



**Drinking Water Advisory Committee**  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
July 17, 2019  
Keizer

Members Present

**Yone Akagi**, Large Water Systems  
**Dwayne Barnes**, League of Oregon Cities  
**Greg DeBlase**, Oregon Environmental Health Association  
**DJ Ezell**, Special Districts Association of Oregon  
**Jason Green**, Oregon Association of Water Utilities  
**Bruce Hellebuyck**, Privately Owned Water Systems  
**Karen Lewotsky**, Environmental Advocacy Groups  
**Amelia Nestler**, League of Women Voters of Oregon  
**Annette Pampush**, Conference of Local Health Officials  
**Kim Ramsay**, Oregon Environmental Lab Association  
**Brian Rigwood**, Pacific NW Section, American Water Works Association

Members Absent

**Brian Ginter**, American Council of Engineering Companies-Oregon  
**Ray Johnson**, Plumbers/Backflow Testers

Guests

**Mark Bean**, Oregon Association of Water Utilities  
**Jessica Dorsey**, City of Hillsboro  
**Matt Johnson**, Oregon Association of Water Utilities  
**Eli Ritchie**, Secretary of State-Audit Division

Staff

Adam DeSemple      Kari Salis  
David Emme          Diane Weis  
Tony Fields

**Welcome/Agenda Check:**

DL Ezell welcomed the group and led introductions.

Kim Ramsay wants to add Investigative Analysis to the agenda.

**January Meeting Minutes:**

Annette Pampush made motion to approve the minutes, Amelia Nestler seconded. They were voted on and approved.

**Member Update:**

Kim Ramsay asked what the process is for labs to report an investigative analysis on a chemical sample when it tests positive at a location that is not a compliance sampling point. The lab is not required to notify DWS after an investigative analysis, but the public water system should consult with DWS if there may be a public health risk. If a positive result occurs at a compliance sample point, then the system would contact their state or county representative.

**Program Update:**

SOS Audit – Eli Ritchie from the Audit Division is learning about Drinking Water Services and will identify ways to do work better. He will be in contact with State staff, interested parties, and some advisory committee members.

**Federal Updates –**

America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) – Among other things, this law requires risk and resilience assessments of systems over 3,300 and update of Emergency Response Plans within 6 months of assessment and send to EPA, then review and update every 5 years. Largest systems due March, 2020.

WIIN Act – Grant programs funded for lead in schools, and for small or disadvantaged communities.

Perchlorate – Proposed new Perchlorate Standard at 56 ug/l, but EPA taking comment on a higher or lower standard or reversing the regulatory determination.

Lead and Copper – Proposed lead and copper rule revisions are expected soon.

**Staffing Updates –**

With passage of Fee Bill (SB27) the program will have five new positions: three new Natural Resource Specialist's for Technical Services, one Compliance Specialist and one Research Analyst for Data Management.

**Technical Services Unit (TS) –**

- Emerging Preparedness vacancy, recruitment underway
- Daniel Hough's Limited Duration NRS3 position has been extended

Data Management Compliance & Enforcement Unit (DMCE) –

- Unit manager position is vacant, hiring process underway

Protection Planning & Certification Unit (PP&C) –

- Rebecca Nyberg is a new Administrative Specialist for the certification programs.
- Partner Services vacancy, recruitment underway

Program Goals & Objectives –

Management –

- Hire and train staff
- Public Health Division Performance Management
- Support SOS Audit
- Support Legislative Workgroup on HABS

DMCE –

- Work with labs on electronic reporting
- Support PHD Data Visualization initiative
- Transition to SDWIS Prime
- Refine enforcement priorities and process

PP&C –

- Continue streamlining Operator Certification Program
- DWSRF Needs Survey
- Electronically filing records
- Develop small and disadvantaged grants program
- Support Warm Springs needs

TS –

- Complete initial ozone/post filtration disinfection waiver
- Emergency Preparedness
- Redo Source Water Protection Program
- Work with small systems on compliance, monitoring and reporting

Fee Bill (SB 27) –

- \* The passage of this bill will restructure fee authority to restore capacity to program.
- \* Establishes authority for fee schedule to offset costs of regulating five new FTE and partner increases.
- \* Repeals survey fee and replaces with annual fee based on system size and type.
- \* There will be hearings and a public comment period before rules are finalized, hopefully on December 20. The invoices would be mailed March 1, with a May 1 due date. Some members requested to extend timeline before late fees are added, and to put the due date out to next biennium for first billing. This will be considered.

**Revolving Fund Update:**

SDWRLF Financial Status – Of the \$41 million available to loan, approximately \$32.6 million may be allocated to projects within the intake/app and pending contract stages, leaving approximately \$8.7 million net available (this does not include 2019 Cap grant funding); \$98M is tied up with committed loans.

Infrastructure Summit – The summit will be October 20-21. This is an opportunity for discussing and exchanging ideas on the basic infrastructure with communities and economic development.

Appropriation & Capitalization Grant Application – The 2019 Cap grant, totaling \$14,478,000, includes \$9.49 million for the Loan Fund (projects) and \$4.98 million for Set-asides. The 20% State Match requirement is for \$2.89 million (also for projects). The Cap grant was submitted July 3, 2019 and EPA has up to 60 days to review and award the grant.

Combined Infrastructure Project Priority List – There were eight new projects added to the list totaling 39, amounting to over \$46 million.

Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Projects (SIPP) PPL – One new project was added to the list.

Source Water Protection Grant Program – There are 13 new projects requesting a total of \$370,000.

National Information Management System (NIMS) – The data report will be starting later this month.

**DWSRF Needs Survey:**

The Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey is a 20 year look ahead of State and National infrastructure needs. The results are also used to allocate DWSRF funding to states. The survey is a burden to the water systems, so a contractor will go to the systems to perform the surveys and collect the data.

**Operator Certification:**

Tony Fields asked for volunteers to be on a workgroup to evaluate the current process and identify corrective actions for approving post-high school education courses. DJ Ezell and Jason Green volunteered to assist Tony.

**2019 Meeting Schedule:**

October 16, 2019 – Keizer