



Oregon State Board of Agriculture Minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
December 3-5, 2025	Best Western Plus, Hood River Inn – Hood River, OR	5:00 PM	12:30 PM

FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL	CONTACT PHONE
John Boyes	BoardAgriculture@ODA.oregon.gov	503.986.4552

Meeting Recording:

- December 3 – Meeting recording Part 1 – https://youtu.be/eRldli_YyX4
- December 4 – Meeting recording Part 2 – <https://youtu.be/u8HeFY2j19o>
- December 5 – Meeting recording Part 3 – <https://youtu.be/CyzuXY79gyU>

Wednesday, December 3rd, 2025

Agenda Item 01 – Welcome and Introductions (Timestamp: 0:00:50)

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. Introductions of board members followed. John Boyes, Board Coordinator, called the roll of board members.

Board Members:	ODA Staff Present:	Others Present:
<p>Present: Elin Miller, Chair Eric Orem, Vice-Chair Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson Chad Allen Kirk Maag Mike Dill Ellie Norris (Virtually) Ty Kliewer Josh Zielinski Dean Staci Simonich</p> <p>Absent: Miguel Lopez Barbara Boyer</p>	<p>Lindsay Eng Jonathan Sandau Rusty Rock Isaak Stapleton Karla Valness John Boyes Charlotte Campbell Erick Garman Amy Gilroy Jim Cupples Naaman Smith Andrea Cantu-Schomus</p>	<p>Krystyna Wolniakowski Lisa Naas-Cook Kris Schaedel Jennifer Euwer Lesley Tamura Kyle Odegard Mike Omeg Jim Carmack Three-Rivers Audio Visual</p>

Roll call confirmed that a quorum (minimum of 6 voting members) was met and that the meeting could continue.

Agenda Item 01B – Columbia River Gorge Commission (Timestamp: 00:04:52)

Krystyna Wolniakowski, Executive Director for the Columbia River Gorge Commission, and Lisa Naas-Cook, Climate Programs Manager for the Columbia River Gorge Commission, provided the Board with an overview of the Columbia River Gorge Commission’s history, current programs, and overlaps with the agricultural and working lands within the National Scenic Area.

Agenda Item 01C – Local Industry Panel ([Timestamp: 00:36:49](#))

Hood River County Commissioner and orchardist Jennifer Euwer led a panel discussion with local agriculturists from the Hood River region. Panelists were:

- Lesley Tamura, Chairperson of Columbia Fruit Growers
- Ian Chandler, Chair of the Oregon Sweet Cherry Commission
- Adam McCarthy, Member of the WA & OR Canned Pear Association & Fresh Pear Committee

Panelists discussed ongoing challenges to the agricultural industry in and around the Hood River Valley. Key highlights included ongoing labor cost challenges, disparity of regulatory costs across state lines, and the need for accessible government services and licensures for agricultural workforce members who do not speak English as a first language. The panel provided the Board with literature from Oregon State University (available in the meeting materials) documenting the regulatory compliance costs of fruit operations of various scales in Oregon.

Chair Miller recessed the meeting at 6:30 pm and invited the meeting attendants to join the Board for a reception downstairs.

Thursday, December 4th, 2025

Welcome and Introductions ([Timestamp: 00:00:05](#))

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Introductions of board members followed. John Boyes, Board Coordinator called the roll of Board members.

Board Members:	ODA Staff Present:	Others Present:
<p>Present: Elin Miller, Chair Eric Orem, Vice-Chair Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson Chad Allen Kirk Maag Mike Dill Ellie Norris (Virtually) Miguel Lopez (Virtually) Ty Kliewer Josh Zielinski</p> <p>Absent: Barbara Boyer</p>	Lindsay Eng Jonathan Sandau Rusty Rock Isaak Stapleton Karla Valness John Boyes Charlotte Campbell Erick Garman Amy Gilroy Jim Cupples Naaman Smith Andrea Cantu-Schomus Adam Crawford Nick Sirovatka Sunny Summers (Virtually) Laura Passage (Virtually)	Kris Schaedel Lesley Tamura Adam McCarthy Amanda Hoey Lauren Kuenzi Phone Caller (ending in 2506) Three Rivers Audio Visual

Roll call confirmed that a quorum (minimum of 6 voting members) was present, and the meeting could continue.

Agenda Item 2: Board Business ([Timestamp: 00:05:29](#))

ACTION ITEM:

Approval of minutes

Draft minutes from the September 3-5, 2025, Board Meeting were presented for review and approval.

MOTION:

Ty Kliewer moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Chad Allen seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote by: Ty Kliewer, Chad Allen, Elin Miller, Kirk Maag, Mike Dill, Eric Orem, Miguel Lopez, Ellie Norris; no votes in the opposition or abstentions. Barbara Boyer was excused.

Agenda Item 3A: Director's report (Timestamp: 00:06:12)

Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson highlighted work done by the Oregon Department of Agriculture since the September 2025 meeting. Her highlights included:

- Overview of updated guidance related to reductions in state agency spending, including stopping out of state agency travel and developing 2.5-5% agency-wide budget reduction lists at the direction of the Legislative Fiscal Office.
- Overview of the international trade mission led by Governor Kotek to Japan and South Korea.
 - The Ag Delegation focused on pesticide residue issues, market access issues, and expanding foreign markets for Oregon Commodities.
- Updates to the paused rulemaking efforts for farm stands and farm stores, indicating that resolutions would likely have to come from the legislature.
- Outlining policy implementation standardization at the agency.
- Brief overview of Governor Kotek's announcement regarding the Prosperity Council and the Prosperity Roadmap.
- Highlighting the success of the ODA Agricultural Services team, who are sharing resources and cross training staff to provide continued, stable service delivery across program areas in rural parts of Oregon.
- Rulemaking, led at ODA by Senior Policy Advisor, Sunny Summers, who continues to refine and streamline rulemaking processes at ODA.
- Sharing positive feedback received for the Ag Water Quality.
- Acknowledging the Trade Development team and Farm-to-School team, including:
 - Erick Garman's work in the EU to help market Oregon seafood abroad.
 - Amy Gilroy's work in advancing Farm-to-School efforts.
- Ongoing work in the Brands Program continues to undergo revisions to its operations, following a fee increase.
- Onboarding a safety officer, Jenn Blow, who continues to help build a culture of safety at ODA.
- Gallup Employee Satisfaction surveys showed improvement across the board.

Andrea Cantu-Schomus, Communications Director for ODA, provided an overview of ODA's effort to promote the work of women agriculturists in Oregon, detailing outreach plans and coordination across communities. 2026 is the International Year of the Woman Farmer.

Chair Miller asked if there was an opportunity for the Board to engage with the Prosperity Council and the Prosperity Roadmap outlined in Governor Kotek's December 3rd announcement. Director Charpilloz Hanson identified that this may be an opportunity to send a letter to the Governor. Chair Miller tabled the discussion on the Prosperity Council until the Board Business section.

Agenda Item 03B – Updates from ODA’s Marketing and Development Teamd (Timestamp: 00:30:26)

The Board received updates from Lindsay Eng, Deputy Director at ODA, on current work of the Ag Economic and Trade Development Team, including:

- History of Food & Agriculture in Oregon, including indigenous peoples, the Oregon Trail, cheese making, canning seafood and specialty crops, maraschino cherries, and food processing innovations.
- Program highlights, including achievements in Farm-to-School, International Trade, and economic development grant programs.
- A preview of the Regional Food & Agriculture Business Centers.

Agenda Item 03C – Budget & Legislative Updates (Timestamp: 01:47:52)

Adam Crawford, COO, and Jonathan Sandau, Deputy Director, provided the Board with an update to budget and legislative initiatives at ODA, including:

- Budget reduction exercises as directed by the Legislative Fiscal Office to outline potential cuts at 2.5% and 5% of agency-wide budget that maintained current staffing levels and mitigated impacts to core programs and services.

Board Business – Moved from Agenda Item 10 (Timestamp: 02:37:16)

Chair Miller addressed several Board Business agenda items given the meeting was ahead of schedule.

Chair Miller started with 2026 Meeting Date reviews.

- December 2026 will be virtual only, given ongoing budget constraints.
- March 2026 will coincide with the Oregon State FFA Convention, and the Board will attend events and participate in volunteer opportunities at the Convention.
- Reconsidering the September 2026 meeting dates, given the overlap with State Fair and Back-to-School.

Chair Miller raised the Board Newsletter, Board Resolution 000, and the overall Board Resolution review process for consideration. Discussion included:

- Discontinuing the quarterly newsletter from the Board and writing something in the Ag Quarterly to provide updates from the Board.
- Updating the Board Resolution Process to discontinue the mandatory 3-year resolution review period established to ensure resolution review adds value to Board Meetings and minimizes agency resources expended during the review process.

Chair Miller tabled the discussion about the Board Resolution process until the Board Business Section on December 5th, 2025.

Agenda Item 04 – Oregon Department of Energy – Energy Strategy Update (Timestamp: 02:59:15)

Janine Benner, Director of the Oregon Department of Energy, and Jessica Reichers, Technology and Policy Manager, provided an overview of the Oregon Energy Strategy and the methodology used to develop its least-cost pathways (available in the Meeting Materials).

Agenda Item 05 – Public Comment (Timestamp: 03:50:03)

Chair Elin Miller called for public comment at 12:20 pm. Public Comments were received from the following individuals:

- Kris Schaedel – Language Accessibility for Pesticide Licensing
- Lesley Tamura – Language Accessibility for Pesticide Licensing
- Adam McCarthy – Labor and Crop Protection

The Board received one submission of written comments prior to the meeting and reviewed them (available in the Meeting Materials):

Submitter:	Organization/Affiliation:	Topic:
Isabela Mackey	N/A	Pesticide Licensing Accessibility

Chair Miller recessed the Board Meeting until Friday, December 5th, 2025, at 8:30 AM.

Site Visits:

The Board and ODA Staff visited the following sites around Hood River:

- Diamond Fruit Growers – Odell, OR
- Mid-Columbia Agricultural Research and Extension Center – Hood River, OR
- USDA APHIS – Hood River, OR

Friday, December 5th, 2025

Welcome and Introductions (Timestamp: 00:00:03)

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. John Boyes, Board Coordinator called the roll of Board Members.

Board Members:	ODA Staff Present:	Others Present:
<p>Present: Elin Miller, Chair Eric Orem, Vice-Chair Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson Chad Allen Kirk Maag Mike Dill Ty Kliewer Josh Zielinski Miguel Lopez (Virtually)</p> <p>Absent: Barbara Boyer Ellie Norris</p>	Jonathan Sandau Rusty Rock Isaak Stapleton Karla Valness John Boyes Charlotte Campbell Andrea Cantu-Schomus Nick Sirovatka Sunny Summers (Virtually) Laura Passage (Virtually)	Jed Arnold Brian Pearson Amanda Hoey

Roll call confirmed that a quorum (minimum of 6 voting members) was present, and the meeting could continue.

Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson introduced her new Executive Assistant, Charlotte Campbell. Director Hanson recognized Karla Valness for her logistical support with the trade missions.

Agenda Item 06 – OSU College of Agriculture Dean’s Updates (Timestamp: 00:06:10)

Staci Simonich, Dean and Reub Long Professor of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Director of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station at Oregon State University provided the Board with updates from the College of Agricultural Sciences (CAS). She shared CAS student enrollment and detailed enrollment increasing over the last 20 or so years, research expenditure and funding availability projections for the future.

Agenda Item 07A – Rulemaking for the Central Oregon Protection District (COPD) for rapeseed and Brassica Crops (Timestamp: 00:23:02)

Sunny Summers, ODA’s Senior Policy Advisor, provided the Board with an update and background of the rulemaking efforts related to Central Oregon Protected Districts for rapeseed/Brassica crops. ODA has received requests to repeal the Central Oregon Protected District in whole or part, and the Board will be involved with future rulemaking related to this protected district.

Agenda Item 07B – Public Comment for COPD Only (Timestamp: 00:47:10)

The Board heard verbal comments from:

- Alice Morrison – Friends of Family Farmers

The Board received no written comments related to COPD rulemaking.

Agenda Item 07C – General Public Comment

The Board did not receive any requests for verbal comments during this available time slot.

Chair Miller recessed the Board for a 10 minute break.

Agenda Item 08: Columbia River Intertribal Fish Council (CRITFC) (Timestamp: 01:01:17)

Elaine Harvey, Watershed Program Manager for the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Council, gave the Board an overview of CRITFC’s with the four Treaty Tribes along the Columbia River. She also shared with the Board an overview of CRITFC’s Tribal Energy Vision.

Agenda Item 09A – Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA) Rules (Timestamp: 01:48:31)

Isaak Stapleton, Natural Resources Division Director, and Nick Sirovatka, IWRS and LUGWMA Lead for ODA, provided the Board with an update to rule changes for the LUBGWMA nitrate reduction rulemaking. Nick highlighted changes to irrigated acreage size criteria for an operation, discussed concerns received from public input about monitoring techniques identified in the rules, and provided an updated timeline for rulemaking and implementation.

Agenda Item 09B – Public Comment for LUBGWMA Only (Timestamp: 02:29:23)

The Board received verbal comments from:

- Dani Lightle – Oregonians for Food and Shelter
- Ryan Krabill – Oregon Farm Bureau

Agenda Item 10 – Board Business (Timestamp: 02:50:43)

The Board discussed including highlights from the panel discussion in updates in the Ag Quarterly.

Oregon Agriculture Heritage Program Nominations

Miguel Lopez nominated Gary Wade to be the Board's nomination to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. Motion was seconded by Ty Kliewer. Mike Dill nominated John Deck to be the Board's nomination to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. Miguel Lopez and Mike Dill provided their insight behind their nominations.

VOTE (Timestamp: 02:58:35)

Gary Wade: 2 votes (Miguel Lopez, Ty Kliewer)

John Deck: 6 votes (Mike Dill, Josh Zielinski, Chad Allan, Eric Orem, Elin Miller)

Barbara Boyer and Ellie Norris were absent.

By vote, John Deck was selected as the nominee for the OAHC vacancy.

Resolution Review Process (Timestamp: 03:00:00)

The Board discussed next steps for adjusting the Resolution Review process to help minimize workload demand and address issues timely. Board members provided perspective. The consensus was to annually review a summary of each Board Resolution and stop reviewing resolutions on the three-year cadence currently in place.

Chair Miller raised the collection of land use Board Resolutions for consideration and tabled consideration of those until after legislative session.

MOTION

Ty Kliewer moved to accept the framework for Board Resolution Review as discussed, including putting together a high-level summary and stopping the three-year review cadence. Motion was seconded by Chad Allan. Motion passed by unanimous vote by Elin Miller, Chad Allan, Josh Zielinski, Kirk Maag, Ty Kliewer, Eric Orem, and Mike Dill; no votes in the opposition; Ellie Norris and Barbara Boyer were absent.

MOTION

After some brief discussion about engaging with the Governor's Office via written letter from the Board, Ty Kliewer moved that the Board of Agriculture write a letter to the Governor requesting representation for Food and Agriculture on the Prosperity Council. Chad Allan seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote by Elin Miller, Chad Allan, Josh Zielinski, Kirk Maag, Ty Kliewer, Eric Orem, and Mike Dill; no votes in the opposition; Ellie Norris and Barbara Boyer were absent.

Chair Miller discussed the current budget environment and floated the idea of holding a special call during legislative session depending on prospective legislative initiatives.

Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 12:30 pm.