 2025. The Water Resources Commission is expected to consider a final draft of the 2025 Strategy for adoption later this year.

Resource:

- OWRD Integrated Water Resources Strategy Update

Agenda Item 13 – Update on Solar Siting Rulemaking

Gordon Howard, Community Services Division Manager, Department of Land Conservation and Development provided an update on the proposed solar siting rules for eastern Oregon.

In 2023 the Oregon Legislature passed HB3409 which, in part, directs the Land Conservation and Development commission (LCDC) to consider and adopt administrative rules for the purpose of “Finding Opportunity and Reducing Conflict in Siting Photovoltaic Solar Power Generation Facilities.” The bill focuses attention on

Eastern Oregon, requires consideration of a variety of natural resource and community values, promotes coordination with Tribal, State, and Local governments.

Discussion followed related to the proposed one-time payments to counties intended to offset the loss of agricultural economic activity due to solar siting.

Agenda Item 14 – Board Business

OWEB Report

The board representative on the OWEB board, Barbara Boyer, was not in attendance. No report was presented.

Newsletter Topics

Chair Miller asked board members for suggested topics and board member volunteers to assist in drafting the updates for the Spring issue. The quarterly Board of Agriculture newsletter to provide a briefing on issues and board meeting highlights will be prepared and distributed to the Legislature and the email subscription list of interested parties.

Suggestions include:

- High Path Avian Influenza update and biosecurity measures – Ellie Norris/ODA Lindsay Eng
- OSU update on federal funds and indirect costs – OSU Dean Staci Simonich
- ODA Plant Programs and pests of concerns and reliance on federal funds for project work – Elin Miller/ODA Chris Benemann
- Upcoming Events section – ODA Board coordinator Karla Valness
- Highlights from the industry panel on Legislative Priorities and Updates – Eric Orem/ODA Lindsay Eng
- Board of Agriculture meetings with Legislators and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources – ODA Board Coordinator Karla Valness
- Follow-up on seafood processing wastewater concern with DEQ – ODA Lisa Charpilloz Hanson

Future newsletter topics include:

Quarter 2 (Summer)

- LUBGWMA updates
- Highlights from A Taste of the States domestic marketing activity

Quarter 3 (Fall)

- Legislative update on ODA bills and end of session re-cap
- Updates on Federal Farm Bill

Drafts updates to be completed by April 1 with newsletter distributed mid-April.

Resolutions

Chair Miller asked for a motion to act on resolutions under review in 2025.

Resolution No.	Resolution Title
107	Priority for Agriculture Use of Water
281	Conservation Plan for the Oregon Coast Coho
301	Minimizing conflicts of Coexistence in Agriculture
307	Farmworker Housing

309	Coordinated Streamside Management Approach to Water Quality
313	Water Quality Strategic Implementation Areas (SIAs) and SWCD Focus Areas
317	ODA's role in the Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Rule Implementation
318	Siting of Energy Transmission and Generation Facilities on Agricultural Land
319	Climate Change Policy Considerations

MOTION:

A motion was made by Miguel Lopez to keep resolutions 281, 301, 313 as written. Second by Ellie Norris. The motion was approved by: Chad Allen, Miguel Lopez, Elin Miller, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem, Ty Kliewer.

Chair Miller asked board members to submit any recommended edits on the remaining resolutions under review in 2025 to Board Coordinator Karla Valness by April 1. ODA will post recommendations for public comment mid-April.

Action Item

Based on the comments and concerns shared by industry members and voting members of the board, board members discussed preparing a letter to Governor Kotek to express concerns and share impacts for the agriculture industry on the proposed HB2548 Ag Labor Standards Board.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Ty Kliewer to authorize Chair Elin Miller to draft a letter to Governor Kotek on behalf of the voting members of the board and work with ODA Deputy Director Jonathan Sandau to finalize the letter. Second by Ellie Norris. The motion was approved by: Chad Allen, Miguel Lopez, Elin Miller, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem, Ty Kliewer.

Action Item

Based on the updates from the DLCD on the proposed solar siting rules for eastern Oregon, the board members discussed submitting public comment from the board on the proposed rules.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Ty Kliewer to authorize Vice Chair Eric Orem to draft a letter to submit as public comment from the board on the proposed solar siting rules and work with ODA Deputy Director Lindsay Eng to finalize the letter. Second by Ellie Norris. The motion was approved by: Chad Allen, Miguel Lopez, Elin Miller, Ellie Norris, Eric Orem, Ty Kliewer.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm

Next meeting: June 4-6, 2025
In-person – LaGrande, OR | Virtual option will be available.