

Drinking Water Advisory Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2014
Keizer

Members Present

Ed Butts, Oregon Association of Water Utilities
Sarah Chaplen, League of Women Voters of Oregon
Jenifer George, Oregon Environmental Health Association
Celeste Hari, Privately Owned Water Systems
Beth Myers, Oregon Environmental Lab Association
Annette Pampush, Conference of Local Health Officials
Jason Pulley, Large Water Systems
Brian Rigwood, Pacific NW Section, American Water Works Association
Brian Stahl, League of Oregon Cities

Members Absent

Paul Berg, American Council of Engineering Companies
Teresa Huntsinger, Environmental Advocacy Groups
Ray Johnson, Plumbers/Backflow Testers
Matt Michel, Special Districts Association of Oregon

Guests

David Barnett, Infrastructure Finance Authority
Jeremy McVeety, Infrastructure Finance Authority
Dennis Morjan, Analytical Laboratory Group
Chris Wanner, Portland Water Bureau
Rory White, Analytical Laboratory Group

Staff

Brad Daniels
Tony Fields
Dave Leland
Diane Weis

To Do:

- Work with Drinking Water Services staff to put approved lab list back on website: Tony Fields
- Compile list of five goals to work on at future meetings: Committee

Welcome/Agenda Check:

Brian Stahl welcomed the group and led introductions.

January Meeting Minutes:

Brian Rigwood made motions to approve the minutes, Beth Myers seconded. They were voted on and approved.

Member Concerns:

Beth Myers noted that the current approved lab list was not on the Drinking Water Services website any longer. Tony Fields will check into that.

Program Update:

- Lead Reduction Act – Took effect in January. States must adopt new lead-free definition (0.25%) in both public water system rules and state plumbing code, or 5% of Primacy funding to Drinking Water Services could be withheld.
- Department of Forestry – Herbicide use on the coast is a public issue because of concerns about its impact on drinking water.
- New Contaminants – EPA is required to consider at least 5 contaminants for regulation every 5 years and make determinations to regulate or not.
- Rules – Primacy application for Revised Total Coliform Rule is due to EPA in February 2015, but rule does not take effect until April 2016.
- Primacy – The program has primacy for all required rules: Long Term 2 Surface Water Treatment Rule, Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Rule, Groundwater Rule, Lead & Copper Clarification Rule, and Variance Rule.
- Budget – Dave Leland reviewed the program's budget through the first quarter of the biennium. The program is on track with spending.
- Silver Falls Training – This was the 32nd year of the county/Department of Agriculture training. There were fewer people in attendance but the training went well.
- Water Systems –
 - In July 2013, Umatilla County asked Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to investigate the area north of the City of Milton-Freewater because of a potential health hazard due to E. coli from on-site and small public drinking water wells. OHA investigated and found that a danger to public health exists. Dave Leland met with Senator Hansell to talk about the health risks and next steps. A public hearing, possibly this fall, will determine if a health hazard exists, and if so the OHA can order the city to annex and serve the area without a vote.

- In Baker City, temporary UV light treatment is in place until permanent system is installed, hopefully by the end of this year.
- The City of Bend is building a membrane filtration system. Three systems in the state remain unfiltered.
- Staffing –
 - Lillian Shirley started in December as the Public Health Director.
 - Interviews will start soon for the deputy director position and the center administrator position. Dave Leland is still interim center administrator.
 - Interviews for Drinking Water Services' vacant environmental health specialist position will be April 22, with the hope of filling the position by June 1.
- ASDWA Winter Meeting – Main topics at the meeting were: Preparing for the Revised Total Coliform Rule, replacing SDWIS with SDWIS Prime, unliquidated funds for State Revolving Fund Program, 40th anniversary of Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA budget, and State Program Resource Needs Report.

Legislative Update:

In 2013, 14 bills were passed. Rules were adopted for first half of bills prior to 2014 Legislature. Rulemaking has resumed after session.

During the 2014 session, most of the legislative activity in the Center for Health Protection was on the medical marijuana program. Applications for medical marijuana dispensaries were accepted starting in March.

For the 2015 session, Radiation Protective Services has proposed to OHA a legislative concept to increase statutory caps on fees.

Oregon Resiliency Plan:

There was discussion as to whether the committee is in support of recommending to water systems to create an emergency preparedness plan in the event of disasters resulting in disruption of service.

Some ideas for getting the word out were to present the information at short schools and at ORWARN conferences.

The committee will discuss this further at the July meeting.

Revolving Fund Update:

City of Bend's membrane treatment plant is under construction and the project is receiving funds from the State Revolving Loan Fund.

Over \$250 million has been loaned out so far.

The Source Water Protection Letter of Interest will be on-line as a fillable pdf.

There were no major concerns identified in the Program Evaluation Report.

Next Meetings:

July 16, 2014 – Salem Willow Lake Wastewater Plant, Keizer (Program Update, SRF, Oregon Resiliency Plan, RTCR Rule Adoption, Goal of Group over Next Couple of Years)

October 15, 2014 – TBD