

Consortium Technical Committee Meeting Summary

April 1, 2026



CALLED TO ORDER: 1:30 PM
ADJOURNED: 2:50 PM
QUORUM UNMET: 12 CTC MEMBERS PRESENT
MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM/VIDEOCONFERENCE

Approval of the January 7, 2026 Meeting Summary

The Consortium Technical Committee (CTC) did not approve the January 7, 2026 meeting summary as the committee did not meet quorum requirements. Approval of the January 7, 2026 meeting summary will be held over to the next CTC meeting.

Discussion Items

CTC, EC and Board Officer Recruitment

Jessica Dorsey advised that this year, the Consortium will be electing a new Board Chair and Vice Chair and three county representatives to the Executive Committee at the June Board meeting. Jessica encouraged CTC members to talk with their Board representative to see if they are interested in serving. Jessica noted that Consortium staff is putting together some one-pagers so that members know what is expected from each of these roles.

The CTC will also elect a new Chair and Vice Chair at their meeting in September. CTC members were asked to let Consortium staff know if they are interested in serving in either of those positions.

FY 2026-27 Consortium Work Plan

Bonny Cushman, Managing Director noted that there are several new initiatives in the FY 2026-27 Consortium work plan and sought input from CTC members on two specific projects; Consortium sponsored workshops/panel discussions and defining the Consortium's role and work focused on workforce development.

Four topics for potential workshop/panel discussions were proposed; micro-hydro projects, affordability programs, community engagement BMPs, and interconnections. CTC members discussed the proposed topics and were then asked to complete a survey poll ranking the topics in order of interest. The topics were evenly ranked with micro-hydro project and community engagement BMPs ranking slightly higher than affordability programs and interconnections.

Bonny advised that she will send the survey poll out to full CTC following the meeting to get additional input from members who were not in attendance.

Bonny noted that workforce development has been identified as a priority work area for the Consortium. Bonny advised that the Consortium has explored this topic at past CTC meetings

(Baywork), learned about regional programming, and created the operator webpage content. The next step is to define the Consortium's role in larger workforce development efforts and identify specific work/projects to complete. Bonny plans to set up a short-term working committee to work with Consortium staff over the summer to help define what the Consortium's role is with workforce development and to make recommendations for what types of work should be included in next year's work plan. This work will likely begin in May/June and the work group will meet via Teams meetings and through email. Wendy Andaya from Gresham and Janine Casey from Rivergrove volunteered to be on the committee.

June Consortium Board Meeting Draft Agenda

Bonny reviewed the June Consortium Board meeting draft agenda. Agenda items included approval of minutes, election of Board Chair, Vice Chair and Executive Committee county representatives, budget carryover resolution, director's report, project spotlight – What Do You Know About H2O activity book, and an Emergency Drinking Water Framework presentation. CTC members supported the agenda and directed Consortium staff to present it to the Executive Committee for their consideration.

Director's Report

Bonny shared the following updates:

Emergency Water Bags

Bonny reminded CTC members that the Consortium received an additional \$25,000 in reprogramming money as part of its UASI FY 23 grant funded Provision of Emergency Drinking Water Framework Phase II project. This grant funding was meant to purchase one-gallon emergency water bags. She explained that the vendor Consortium staff was working with to purchase the emergency water bags has been non-responsive and there is not time to find a new vendor and still meet the May 1, 2026 UASI grant deadline. As a result, Consortium staff recommended repurposing the grant funds to run a multilingual digital campaign with \$15,000 of the grant funds and return the remaining \$10,000 to the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization. In addition, Consortium staff is recommended using \$10,000 of the current fiscal year budget to support the purchase of emergency bags once a new vendor has been secured. CTC members were supportive of the Consortium staff recommendations.

Emergency Drinking Water Framework Phase II

Completed the fifth tabletop training exercise in Clackamas in March. Rebecca Geisen and the consultant are working on a summary report from the exercises which will be available later this spring. Rebecca will present the project at the June Consortium Board meeting.

What Do You Know About H2O Activity Book

Held a teacher listening session to gather input on the working draft and are currently working with five teachers to finalize page content focused on math and writing. Also working with a group of teachers to develop concrete examples and language that will be used to build a teacher resource guide. Working with the graphic designer to incorporate edits/input from members, students, and teachers.

Workforce development

Trust Your Tap Project

The request for proposal is out for bid. Bids are due April 17. This project may carry on into next fiscal year depending on how long it takes to review proposals and complete the contract.

Portland State University Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)

The IGA has been sent to PSU for signatures. This year's population and household estimates will be available in late April/early May.

Partner Briefings

- OWUC
 - Water Professionals Week – One of several workforce development bills this past session was HB 4005 passed and created a Water Professionals Week the first week of October.
 - Drought conditions report – According to the Water Resources Department, drought conditions are trending similar to 2015. This winter is one of the top three warmest winters on record and precipitation is predicted to be below normal April-June. OWUC shared the state's drought declaration process. Discussion were had on whether and when it would make sense to do a statewide declaration. The Consortium Technical Committee (CTC) had similar conversations leading up to and through the summer in 2015. Since that time, several resources and measures have been developed:
 - Summer Supply Meetings: Each summer the CTC checks in monthly about conditions and when/if curtailment actions are needed. This year, the CTC will be checking in at the June 17 CTC meeting and on July 8 and August 19.
 - Talking points: In 2015, WA declared a state-wide drought and many OR counties outside our region also had drought declarations. These messages were developed by the CTC and were intended be used to provide the public with consistent messaging from the Consortium and its members. Consistency in messaging within our shared media market was, and continues to be, an important goal.
 - Web page: Since that time, Consortium staff also worked with water provider members to develop this webpage which includes information on the region's main water sources and how each responds to drought conditions differently.
 - Conservation Tips: At the Curtail Your Enthusiasm Tabletop Exercise in 2021, Consortium members identified a need for having conservation messaging in multiple languages. Since then, the Consortium updated and translated its 10 Indoor and Outdoor Conservation tips pages and recently translated them into Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, and Chinese.
- Oregon Department of Human Services – Bonny met with Jeff Gilbert and Darlene Thao to make connection and learn about their work.
- Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization – Bonny met with Mark Ferdig to make connection and learn about their restructuring process.

Additional Updates

- Staffing structure and recruitment update – Working on shifting workloads to meet the new 3 FTE model. Restructuring the Management Assistant position. Had hoped to hire this position this spring, but the process has been delay due to potential City of Portland layoffs and bumping positions in late spring and through the summer.
- Conservation & Communications Committee – Over the past year, the Consortium held joint meetings with the CCC and the WCN. This has worked well, so Bonny is planning to make this permanent and rename the combined committee.
- Transition Steering Committee –The committee has had one meeting and will meet three more times through June. Bonny noted that it has been very helpful to have this sounding board and they are tackling several topics that she will bring back to the CTC later this year.
- Rate survey: Patty will send out information for the annual update of the Residential Water Use Cost Survey.
- 2026 Healthcare EM Summit Speaker request: The Portland-area hospital Emergency Managers are hosting their third annual Healthcare EM Summit on September 29-30. They are looking for presenters to share realistic expectations of water outage/restoration across the hospitals. TVWD and Portland are in contact with the event organizers.
- One-on-One Member meetings with Bonny – Patty will be in contact to set these up with CTC members and staff. Looking at doing these meetings May through September.

Member Updates

City of Hillsboro – This summer Hillsboro will be reviewing their leak adjustment policies. Jessica is looking for examples of what other members are doing with regard to leak adjustments and who would be willing to share their policies.

Clackamas River Water – CRW hired a new General Manager, Farshad Allahdadi. Farshad served on the leadership team of the City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) where he lead the bureau's strategic planning, financial strategy, and business operations.

Meeting Attendees

Member	Staff
Beaverton, City of	David Winship and Brian Diaz
Clackamas River Water	Todd Heidgerken
Gladstone, City of	Justin Poyser
Gresham, City of	Wendy Andaya
Hillsboro, City of	Jessica Dorsey, <i>CTC Chair</i>
Lake Oswego, City of	Dave Trotter
Milwaukie, City of	Steve Mauter
Rivergrove Water District	Janine Casey
Rockwood Water PUD	Jeremy Hudson
Sherwood, City of	Rich Sattler
Sunrise Water Authority	Jamey Piezold
Wilsonville, City of	Martin Montalvo

Other Attendees

- Bonny Cushman, Regional Water Providers Consortium
- Patty Burk, Regional Water Providers Consortium
- Riley Berger – Regional Water Providers Consortium

Next Meeting of the Consortium Technical Committee

June 17, 2023 via Zoom/videoconference