



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Oregon State Board of Towing

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OREGON STATE BOARD OF TOWING Public Board Meeting Minutes June 9, 2026

Location:

DMV HQ
1905 Lana Ave., NE
Salem, OR 97304

Attending Board Member:

Bruce Anderson
Kevin Baker
Chris Coughlin
Lt. Jason Lindland
Gary McClellan
Jason Shaner
Chief Cord Wood
Trent Hason, Vice Chair
Chuck Riley, Chair

Board Staff:

Torey McCullough, Board Administrator

Partners and Guests:

Partners and Stakeholders: OTTA: Chelsie Kemp, Tom Holt; DMV: Dina DELAROSA, Katelyn KEEFER; ODOT: Dustin ROSS, Robert RISCOE; Donny Callahan, ; Cheryl Kunde (OCJ); Michelle Druce (OR Consumer League) ***Towers:*** AA Towing, Art's Wrecker Service, Bulldog Towing, Gales Towing, Lilly Pad Towing, North Valley Scrap and Towing, Puddle Jumper Towing, Sam's Towing, Wiltse Towing

Call to Order:

Chair Riley called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions:

Self-introduction of the Board members and staff made.

Meeting Agenda:

Meeting agenda approved by consensus. In favor: Anderson, Baker, Coughlin, Lindland, McClellan, Shaner, Wood, Hanson, Riley. Opposed: None. Agenda approved.

Approval of Past Meeting Notes and Minutes

Mr. Anderson moved to accept the work session notes from the March 10, 2026 and May 5, 2026 work sessions. Mr. Shaner seconded the motion. Chair Riley called for a roll call vote. In favor: Anderson, Baker, Coughlin, Lindland, McClellan, Shaner, Wood, Hanson, Riley. Opposed: None. Agenda approved.

Status Review of Disciplinary Cases:

The Board reviewed the disciplinary case statuses attached to these work session notes as Attachment A.

Reports:

Board Administrator Report: Ms. McCullough presented the Board Administrator report.

Compliance Report: Ms. McCullough presented the Compliance report and case status updates.

Legislative Report:

- Mr. Shaner suggested that it would be nice to have all towing compliance in one house, instead of across different agencies.
- Discussion regarding a tow business license issued to the company and administered by the Tow Board to allow vetting of companies, consistency in business practices with state agencies, and consistency in compliance enforcement.
- Chair Riley stated he continues to work with legislators towards a legislative concept.

Written Public Comments:

1. Written correspondence: *public feedback on releasing vehicles without proof of insurance or current registration.* Current statutes do not allow towers to require proof of insurance or current registration of the vehicle to release a vehicle, unless a release from law enforcement, a court order, or similar official release document provides the requirement prior to the release of the vehicle.
2. Written correspondence: *general questions regarding the Tow Board contacting law enforcement and other agencies after disciplinary action.* Discussion tabled until the Tow Board reviews its compliance process. Many of the suggestions do not comply with current laws and restrictions.
3. Written correspondence: *general questions regarding the Tow Board's investigation process.* Discussion that the requestor was previously provided the requested information several times by Board staff. Further discussion tabled until the Tow Board reviews its compliance process.
4. Written correspondence: *a tower's experience in complying with the ORS 822.200 after the OSP audit.* It was noted by the Board members that the correct registration is a requirement, and not optional. Further outreach to the remaining tow companies will continue.

First Public Comment Session:

No public comments from attending stakeholders, public, or towers.

Work Session: Proposed Administrative Rules

Mr. Shaner moved to table discussions until the next board meeting. Mr. Hanson seconded the motion. Chair Riley called for a roll call vote. In favor: Anderson, Baker, Coughlin, Lindland, McClellan, Shaner, Wood, Hanson, Riley. Opposed: None. Agenda approved.

Work Session: Public Records Policy

Mr. Anderson moved to adopt the attached Public Records Request policy. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. Chair Riley called for a roll call vote. In favor: Anderson, Baker, Coughlin, Lindland, McClellan, Shaner, Wood, Hanson, Riley. Opposed: None. Agenda approved.

Work Session: Private Property Impound public policies

The policy adopted in 2024 contradicts the laws and rules enacted in 2026. Ms. Coughlin moved to rescind the Board's PPI Tow policies, and direct staff to update policies for Board review. Mr. McClellan seconded the motion. Chair Riley called for a roll call vote. In favor: Anderson, Baker, Coughlin, Lindland, McClellan, Shaner, Wood, Hanson, Riley. Opposed: None. Agenda approved.

Work Session: Public jurisdictions and local authorities: ORS 98.859 and 822.230

Ms. Coughlin noted:

- Local jurisdictions may adopt ordinances more specific than the state requirements.
- When this happens, the city or county would adjudicate.
- Some jurisdictions have suspended hearings.
- Some of the local ordinances and requirements pre-date the tow board.
- While the Tow Board should be mindful of budgetary stress, the local jurisdiction should be responsible when ordinances have set standards or requirements.

Chair Riley would like to determine which cities have local ordinances, and what the minimum requirements are.

Mr. Anderson noted that the Tow Board is not the venue for hearings and local disputes, and the complaint process should stay within the appropriate venues.

Lt. Lindland believes the hearings should be kept at the appropriate level.

Directions to staff:

- Refer to the local agencies first
- Refer egregious actions to the Tow Board for monitoring
- Revisit discussions in October.

Work Session: Vehicle Inventory

ORS 98.854 A tower may not: (11) Hold a towed motor vehicle for more than 24 hours without:

(a) Taking an inventory of all personal property in the motor vehicle that is visible from the exterior of the motor vehicle; and (b) Holding the personal property in the motor vehicle in a secure manner.

Lt. Lindland noted that not all law enforcement agencies, including OSP, conducts and inventory at the time of the impound request.

Ms. Coughlin began the discussion of best practices vs. the law requirements.

Mr. Shaner noted that the property is to be kept in a secure matter. Discussion tabled to a later board meeting to define "secure manner"

Mr. Hanson noted that the law requires the inventory, but does not require the tower to enter the vehicle.

Discussion:

1. Photographs are sufficient for an inventory; the tower has 24 hours to take the photos; if the vehicle is impounded at night, the photos may be taken the following day when lighting conditions are better.
2. Towers may take a physical inventory in addition, or instead of, a photo inventory.
3. Best practice would be to take both photos and a physical inventory, depending on the contents of the vehicle.
4. Towers are already required to take photos of the vehicle; a best practice is to take photos once the vehicle is under the tower's custody in the tow yard. It would not take additional time to take photos showing the interior of the vehicle.
5. The Tow Board acknowledges vehicles with high windows – lifted vehicles, motor homes, and RVs – and heavily tinted windows may present challenges.

Next steps:

- Draft a policy with expectations
- Begin education prior to enforcement

Public Comment Session:

Ms. Chelsie Kemp, Oregon Tow Truck Association, suggested guidance for towers when finding firearms in the vehicle.

New business: OSP Rule Making:

- OSP is proposing temporary rules regarding the education requirement for the OSP Non-Preference Tow Program.
- OSP is requiring towers on the OSP Non-Preference Tow Program submit invoices for the OSP-dispatched tows be submitted by email within three days.
- The Tow Board has already seen a drop in the OSP tow rate and fee complaints.

Board Leadership elections:

Mr. Shaner nominated Mr. Hanson as Board Chair. Mr. Hanson accepted the nomination.

There being no further nominations, Chair Riley declared Mr. Hanson Elected by Acclamation. In favor: Anderson, Baker, Coughlin, Lindland, McClellan, Shaner, Wood, Hanson, Riley. Opposed: None.

Mr. Hanson nominated Mr. McClellan as Board Vice Chair. Mr. McClellan accepted the nomination.

There being no further nominations, Chair Riley declared Mr. McClellan Elected by Acclamation. In favor: Anderson, Baker, Coughlin, Lindland, McClellan, Shaner, Wood, Hanson, Riley. Opposed: None.

Final Comment Session:

There were no formal final comments by the Board members or from attending stakeholders, public, or towers.

Adjourned

There being no further business before the Board, the Board meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Documents Considered by the Board

- Agenda
- Previous work session minutes
- Board Administrator Report
- Board Compliance Report
- Written Public Comments and correspondence
- Public Records Request draft policy
- Work Session Objectives sheets

Minutes prepared by Torey McCullough
Minutes APPROVED by Board vote: