


State of Oregon  
Department of Environmental Quality

Memorandum

**Date:** June 30, 2017  
**To:** Environmental Quality Commission  
**From:** Richard Whitman, Director   
**Subject:** Agenda item K, Informational item: Commissioner roles  
July 11-13, 2017, EQC meeting

**Why this is important** Commissioners will discuss their roles on EQC and as potential liaisons to other state boards and commissioners.

**Background information** The Environmental Quality Commission has formal liaison relationships with the Board of Agriculture, Board of Forestry, Water Resources Commission and Land Conservation and Development Commission. In each case, a member of each body attends the other to facilitate communication and collaboration among boards and commissions with regulatory co-responsibilities or areas of intersecting authority. There is also a seat designated for an EQC commissioner on the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board.

This item is an opportunity for commissioners to discuss their interests related to these liaison roles.

**EQC involvement** Commissioners may take action to formalize the liaison roles at this, or future, EQC meetings.

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Item K  
Board and commission descriptions  
July 11-13, 2017, EQC meeting

The Oregon Environment Quality Commission has formal liaison relationships with four other state boards or commissions: Agriculture, Forestry, Water Resources and Land Conservation and Development. EQC also has a representative seat on the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board.

### **Board of Agriculture**

The 10-member State Board of Agriculture advises the Oregon Department of Agriculture on policy issues, develops recommendations on key agricultural issues, and provides advocacy of the state's agriculture industry in general.

State law requires seven of the appointed members to be farmers or ranchers who represent different segments of agriculture; two board members must represent consumers; and, the 10th member is the chair of the Soil and Water Conservation Commission. The ODA director and dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University serve as ex-officio members of the board without the right to vote.

The board issues a biennial report to the Governor and Legislative Assembly regarding the status of Oregon's agriculture industry. The board meets quarterly at various locations around the state.

### **Board of Forestry**

The Oregon Board of Forestry is a seven-member citizen Board is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the state Senate. The mission of the Board is to lead Oregon in implementing policies and programs that promote sustainable management of Oregon's public and private forests.

The Board:

- Supervises all matters of forest policy within Oregon
- Appoints the State Forester
- Adopts rules regulating forest practices
- Provides general supervision of the State Forester's duties in managing ODF

No more than three members may receive any significant portion of their income from the forest products industry. At least one member must reside in each of the state's three major forest regions northern, southern, and eastern. The term of office is four years and no member may serve more than two consecutive full terms. The State Forester serves as secretary to the Board.

## **Water Resources Commission**

The Water Resources Commission consists of seven members who represent different areas of the state and set the rules and policies for the Water Resources Department.

## **Land Conservation and Development Commission**

Oregon's seven-member Land Conservation and Development Commission, assisted by DLCD, adopts state land-use goals and implements rules, assures local plan compliance with the goals, coordinates state and local planning, and manages the coastal zone program.

The Commissioners are unpaid citizen volunteers appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Commissioners are appointed to four-year terms and may not serve for more than two full terms. The statute establishing the Commission, ORS 197.030, also directs that the members be representative of certain regions of the state, and that there be a current or former elected official of a city and a county. The Commission meets every other month to direct the work of DLCD.

## **Watershed Enhancement Board**

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board is a state agency that provides grants. It is led by a 17 member policy oversight board.

Of the Board's seventeen members, eleven are voting members. Voting members include:

- At least one tribal representative
- Five citizen representatives
- One member each from the following Oregon boards and commissions:
  - Board of Forestry
  - Board of Agriculture
  - Environmental Quality Commission
  - Fish and Wildlife Commission
  - Water Resources Commission

Six are non-voting Board members. Five represent federal natural resource agencies with expertise in forest and agricultural land management, water quality, and salmon recovery, and one represents the Oregon State University Extension Service.

The Board meets four times a year to act on applications for funds to accomplish watershed restoration activities, and is responsible for establishing Oregon's long-term strategy for achieving sustainable watershed health.