

November 30, 2020

MEMO

To: State Board of Agriculture (BOA)
From: Alexis Taylor, Director, Oregon Department of Agriculture
Subject: appointment to the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH)

Background:

The State Board of Agriculture, in consultation with the Governor, is responsible for appointing one member to the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH) representing the shellfish mariculture industry per [ORS 196.571](#).

The OAH Council represent industries that are currently and potentially impacted by acidification and hypoxia in Oregon. The state was one of the first places in the world to observe the direct impacts of ocean acidification. Acidification, the increase in carbon levels in water which threatens marine life, continues to challenge oyster aquaculture productivity and has caused some producers to move operations elsewhere. Also, of great concern, hypoxia events. Hypoxia refers to low oxygen in the water.

The 13-member council is responsible for providing recommendations and guidance to the State of Oregon on how to respond to direct impacts of ocean acidification.

OAH Council Members include:

- Governor or Governor's designee;
- OSU Director or Director's designee;
- State Fish & Wildlife Director or designee;
- The Director of Agriculture or designee;
- Director of the Department of Environmental Quality or designee;
- Director of Land Conservation and Development or designee;
- Remaining 7 members are appointed in consultation with the Governor's office including one member representing the shellfish mariculture (the cultivation of fish or other marine life for food) industry, appointed by the State Board of Agriculture.

The shellfish mariculture industry position has been vacant for approximately one-year as we have recruited interested candidates for the position. The former industry representative Liu Xin, who served on the Council since 2013, stepped down from this position at the end of 2019. Alex Manderson, ODA's shellfish specialist participates in the Council as the Director's designee.

The term of each member is 4 years. A member is eligible for re-appointment.

FOR ACTION/DISCUSSION

The BOA will need to 1) review attached interest form and provide a recommendation to be appointed to the Council or 2) do a public notification for additional applications for the board to consider at a future meeting.



**Shellfish mariculture industry representative
interest form for the
Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean
Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH)**



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

The State Board of Agriculture, in consultation with the Governor, is responsible for appointing one member to the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH) representing the shellfish mariculture industry per ORS 196.571 to 196.573. The term of each member is 4 years. A member is eligible for re-appointment.

| Applicant Information | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|------|------|----------|
| Applicant Name | Kristen Ann Penner | | | | |
| Affiliation | North Coast Industries LLC dba Blue Siren Shellfish | | | | |
| Occupation | <input type="checkbox"/> Retired | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other | | | |
| Mailing Address | PO Box 672 | | | | |
| City | Garibaldi | State | OR | Zip | 97118 |
| Phone Number | 541-429-0999 | Cell or Alternate Number | same | | |
| Email | bluesireshellfish@gmail.com | | | | |
| Applicant Signature | | | | Date | 10/15/20 |

By signing above, you certify that:

- ⇒ All of the information on this form is true;
- ⇒ You are a legal citizen of Oregon and the United States of America;
- ⇒ You will accept the appointment to the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH) if selected by the Oregon State Board of Agriculture;
- ⇒ You have an email address and are able and willing to check your email on a regular basis;
- ⇒ You will be able to attend scheduled meetings in-person or by conference call.

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| Applicant Name | Kristen Ann Penner |
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Statement of Interest

Use the space below to share why you are interested in being a representative on the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH) and why you will be a good representative to the shellfish mariculture (the cultivation of fish or other marine life for food) industry.

Over the past 6 years as an operator in the seafood industry I have witnessed and share in the struggles of small seafood operators, as well as observed challenges experienced by buyers of local seafood. Various factors account for these struggles, some of which are avoidable on the front end during policy development. Environmental factors are an unavoidable, sensitive and challenging topic which concern me greatly.

I am capable of reading and understanding scientific data as well as economic statistics and forecasts, and integrating these sources of information to inform potential policy outcomes. I am particularly suited for this because my approach to addressing operational challenges has always been both solving the visceral on-the-ground logistical issues, but also being engaged in forethought about development of our industry as described in my work experience below.

Experience/Background

Please describe any work experience and/or involvement that has provided you with knowledge, skills, or abilities to successfully represent the interests of the shellfish mariculture industry.

My professional experience, though small scale, spans the entire economic seafood value-chain; from harvesting, processing, storage/distribution, sales, restaurant ownership/buyer experience as well as being an "ultimate consumer" myself. Over the past 6 years I have built a small seafood business, Blue Siren Shellfish, where I continue to gain experience securing and maintaining a variety of harvest and buyer/seller permits.

I have solid working relationships with other wild harvesters and oyster farmers as well as chefs and buyers of Oregon mariculture products. Additionally, I have worked with the Port of Garibaldi over the past few years on their Seafood Value Chain Initiative, co-authoring reports and assessments on behalf of Columbia Pacific Economic Development District. As part of this I helped design and implement outreach efforts which have included surveys, interviews and focus groups discussions with seafood producers including mariculture operators. This experience has provided a lot of insight into our local seafood business community and will allow me to represent a wide variety of perspectives.

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| Applicant Name | |
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References

Please identify two references that may be contacted if you are selected as a top candidate. Individuals or representatives of associations/organizations are acceptable.

Reference #1

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-----|-------|
| Name | Michael Saindon | | | | |
| Affiliation | General Manager, Port of Garibaldi | | | | |
| Mailing Address | PO Box 10 | | | | |
| City | Garibaldi | State | OR | Zip | 97118 |
| Phone Number | 503-322-3292 | Cell or Alternate Number | 503-812-8979 | | |
| Email | manager@portofgaribaldi.org | | | | |

Reference #2

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|--------------------------|-----------|-----|-------|
| Name | Arlene Soto | | | | |
| Affiliation | Tillamook Small Business Development Center | | | | |
| Mailing Address | 4506 3rd St. | | | | |
| City | Tillamook | State | OR | Zip | 97141 |
| Phone Number | 503-842-8222 | Cell or Alternate Number | Ext. 1410 | | |
| Email | arlenesoto@tillamookbaycc.edu | | | | |

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| Applicant Name | Kristen Ann Penner |
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To assist us in meeting affirmative action objectives, we would appreciate information about your background. This information is optional and may be used for data collection only. Under state and federal law, this information may not be used to discriminate against you.

Race/Ethnicity: *(Select one)*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> African American/Black | <input type="radio"/> Hispanic/Latino |
| <input type="radio"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native | <input type="radio"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander |
| <input type="radio"/> Asian | <input type="radio"/> Multi/Other |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Caucasian/White | |

Gender Identity: Female LGBTQ: _____ Disability: None

Please send your completed interest form via email to: kvalness@oda.state.or.us or via mail to:

Oregon State Board of Agriculture
Attn: Karla Valness
Oregon Department of Agriculture
635 Capitol St NE
Salem, OR 97310