



Oregon State Board of Agriculture Minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
06/05-06/2024	Burns, OR and hybrid	8:30 AM	12:00 PM

FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL	CONTACT PHONE
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Wednesday, June 5, 2024

Agenda Item 01 – Welcome and Introductions

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Introductions of board members followed.

- Board members present: Chair Elin Miller, Barbara Boyer, Bryan Harper, Eric Orem, ODA Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson, Dean Staci Simonich
- Board members remote: Miguel Lopez, Luisa Santamaria, Josh Zielinski, Ty Kliewer
- Board members absent: Chad Allen
- Others present in-person/remote: Lauren Henderson, Jonathan Sandau, Chris Benemann, Karla Valness, Andrea Cantu-Schomus, Jim Johnson, Rusty Rock, Jess Paulson, Mickey Killingsworth, Kris Schaedel, Sherry Kudna, Jessica Sandroock, Jan Lee, Megan Kemple, Victoria Binning, Heather, H. Foote, Josie Altman, Sunny Summers, Taylor Harding, Samantha Bayer, Alice Morrison, Lauren Poor, Jana McKamey, Dave Losh, Melissa Petschauer, Brenda Smith, Josey Wilson, Aaron Johnston, Denise Rose, Kellie Frank, Samryn Volle, Gary Marshall, Three Rivers Audio Visual.

Approval of minutes

Draft minutes from the January 16-18, 2024, board meeting was presented for review and approval.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Barbara Boyer to approve the minutes. Second by Bryan Harper. It was noted in the discussion by Dean Simonich that she attended the January 17 meeting. Motion passed, with correction, unanimously by: Barbara Boyer, Bryan Harper, Elin Miller, Eric Orem, Miguel Lopez, Luisa Santamaria, Josh Zielinski, Ty Kliewer.

Draft minutes from the April 29, 2024, board meeting was presented for review and approval.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Eric Orem to approve the minutes with no changes or corrections. Second by Barbara Boyer. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously by: Barbara Boyer, Bryan Harper, Elin Miller, Eric Orem, Miguel Lopez, Luisa Santamaria, Josh Zielinski, Ty Kliewer.

Director’s report

Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson reported on several items and good work happening in the agency.

- Preparation is underway for the 2025-27 legislative session and agency budget request, which you will hear more about during this meeting as well as the roll-out of the 2024-27 ODA strategic plan. She thanked the staff for the work done to help us refocus on building a foundation for the agency and focuses on how we best meet the needs of Oregon agriculture across the state.
- Governor Kotek has appointed two new Board of Agriculture producer members. Ellie Norris from the Roseburg area. Ms. Norris is a blueberry farmer and has experience working on national blueberry boards as well as domestic and international marketing experience. Ty Kliewer from Klamath Falls is a former teacher and has a small purebred cattle operation and is currently operating a brewery and soon to work on a start up meat processing facility. Mr. Kliewer is very well versed in the

water issues that have faced the Klamath Basin and will bring another perspective to the board from that area. Both members plan to attend the September meeting.

- Other agency activities since the June meeting include work on the grasshopper detection and control on private lands project funded by the 2024 Legislative session, work continues on implementing Senate Bill 85 that passed during the 2023 Legislative Session that address the regulation of confined animal feeding operations.
- The agency executive team has been working on is the agency organizational structure. Modifications have been made over the last 5-6 years, due to a variety of factors, that may not represent our current strategy of how to align programs and how we bring programs together for the best synergy. The team will look at how to take the opportunity of the new strategic plan and how do we set-up the agency for long-term success in a strategic way that serves all of Oregon agriculture. This will likely be a two-to-five-year plan because of restructuring and possible budget requests.
- Three agencies, Oregon Water Resources, Department of Environment Quality, and ODA who share responsibilities for different parts of water management, protection and regulation held a town hall meeting for the public in the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA). The town hall provided an opportunity to meet with the community, listen to their concerns and have a conversation.
- Director Charpiloz Hanson spoke about her interview regarding the LUBGWMA area and what more can be done around irrigated agriculture to assure that our agricultural activities are not continuing to pollute or add to the problem that is there. We need to take care of people first. We need to assure that we continue the economic viability of the community, but we also need to protect the natural resources and the water long term. This will be a big challenge before us. We have a Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) currently underway. This is the first SIA to focus on groundwater. The SIA will have ODA and the SWCDs collecting information to understand the agricultural practices and the irrigation practices. We need the environment protected, we need the water protected, we need the economy in the region in terms of agricultural production and food processing, but we need to take care of the people and assure people have clean water to drink. This will be a heavy lift for ODA and will take engagement from the board, the community and responsible agencies.
- High path influenza is now in nine states, but not in Oregon. We are doing everything we can in terms or preparation for if and when it comes, and we continue to monitor and stay engaged with the dairy and livestock communities. Director Charpiloz Hanson thanked Dr. Ryan Scholz and his team for the work in this area.
- The ODA Brands program has financial issues in terms of funding. We are working with an advisory committee to develop a plan to help the program become more viable with some higher services charges and other things so the program will pay its way for the cost of services. Other issues have come to ODA around brand registration and the challenges of being able to obtain a brand in Oregon. Discussion is underway to create a more permanent brand advisory committee to discuss some of these issues on an ongoing basis.
- The ODA has issued the meat processing and infrastructure grants. We looked at diversity of operations, diversity of locations across the state in awarding the grants. Issues have come up for some facilities in terms of permitting for wastewater. We continue to work with DEQ and the Governor's regional solutions office on understanding and working through the issues.

Agenda Item 02 – ODA's Budget and Legislative Update

Assistant Director Jonathan Sandau talked with the board about the upcoming 2025 Legislative session which every two years agency's submit budget requests, can introduce legislative concepts and budget requests through policy option packages.

Jonathan walked through the draft 2025-27 ODA Legislative Concepts and Policy Option Packages Agency Request List that was submitted in April for approval to move forward. The agency put forward three policy related and three fee related legislative concepts for consideration. The policy concepts include changes in the Oregon State Meat Inspection program, civil penalty authority for animal health and feed, and an update to the uniform standards for fertilizer regulatory programs. The three fee related concepts include food safety license annual fee authority, weights and measures fee limit increase and a pesticide fee limit increase.

The ODA agency budget request development is well underway and is due on September 1. The budget instructions changed this year, and agencies were instructed to work within a 1% target of their general fund and lottery fund allocations. Since the ODA is primarily fee based (other funds) and federal funds we don't have much general fund and lottery funds in our budget. Based on that our 1% target equals about \$579,000 for any additions to the agency budget. The draft list of policy option packages includes a package to strengthen ODA's foundation with a request for two positions one in human resources and one emergency and safety coordinator. The list also contains federal fund and other funds policy options packages which are outside the 1% general fund target.

Resource:

- 2025-27 ODA LC-POP List

Agenda Item 03 – 2022 Census of Agriculture – Oregon Update

USDA National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) Oregon State Statistician, Dave Losh, presented Oregon data from the 2022 Census of Agriculture. USDA publishes a new census every five years; the last census was published in 2017. The 2022 data shows the number of farms in Oregon has decreased to 35,547 (down from 37,616), and the amount of land (acres) in farms has decreased to 15.3 million acres (down from 16 million acres). In addition, the average size of a farm (acres) has increased to 430 from 424 in 2017. The largest number of farms by size are 1-49 acres.

In 2022, the total value of agricultural production by county in Oregon is \$6.8 billion with the top five counties listed are 1) Marion 2) Morrow 3) Umatilla 4) Malheur and 5) Clackamas.

The average age of Oregon producers is 58.6 years old, slightly higher than the US average at 58.1. Young producers (under 35 years) is about 7% in Oregon. New and beginning producers, 10 years or less on any farm, represent 32% of Oregon producers slightly higher than the U.S. at 30%.

Farm production expenses continue to rise with the top categories reported include 1) hired labor 2) feed 3) depreciation 4) ag services and 5) supplies & repairs. Overall farm production expenses have increased for all farm operations.

All statewide and county reports and data are available at <https://www.nass.usda.gov>

Resource:

- Census of Agriculture – Oregon update

Break

The Board recessed for a 5-minute break and reconvened.

Agenda Item 04 – High Desert Partnership Programs and Projects

Executive Director Brenda Smith and members of the team introduced the High Desert Partnership which is a local nonprofit that works to bring diverse groups together in collaboration to solve complex issues in our communities. The organization began about 17 years ago, when local community members wanted to see better relationships between public land managers, private landowners and ranches but did not have a road map, learning along the way that collaborating and bringing groups together to solve pressing issues in the community was the way forward. Today they work in six collaboratives: Harney Basin Wetlands; Malheur National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan; Harney County Forest Restoration; Harney County Wildlife; Youth Changing the Community; and Biz Harney Opportunity. The working groups work on priorities set by the community and focus on specific short term and long term challenges while looking at the big picture to how solutions to Harney County's economic, environmental, and social challenges are connected and work together to impact the rural way of life.

Resource:

- High Desert Partnership Programs
- Harney County video -- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srdjQSFtgRY>

Agenda Item 05 – Public Comment

Board members received written public comments from 34 individuals/organizations related to the review of Board of Agriculture resolution 274 – Collaboration of the Board of Agriculture and the ODA with the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board and resolution 314 – Permitted Uses on Lands Zoned Exclusive Farm Use and on High-Value Farmland.

The Board received verbal comments from Kris Schaedel, Samantha Bayer, Lauren Poor, and Alice Morrison.

Agenda Item 06 – Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center Overview

David Bohnert, Director of the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center; Kirk Davies, lead range scientist, with USDA-ARS and Cameron Duquette with The Nature Conservancy shared an overview of the Center and work to be done ahead of the afternoon site visit. The Center which is composed of two stations one in Burns and another in Union is run cooperatively by Oregon State University and the USDA-Agricultural Research Service. The stations work primarily on livestock, rangeland, wildlife, and recently working on wildfire issues. The station has unique relationships with several organizations including The Nature Conservancy and USDA, ARS that work collaboratively at the station. The Harney County station started in 1911 to assist homesteaders find a way to

grow crops and then shifted in the 30s to predominantly grazing research and rangeland-based research. Since the 50s the station has worked in rangeland management, livestock production and then shifted to natural resource wildlife management.

Afternoon site visit

A site visit of the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center and Buermann's Ranch Meats was provided for board members and ODA staff.

The meeting recessed at 5:00 pm until Thursday, June 6, 2024

Thursday, June 6, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chair Elin Miller. Introductions of board members, ODA staff and guests.

- Board members present: Chair Elin Miller, Barbara Boyer, Bryan Harper, Eric Orem, ODA Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson, Dean Staci Simonich
- Board members remote: Miguel Lopez, Luisa Santamaria, Josh Zielinski, Ty Kliewer
- Board members absent: Chad Allen
- Others present in-person: Jonathan Sandau, Chris Benemann, Jim Johnson, Karla Valness, , Three Rivers Audio Visual.

Agenda Item 07 – OSU College of Agricultural Sciences – Dean's Update

Dean Simonich reported that the site visit to the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center, yesterday, was to one of fourteen experiment stations located across the state. The experiment stations are an amazing network across the state each focusing on different areas of study and commodities. Many experiment stations hold field days to share information about research projects, best practices and new discoveries. Reach out to your local experiment station for dates and more information. With about a 15% increase in legislative funding, OSU will be hiring about 32 new research positions. Almost 50% of those positions will be located outside of Corvallis and they are moving quickly to hire from across the country and have received a robust pool of applications. Dean Simonich noted another record year in terms of research funding. The Dean shared its graduation season, and this will be the first year the college will hold its own ceremony.

Agenda Item 08 – ODA Strategic Plan Review

Assistant Director Jonathan Sandau reviewed the newly published 2024-27 ODA Strategic Plan. He reviewed the updated ODA vision for a resilient tomorrow for generations to come. Oregon agriculture spans many different areas, and we all need to be resilient producers, food processors, researchers and we need to be a resilient agency to help the generations of tomorrow be successful and being able to pick-up where we have left off and carry forward. The updated mission to Protect. Promote. Prosper. We safeguard Oregon's agriculture, natural resources, working lands, economies, and communities through assistance, compliance and market support. This mission captures the complexity of the agency and its 38 programs. The plan updates our core values – We are proud AGGIES: A=approachable, G=genuine, G=growth oriented, I=inclusive, E=experts, S=sustainable. The plan also includes a short history and budget background and a review of the planning process and what we learned. Goals and outcomes for the 2024-27 period are outlined in the plan. Goals include 1) organizational excellence, 2) modernization, and 3) customer-focused service. In addition, an ODA IT Strategic Plan has also been developed which provides more detail on the technology modernization opportunities.

We all have a part to play in our mission and vision and we cannot accomplish this work alone and we cannot be successful alone, so strengthening and deepening partnerships and collaborations across the state are going to be critical for the success of the strategic plan but for the ODA. Board members expressed support and look forward to working together and moving in the same strategic direction.

Resource:

- ODA Strategic Plan 2024-2027

Agenda Item 09 –

No item on the agenda, moved to break period.

Break

The Board recessed for a 15-minute break and reconvened.

Agenda Item 10 – Public Comment

Kris Schaedel, Hood River SWCD provided comments on the lack of access for Spanish language pesticide exams in Oregon.

Agenda Item 11 - Board Business

ODA Program Area Reports

Chair Miller thanked the ODA staff for preparing a quarterly report and asked Board members for any comments or questions on the ODA Program Area Reports.

Resource:

- ODA Program Area Updates to the Board June 2024

OWEB Report

Board member Barbara Boyer reported to the board on the April OWEB meeting held in Baker. The meeting included grant

Resolution Title	Resolution No.	Work Group Recommendation
Coexistence of wolves and livestock on Oregon's rural landscape	298	Recommend approval with no proposed edits.
Permitted Uses on Lands Zoned Exclusive Farm Use and on High-Value Farmland	314	Hold for further review.
Working Lands Conservation Easements	315	Hold for further review.

processing, open solicitation, land acquisitions, and an update on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP) around rulemaking.

Workgroup A Report

Board member Miguel Lopez reported on the workgroup A meeting on Tuesday evening and the review of resolutions.

Resolution Title	Resolution No.	Work Group Recommendation
Pesticide Use for Pest Control	024	Recommend approval including the minor edits as posted.
Need for Documented Agricultural Work Force	169	Hold for further review and information
Collective Bargaining for Agricultural Workers and Employers	266	Hold for further review and information
Collaboration of the Board of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture with the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board	274	Recommend approval including edits as posted.
Federal Minimum Wage Parity	316	Hold for further review and updated statistics.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Miguel Lopez to approve Resolution 024. Second by Barbara Boyer. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously by: Barbara Boyer, Bryan Harper, Elin Miller, Eric Orem, Miguel Lopez, Luisa Santamaria, Josh Zielinski, Ty Kliewer.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Miguel Lopez to approve Resolution 274. Second by Bryan Harper. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously by: Barbara Boyer, Bryan Harper, Elin Miller, Eric Orem, Miguel Lopez, Luisa Santamaria, Josh Zielinski, Ty Kliewer.

Workgroup B Report

Board member Bryan Harper reported on the workgroup B meeting on Tuesday evening and the review of resolutions.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Bryan Harper to approve Resolution 298. Second by Eric Orem. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously by: Barbara Boyer, Bryan Harper, Elin Miller, Eric Orem, Miguel Lopez, Luisa Santamaria, Josh Zielinski, Ty Kliewer.

Workgroup B requested a land use 101 information session be scheduled before the September Board of Agriculture meeting to review the Oregon Planning Program with a focus on farm and forest land use. Discussion followed on potential dates of the information session. ODA will work to schedule the information session in July or August.

Newsletter topics

Status of the newsletter and the status of the industry report was discussed. The delay in preparing the newsletter and industry report has been capacity issues of the board coordinator and ODA. ODA will continue work to draft the state of the industry report.

Other Discussion

ODA Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson shared with the board Lauren Henderson announced his retirement and his last day will be September 30. She thanked him for his more than 38 years of public service.

Future Board meeting agenda topics were discussed. They include ODA program area overview and updates, update from ODA Pesticides program on exam availability, meet/invite other boards and commissions, community engagement to build partnerships, LUBGWMA initiative, farm and forest land use discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM

Next meeting: September 10-12, 2024
In-person – Pendleton area and virtual option will be available.