



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of State Lands

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100

Salem, OR 97301-1279

(503) 986-5200

FAX (503) 378-4844

www.oregon.gov/dsl

State Land Board

Tina Kotek

Governor

LaVonne Griffin-Valade

Secretary of State

The State Land Board (Land Board or Board) met in regular session on October 15, 2024, in the Land Board Room at the Department of State Lands (DSL), 775 Summer Street NE, Salem, Oregon. The meeting audio and video was livestreamed on the DSL YouTube channel.

Present were:

Tina Kotek

Governor

Tobias Read

State Treasurer

LaVonne Griffin-Valade

Secretary of State

Tobias Read

State Treasurer

Land Board Assistants

Geoff Huntington

Governor's Office

Jessica Ventura

Secretary of State's Office

Jessica Howell

State Treasurer's Office

Department Staff

Vicki Walker

Bill Ryan

Ellie Forness

Katrina Scotto di Carlo

Arin Smith

Jean Straight

Ali Ryan Hansen

Linda Safina-Massey

Patricia Fox

Ted Bright

Department of Justice

Matt DeVore

Governor Kotek called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The topics discussed and the results of those discussions are listed below. To view the Land Board (Board) meeting in its entirety, please visit our YouTube page: [October 15, 2024, Land Board Meeting](#)

Prior to the start of the regular meeting, the Board presented its annual Land Board awards. Governor Kotek gave a brief history of the awards before they were presented.

- **Stream Award:** The Dalles Dog River Pipeline Replacement
- **Stream Award:** North Fork Walla Walla River Restoration
- **Catalyst Award:** Chad Hoffman, Lane County Public Works
- **Partnership Award:** Rangeland Program Partners

Consent Items

1. Minutes

Treasurer Read made a motion to approve the minutes for the August 13, 2024, Land Board meeting.

Secretary Griffin-Valade seconded the motion.

The item was approved at 10:01 a.m. without objection.

Chair Kotek then asked that the Informational item (Item 5) be moved up on the agenda

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5. Geologic Carbon Sequestration Presentation by Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

Director Walker introduced Dr. Ruarri Day-Stirrat, State Geologist and DOGAMI Executive Director, to present the item.

Dr. Ruarri Day-Stirrat provided an overview of geologic carbon sequestration and considerations for further collaboration.

Carbon sequestration is the process by which carbon dioxide is removed from the atmosphere and permanently stored, an action that has been identified as integral to reducing global climate change. Carbon sequestration reduces the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and can generate revenue through the sale of carbon credits, fee-based programs, or other funding mechanisms.

Chair Kotek stated there are strict guidelines from the EPA and asked Dr. Day-Stirrat to confirm that the carbon wells bypass all water levels. Dr. Day-Stirrat confirmed that there is no connection between potable water and the carbon wells.

Treasurer Read asked about the State taking on some of the authority from the US EPA regarding carbon and what that would look like. Dr. Day-Stirrat stated that the US EPA wrote underground injection control Class 6 regulations specific to carbon sequestration. Since then, a number of states have gone through a process led by the US EPA where they have taken over regulatory control from the US EPA and State regulations are even stricter than US EPA regulations.

Treasurer Read then asked if it matters where the carbon comes from seeing that it would be good for the environment either way. Dr. Day-Stirrat responded that Oregon carbon emissions are relatively small, but the volume of rock is high, so there is a net opportunity on the State side to bring in CO₂ as a way of mitigating climate change, and also generating revenue.

Secretary Griffin-Valade stated that she is interested in the map and the locations and wonders if there has been any input from the people who live in those areas. Dr. Day-Stirrat stated that there will be significant outreach, including with Tribal Nations, before any projects are started.

Chair Kotek stated that from the standpoint of the Land Board, the direction would be to continue due diligence and outreach. There are a lot of conversations to have, and we should come back at a future meeting to talk about progress.

Treasurer Read agreed with Chair Kotek and stated that we want to be prepared to move quickly and be ready when the technology is ready.

Director Walker stated that we will bring an update to the December 2024 Land Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

2. Elliott State Research Forest – Appointment of the remaining Board Members

Director Walker read brief bios of the candidates:

- Payton Smith
- Jennifer Allen
- Michael Wilson

Regarding Michael Wilson, Director Walker stated that although he is a Tribal member, his appointment to the Board is based on his skills and his experience in forest resource management as an individual and not a representative of a Tribe.

The Department then recommended the State Land Board appoint the remaining three voting members of the ESRF Board of Directors from the Department's candidate list.

Treasurer Read made a motion to approve the action item.

Secretary Griffin-Valade seconded the motion.

The item was approved at 10:33 a.m. without objection.

3. Elliott State Research Forest – Adoption of the proposed Forest Management Plan

Director Walker introduced Brett Brownscombe, ESRF Transition Director, to assist in presenting this item.

Mr. Brownscombe gave an overview of the Forest Management Plan (FMP) and timeline of how it was created.

Treasurer Read asked when the last timber harvest was done on the Elliott. Ryan Singleton, DSL's Forester, stated that the last timber harvest was in 2016.

Treasurer Read then asked about timber harvest modeling and what went into that.

Mr. Brownscombe responded that the modeling is conservative and will need to be tested.

Treasurer Read then asked about the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and what we can expect. Mr. Brownscombe stated that the final HCP has been submitted. The key next steps relate to the process that has to happen on the Federal end before permits get issued.

Treasurer Read's final question inquired about Tribal participation. Mr. Brownscombe stated that there are several Tribes who consider the Elliott a part of their ancestral lands. Language has been built into both plans (FMP & HCP) to recognize the Tribes and the intention to continue positive and healthy engagement of Indigenous interest and stewardship in research.

Chair Kotek commented that Tribes have appreciated the engagement from the Department and want to make sure that the conversations continue as we move forward and the project evolves.

Secretary Griffin-Valade stated that she is honored to be part of this discussion and thinks that we are in a good space.

Chair Kotek then asked what the plan is for active management of the forest while we wait for the HCP to be completed.

Director Walker stated that we need to produce revenue and there are some timber harvests being planned.

Public testimony was then taken:

- Bob Zybach, NW Maps Company
- Michael Lang, Wild Salmon Center
- Mark Stern, Nature Conservancy

*Written testimony was also received and given to the Board for review ahead of the meeting. That testimony can be found on the website along with the meeting materials.

Director Walker introduced a Science Panel to give their comments.

- John Tokarczyk, Director of the Forest Resources Program and ODF
- Dr. Gordie Reeves, US Forest Service-Retired
- Dr. Johnson, Retired professor from the College of Forestry

Director Walker introduced an ESRF Board Panel to give their comments.

- Bob Sallinger
- Haley Lutz
- Keith Tymchuk

The Department recommended adoption of the initial Forest Management Plan for the Elliott State Research Forest.

Treasurer Read made a motion to approve the action item.

Secretary Griffin-Valade seconded the motion.

The item was approved at 12:10 a.m. without objection.

4. Adoption of the proposed School Lands Asset Management Plan

Director Walker introduced Bill Ryan, Deputy Director and Amber McKernan, Real Property Manager, to present the 2024 Asset Management Plan which guides the Department of State Land's management of rangelands, forestlands, and other lands dedicated to funding K-12 public schools for the next ten years.

Treasurer Read asked if removing lands from other uses to be used for renewable energy leases is necessary, or if some lands can be multiuse. Deputy Director Ryan stated that yes, we are looking for layered opportunities to manage lands and generate revenue from different ways on single pieces of property, but there are constraints. Treasurer Read then asked about transitioning from asset value to net operating income, and how that may play out over the long term. Deputy Director Ryan stated that the type of lands we are managing for revenue are not really investment lands, so the opportunity to increase revenue is limited for most of these properties and lease values are set by rule.

Chair Kotek stated that she appreciated the information in the plan regarding wildfires and our lands being managed in a way to reduce fires and continuing to be good partners in those communities.

The Department then recommended that the Land Board adopt the proposed 2024 Asset Management Plan, to be effective on December 1, 2024.

Treasurer Read made a motion to approve the action item.
Secretary Griffin-Valade seconded the motion.
The item was approved at 12:36 p.m. without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

Tina Kotek, Governor

Vicki L. Walker, Director