



Consortium Technical Committee Meeting Summary

MAY 28, 2025

CALLED TO ORDER: 1:30 PM

ADJOURNED: 3:00 PM

QUORUM PRESENT – YES – 14 MEMBERS

MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM/VIDEOCONFERENCE

Approval of April 2, 2025 Meeting Summary

Mike Grimm made a motion to approve the Consortium Technical Committee (CTC) April 2, 2025 meeting summary. Rich Sattler seconded the motion. The CTC unanimously approved the April 2, 2025 CTC meeting summary as presented (14:0:0).

Director's Report

Rebecca Geisen, Consortium Managing Director shared the following updates:

- Staffing Update – Rebecca announced her retirement beginning October 1, 2025. Rebecca will continue to work as a retiree part-time through the spring of 2026 to assist with the transition and finish up a few on-going projects. Patty Burk retired at the end of 2025 and has been working as a retiree. Patty will continue working as a retiree through June 2026. A recruitment update will be shared at the September meeting.
- Staffing IGA Update – The City of Portland has signed the Staffing IGA. The Board will be asked to consider and approve the staffing IGA at their meeting in June.
- Summer Supply Check-In – CTC members agreed that summer supply check-in meetings in July and August would be beneficial. Consortium staff will schedule.
- Legislative Update –
 - SB 1153 & 427 – Water rights transfer bill –both OWUC and LOC are actively working with the Governor's office to raise issues of water providers.
- Consortium Interconnection Workshop – The Consortium Interconnection workshop took place on May 20. Sixty people from 18 providers attended. The workshop included information on past work the Consortium has completed on the interconnections geodatabase and studies. There was a panel discussion on exercising interconnections and breakout groups by subregion to discuss intertie

ownership, agreements, SOPs and BMPs. Consortium staff will write up a workshop summary report and send it out.

- PSU Population and Household Forecast – The Portland State University Population and Household forecasts are now available. Rebecca sent out email with instructions on how to access.

Youth Education Program Discussion

Bonny Cushman, Consortium Program Manager shared where the Consortium is with their youth education program reboot efforts and led a discussion with the goal of clearly identifying next steps for how to proceed with youth education programming.

Prior to the discussion, Bonny provided attendees with more information on the outcomes from recent teacher focus groups, the top proposer for the youth education contract, and potential budget implications of reallocating budget from public outreach to fund youth education programming at approximately \$40-45k per year.

She also shared that after the April meeting, staff had added a third option for members to consider and that member input coming into this meeting continued to be split between the options. Below are the three options that were shared with members.

OPTION 1: REALLOCATE	OPTION 2 – REPURPOSE \$	OPTION 3 – WAIT TO DECIDE
• Pull \$32k from other public outreach programming to fund school program • Carry over \$12k from this fiscal year to defray start up costs/program costs FY 25-26	Possible ideas: • Targeted teacher outreach? • Create/Update Youth Ed materials (e.g. print, online, videos, Spanish translation) • Another direction: e.g. Workforce development • Other?	• More member input • Gives staff and members more time to • gather more information on proposed programs and options • consider options before making a big decision • Carry over \$12k from this fiscal year to defray start up costs/program costs FY 25-26
RESULTS		

- Decide May 28 CTC meeting - Continue school program implementation	- Decide May 28 CTC meeting - Stop school program implementation - New options @ September CTC Meeting	- Decide at September CTC meeting - Pauses school program development
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She also shared that staff were thinking about the following:

- Rebecca is retiring and Patty is now a working retiree through June 2026. Does hiring new staff and potentially rearranging existing staff's workload impact this decision point?
- Does it make sense to use the September meeting as an opportunity to revisit the Strategic Plan (2023-2028) and annual work plan to examine how we meet upcoming changes and shifting priorities (e.g. staffing, workforce development, deep dive discussion take aways)?
- Does it make sense to do a shorter contract (e.g. 3 years) for youth education during this transition phase?

Bonny's presentation slides will be sent out with these meeting notes.

Then CTC members went into small breakout groups to discuss the following questions:

- Are we committed to doing school programming?
- If so, should we select a new contractor to do programming now or would you like staff to look at the feasibility of doing school programming in-house with new staff?

Discussion Highlights:

- Members saw pros and cons to considering a staff-led position but felt like more information was needed before making that decision. If this option is considered, youth education would be part of the FTE, not all of it. One option could be to look at a Community Service Aid (CSA) position (these are part-time positions that do not have the full costs of a fulltime FTE) to support youth education programming or other programming.
- Some members seemed interested in the idea of doing a shorter-term contract with an option to extend
- Youth education is very important to some members while other members do not need Consortium programming because they have their own
- For some members, it made better sense to focus staff time and other resources on other work that the Consortium is already doing or considering how the resources currently allocated to youth education could be repurposed/refocused to different programming e.g. Workforce development.
- With increase in cost, do school programs still feel worth the price? In addition to school programs, the Consortium also has several print pieces and is a sponsor of the Children's Clean Water Festival as part of

its youth education programming. Some members proposed reexamining how this part of the budget could support programming that is regionwide rather than a school assembly-type program.

Next steps:

Although the group did not emerge from the discussion with a clear decision on which direction to take there was consensus to wait until fall to make any decisions. This will give staff time to consider develop staffing structure and programming concepts for the CTC to consider at their September meeting.

Children's Clean Water Festival – Due to time constraints, staff opted not to present this information at the meeting. The purpose of these slides was to give an overview of the Festival and the Consortium's role in helping to sponsor and organize it. Please reach out to Bonny with comments or questions.

Meeting Attendees:

Todd Heidgerken – Clackamas River Water

Andrew Degner – City of Gresham

Jessica Dorsey and Negar Niakan– City of Hillsboro

Dave Trotter – City of Lake Oswego

Steve Mauter – City of Milwaukie

Sarah Murphy Santner – City of Portland

Kari Duncan – Rockwood Water PUD

Ryan Wood – City of Sandy

Darryl Sykes – City of Scappoose

Rich Sattler – City of Sherwood

Brian Rager – City of Tigard

Rachel Sykes – City of Tualatin

Mike Grimm – West Slope Water District

Martin Montalvo – City of Wilsonville

Rebecca Geisen, Bonny Cushman, Riley Berger, and Patty Burk – Consortium Staff

Next CTC Meeting: September 3, 2025 via Zoom/videoconference.