



**Oregon Soil and Water Conservation Commission**  
**Regular Quarterly Meeting**  
**Work Session**  
**Monday, April 8, 2019**  
**3 p.m. – 6 p.m.**  
**Sunriver Resort**  
**17600 Center Drive Sunriver, OR 97707**

**Soil and Water Conservation Commission (SWCC) Members Present**

Chair Barbara Boyer, Vice Chair Tim Kerns, Stan Dean, Jerry Ward, Gary Jensen, Ken Bailey

**Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Staff Present**

Stephanie Page, Natural Resources Program Area Director; Eric Nusbaum, Soil and Water Conservation District Program Operations Specialist; Sandi Hiatt, SWCD Grants Administrator; Jason Eck, Support Specialist.

**Visitors Present**

Whitney Collins, Baker County SWCDs District Manager and OACD Interim Executive Assistant; Tracey Brandt, Illinois Valley SWCD Conservation Technician; John McDonald, Tualatin SWCD Director; Terre Rogers, Molalla Watershed Council.

**Strategic Plan Work Session**

Chair Barbara Boyer called the Work Session to order at 3 p.m.

Commissioners reviewed several documents, including the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan, in developing an updated strategic plan. ODA's Eric Nusbaum emphasized that the commission should try to set action items it thinks it can reasonably achieve.

The commission agreed on the following strategic initiatives and action items:

**1.) SWCD Communications**

Description: The SWCC will facilitate and ensure good communication between ODA and the districts.

Action items:

- The SWCC will be an advocate for district concerns.
- Ensure ODA distributes summaries of minutes in a timely manner.
- Let districts know that SWCC members are available for consultation and meeting attendance.

**2.) Partnership Development**

Description: The SWCC and its partners shall work together cooperatively and productively for their mutual benefit. The intention is to make sure that the SWCC and partners trust and support each other thereby creating opportunities to leverage each others' capabilities.

Action items:

- Always be on the lookout for new partnership opportunities. With emphasis that our current partners are strong.
- Advise ODA on partnerships that would be of benefit to districts.

### **3.) SWCD Capacity Assurance**

Description: The SWCC will advise ODA and its funding partners in the maintenance and enhancement of district funding and capacity building.

Action items:

- The SWCC will gather information on current and potential funding for districts. The SWCC will evaluate and make recommendations based on this information.
- The SWCC will ask ODA to gather information on current and potential leadership training for districts. The SWCC will evaluate and make recommendations based on these recommendations.

### **4.) Commission Meetings**

Description: The Commission will meet quarterly at locations that are reasonably convenient for the majority of participants with some geographic diversity. The meetings will be structured to involve key partners in way ahat are beneficial to all. Attendance by SWCDs, partners, and SWCC advisors will be encouraged.

Action items:

- Make sure one-page summary of meeting is made available within two weeks so SWCC members and SWCDs have information and talking points available. Send to district managers as well as chairs.
- Maintain and enhance our partners advisory reports.
- Request that ODA bring emerging issued to SWCC meetings.

### **5.) Investigate SWCC Zone Representation**

Description: The SWCC will review the history of zone representation, evaluate how well it is working, and recommend changes.

Action items:

- Make this topic an agenda item for the fall SWCC meeting.

### **6.) Assist ODA in developing policies related to SWCDs**

Description: The SWCC will advise and develop policies with the department in the administration of its duties and powers under ORS 561.400.

Action items:

- Request ODA keep the SWCC updated on legislation and policy decisions affecting SWCDs.
- Advise ODA on staff positions and staffing.
- Create and facilitate a workgroup focusing on director eligibility.

The commission will review the goals as developed at its next regularly scheduled meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.