

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER

February 4, 2005 Hearing Room 357

1:00 PM Tapes 21 - 22

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Bob Jenson, Chair

Rep. Jerry Krummel, Vice-Chair

Rep. Jackie Dingfelder, Vice-Chair

Rep. Phil Barnhart

Rep. Billy Dalto

Rep. Carolyn Tomei

GUEST MEMBER: Rep. Mike Schaufler

MEMBER ABSENT: Rep. Alan Brown

STAFF PRESENT: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

Pamella Andersen, Committee Assistant

MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:

Overview of Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

- Informational Meeting

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
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TAPE 21, A

004	Chair Jenson	Opens the meeting at 1:04 p.m. Opens the informational meeting.
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OVERVIEW OF OREGON WATERSHED ENHANCEMENT BOARD – Informational meeting

010	Tom Byler	Acting Director, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). Introduces Ken Bierly, Deputy Director and Allison Hensey, Policy Specialist and Legislative Coordinator. Announces they will be giving an overview of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds as well as a description of OWEB's role within the Oregon Plan.
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034	Chair Jenson	Details when OWEB is required to give the legislature their annual report and what information is provided in the report. Welcomes Rep. Tomei back to the committee as a result of Rep. Schaufler being reassigned to the Natural Resource Subcommittee of Ways & Means.
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088	Rep. Schaufler	Thanks Chair Jenson for the honor of serving on this committee.
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111	Byler	Submits and reviews the overview of OWEB (EXHIBIT A), the Biennial report (EXHIBIT B), and a collection of stories: <i>Investments in Oregon's Future</i> (EXHIBIT C).
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131	Chair Jenson	Indicates the final OWEB report will be in black and white and on the web. Recommends members review this document when available.
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156	Allison Hensey	Policy Specialist, OWEB. Gives an overview for the Oregon Plan for Salmon & Watersheds (Exhibit d) beginning with the history and elements as well as OWEB's role in the Oregon Plan.
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190	Hensey	Highlights elements of the Oregon Plan that are unique to Oregon. Reviews mission as well as problems the Oregon Plan was developed to address.
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225	Hensey	Discusses how the Oregon Plan evolved as an innovative approach to accomplish salmon recovery and water quality improvement. Details evolution timeline of the Oregon Plan.
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274	Hensey	
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Identifies the four elements of the Oregon Plan: 1) coordinated agency actions; 2) local voluntary watershed restoration; 3) monitoring and reporting; and 4) science oversight.

- 282 Rep. Krummel Inquires if OWEB becomes the convener to coordinate agency actions.
- 286 Hensey Indicates the Governor's office is the primary convener of all of these agencies. Describes OWEB's coordination efforts.
- 306 Rep. Krummel Asks how often the agency representatives get together to coordinate efforts to avoid duplication.
- 315 Byler Describes coordination efforts of the Oregon Plan teams.
- 335 Hensey Continues discussion of the elements with emphasis on local voluntary restoration efforts. Notes assistance from watershed councils and soil and water conservation districts as well as local government.

TAPE 22, A

- 011 Chair Jenson Inquires about statement "recognized by local governments." Suggests tribes should be recognized, as well.
- 020 Hensey Believes there are partnerships within watershed councils, and notes they also have individual programs.
- 022 Rep. Krummel Questions whether local watershed councils have professional staff. Inquires how staff is funded.
- 023 Hensey Describes sources for staff funding.
- 034 Chair Jenson Inquires if Measure 66 money is used for staff support. Questions other uses of Measure 66 money.
- 037 Hensey Explains particular uses for Measure 66 money. Relates that for every dollar invested in organization support it leverages five dollars.
- 058 Rep. Krummel

Questions where that five dollars is leveraged. Seeks clarification about the economic benefit to be spent locally on projects.

059	Hensey	States that the five dollars is for investment in watershed restoration projects. Further explains how funds are appropriated locally.
070	Byler	States that his information was unclear.
082	Rep. Krummel	Seeks clarification about the economic benefit to a community.
090	Hensey	Clarifies that there is a two to one benefit. Continues testimony on Soil and Water Conservation districts and reviews sources of funding.
120	Rep. Krummel	Questions sources of funding. Seeks clarification that OWEB uses Measure 66 lottery funds.
132	Hensey	Admits that she does not know at this time. States that OWEB has no general fund dollars attached. Clarifies that OWEB uses Measure 66 lottery funds, and federal funds.
139	Chair Jenson	Questions, excluding lottery dollars, how much OWEB receives from the general fund.
147	Ken Bierly	Deputy Director, OWEB. Reiterates that general funds are not used.
148	Hensey	Describes funding for OWEB. Continues presentation on fish passage and road projects. Reviews monitoring and reporting.
224	Rep. Krummel	Inquires if the Oregon Plan Biennium Report includes a third party view on effectiveness, performance measures, and spending.
249	Bierly	States that there is no independent evaluation of effectiveness. Relates that staff offers feedback on effectiveness.
270	Byler	Relates that OWEB is working with other agencies' partners to look at comprehensive review of efforts and the return on investments.
293	Rep. Schaufler	States that visible improvements are evident in his district.
306	Chair Jenson	Comments on success.

343 Hensey Comments on the North Coast Coho assessment. Relates that the Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team (IMST) provides objective oversight. Provides overview of OWEB's grant program.

TAPE 21, B

005 Hensey Continues presentation on what OWEB does.

030 Chair Jenson Inquires which federal agencies are involved.

031 Hensey Lists federal agencies involved. Reviews staff positions. Reviews how OWEB processes grants applications.

074 Rep. Krummel Questions whether slides represent OWEB's entire budget.

081 Hensey Responds that slides do not represent entire budget. Explains the funds displayed on the slides. Continues presentation on grants.

094 Chair Jenson Questions whether leadership can be provided to federal agencies doing this on federal lands.

100 Bierly Relates the conversations with federal agencies to identify projects and coordinate priorities.

122 Hensey Continues review of watershed restoration project categories.

200 Chair Jenson Inquires if the five dollars includes in kind contributions. Questions how in kind contributions are considered or documented.

213 Hensey Responds that it is hard money from grants and other sources.

225 Bierly Responds that in kind contributions are accounted for and appreciated.

244 Byler Offers to distribute copy of study to the committee members.

248 Chair Jenson States that there is a need to recognize that many people are investing a lot of resources that are making a difference.

263	Rep. Schaufler	Remarks that people are working together on this issue.
311	Rep. Krummel	Inquires if in kind contributions count toward a match if there is a local match required, or a state-federal match required.
325	Bierly	Responds that OWEB's grant program allows all in-kind contributions to provide the 25% required match. States that some federal grant programs will allow in kind contributions.
355	Rep. Dingfelder	Questions if matching funds from tribes are included.
365	Bierly	Explains that tribal grants are treated equally. States that the tribes have not used OWEB's grant programs much.
387	Rep. Dingfelder	Inquires if there is an estimate of federal funds to be received.
395	Byler	Estimates \$27 million.
397	Bierly	Clarifies that it is difficult to anticipate what 2006 will hold for us.

TAPE 22, B

020	Rep. Dingfelder	States that she would like to have a presentation on the conclusions of the Coastal Coho assessment.
027	Byler	Relates that there is a special presentation on the Coastal Coho assessment project.
038	Rep. Dingfelder	Suggests presenting a graphic that shows how Oregon's process interacts with the federal process.
044	Byler	Agrees to formulate a graphic. Comments on Oregon Plan conservation plan goals.
055	Chair Jenson	Closes the informational meeting. Adjourns the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A. **Watershed Enhancement Board, Oregon, overview, Tom Byler, 2 pp**
- B. **Oregon Plan, report, Tom Byler, 4 pp**
- C. **Watersheds, collection of stories, Tom Byler, 45 pp**
- D. **Watersheds, Oregon Plan, presentation materials, Tom Byler, 41 pp**