



Consortium Technical Committee Meeting Summary

APRIL 6, 2022 CALLED TO ORDER: 1:33 PM ADJOURNED: 3:18 PM

QUORUM PRESENT – YES – 15 MEMBERS

MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM/VIDEOCONFERENCE

Approval of March 2, 2022 Meeting Summaries

Todd Heidgerken made a motion to approve the March 2, 2022 meeting summary as presented. Sarah Jo Chaplen seconded the motion. The March 2, 2022 meeting summary was unanimously approved as presented. (15:0:0)

Oregon Department of Energy

Maya Buchanan and Deanna Henry from the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) joined the Consortium Technical Committee meeting to share information about the role of ODOE, their Biennial Energy Report and Energy Security Plan and to learn more about the needs and issues facing water providers around emergency fuel supplies.

Maya gave a brief overview of ODOE's mission. ODOE helps Oregonians make informed decisions and maintain a resilient and affordable energy system. They advance solutions to shape an equitable clean energy transition, protect the environment and public health, and responsibly balance energy needs and impacts for current and future generations. The Oregon Department of Energy achieves its mission by providing a central repository of energy data, information, and analysis; a venue for problem-solving Oregon's energy challenges; provides energy education and technical assistance; provides regulation and oversight; and conducts energy programs and activities.

Maya shared information on ODOE's recent climate initiatives including Governor Brown's Executive Order 20-04 which gives every agency and many board and commissions the encouragement to use their authority to identify ways to decarbonize their systems, increase resilience and create more connections to work together; House Bill 2021 (100% Clean Electricity) which decarbonizes electricity by 2040; and the Climate Protection Program which is a cap and reduction program focused on transportation, fuel providers, home heating fuels, and large industrial stationary sources. Maya reported that ODOE's work is focused on saving energy, cleaning up transportation fuels, enhancing reliability and resilience, and decarbonizing the energy mix.

Maya noted that for the past year, she has been working with the Global Warming Commission on the Roadmap to 2035 project. The Oregon Global Warming Commission is working to analyze and identify actions across all sectors that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions while continuing to grow Oregon's economy and enhance

equity and quality of life for all Oregonians. These potential actions are to serve as inputs for consideration by the Governor, legislature, and policy makers to develop a plan for Oregon to meet its GHG emissions reduction targets, known as the Roadmap to 2035.

Maya shared information about ODOE's Climate Vulnerability Assessment. The Assessment will help to develop a state-level framework that will inform state and energy entities' resilience work; identify key hotspots in need of support; and provide guidance and context for other sectors and entities. This work will dovetail with the Energy Security Plan.

Deanna provided an overview of Oregon's fuel resilience and ODOE's authorities and responsibilities during state declared emergencies. It is ODOE's responsibility to have a state-wide plan in place to provide adequate fuel supply to maintain emergency services – transportation systems, the economy, and to protect public health and safety. Deanna advised that this is especially important because Oregon is extremely vulnerable to any severe or long term disruption of fuel or shortages. Oregon does not have any refining capabilities and imports 100% of the refined fuel in the State. Oregon receives more than 90 percent of its refined petroleum products from four refineries in the Puget Sound area of Washington state. The refineries transport their products to Oregon through the Olympic Pipeline and by barge. The bulk of Oregon's oil enters through the Port of Portland to seven petroleum delivery stations located on the Willamette River near Swan Island. Understanding these vulnerabilities and the significant impacts to the fuel distribution system during an emergency, i.e., Cascadia event, the Oregon Fuel Action Plan was developed. The Oregon Fuel Action Plan outlines how ODOE would respond in an emergency that could affect access to fuel. The Plan addresses how they would access gasoline and diesel in Oregon, and how they would distribute fuel to state emergency services such as law enforcement, fire, and medical services, and to essential service providers that include utilities, telecommunications, public works, public transit, and sanitation services.

Deanna noted that the Plan includes a standardized structure that identifies three categories of priority fuel users – 18 Emergency Support Function Primary State Agencies, 36 Counties and 9 Federally-Recognized Tribes. All fuel requests during an emergency would filter through these users. Deanna noted that currently ODOE is going through a process to identify all critical missions over each of the sectors that require fuel to create a comprehensive list to assist state, local and tribal leadership better understand the difficult decisions that will have to be made to determine who gets priority fuel when it is in short supply. ODOE is looking to water providers to help ODOE identify what their fuel sector needs are during emergencies. The Oregon Fuel Action Plan is scalable for all-hazards. Deanna noted that ODOE is interested in learning how water providers are planning for emergencies; how water providers ensure on-going operations during extended power outages; and how ODOE can support water providers in preparing for emergencies.

Deanna provided an overview of the State Energy Security Plan which came out of the federal infrastructure bill and Senate Bill 1567. The Plan requires ODOE to complete an assessment of hazards to state energy systems; propose a risk mitigation approach; and collaborate regionally with neighboring states and key state, local, and tribal governments and public-private sector energy providers. The Plan is to be completed by June 2024. Deanna noted that water providers will be key stakeholders in the Plan development.

A question and answer session followed the presentation. CTC members and staff thanked Maya and Deanna for their presentation.

Director Report

Provision of Emergency Drinking Water Tabletop Exercise: Rebecca Geisen, Consortium Managing Director reported that the table top exercise for the Provision of Emergency Drinking Water was held last week. 17 Consortium members along with the City of Canby, Clark County PUD, Columbia County and the City of Vancouver attended the exercise. An after action report will be done and a survey will be sent to participants to get their feedback on the exercise. Rebecca thanked attendees for their participation. The project consultants are currently working on drafting the chapter that will have the list of policy recommendations and the framework portion.

Curtailment Tabletop Exercise: The Consortium is hosting a curtailment tabletop exercise on June 2, 2022. The planning committee is comprised of representatives from all of the Consortium working committees and is working on developing the scenario for the exercise. The name of the exercise is Curtail Your Enthusiasm.

Public Meetings: Rebecca mentioned that now that the Governor's emergency declaration for COVID-19 has been lifted, some of the public meeting laws that were suspended around virtual meetings are now back in play. Specifically, meetings of boards, councils and commissions must provide an opportunity for the public to attend the meeting both virtually and in person, including a physical location. Consortium staff is trying to figure out how this may impact Consortium Board meetings and will be engaging with the Executive Committee for their thoughts.

GIS Water Service Area Boundary Map Update: Rebecca shared that the water provider map boundaries have been updated. The updates have been sent to members as well as Portland State University, so they have the new boundaries for updating the population and household estimates that they complete annually for Consortium members. Rebecca advised that in the past, the Consortium has shared the boundary map with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). CTC members were supportive of continuing to share the information with OHA.

Other Updates:

- Consortium staff is ramping up for the update of the Consortium Strategic Plan. The current plan runs through 2023.
- City of Sandy has a new Public Works Director, Jenny Coker. Rebecca and Bonny met with Jenny and staff to share information about the Consortium and its resources.
- Consortium staff will be putting together a master Consortium Committees contact list. Will be sending out to members to help populate.
- RDPO has funded a project working with fire, public works and emergency management agencies to get permissions from the FAA to fly drones over 400 feet and below 1200 feet.
- On May 24, Andy Bryant, Service Hydrologist from NOAA will give a virtual presentation on summer water supply and streamflow and provide the latest outlook for summer temperatures. A meeting invite will be sent out to all Consortium committee members.
- The 2022 USAI project packages did not include anything related to water.

Program Updates

Bonny Cushman, Consortium Program Coordinator mentioned that the development of a Russian language radio ad and website landing page that is part of next fiscal year's work plan has been put on pause due to the war in Ukraine. The community engagement liaison team slated to do this work has been pulled away to other priority work that will likely continue into next year. This effort will be moved to FY 2023-24. The funds allocated for this work will be reallocated to outreach efforts for the emergency preparedness how-to-videos.

Bonny mentioned that results from the recent AMI survey are now available. Survey results and additional information will be sent to Consortium members following the meeting.

Bonny noted that this month's member toolkit is focused on Water Week showcasing water and how it ties into infrastructure legislative actions and bills. Bonny encouraged CTC members to share this toolkit with their Boards, Councils and Commissions. The toolkit has been sent out to the Consortium working committees and is available on the Consortium website member page.

The Weekly Watering Number (WWN) widget will begin again on April 14. The WWN goes out weekly via email and text to those that have sign up to receive it from April through October.

Bonny has begun coordinating radio and television shoots and interview for the summer media campaign. The first television interview was shot today at Rockwood Water PUD and included three things people should know about regional water supplies. The spot is scheduled to air May 7. Bonny asked for member volunteer locations and spokespeople for future interviews and media opportunities.

June Consortium Board Draft Agenda

Rebecca reviewed the June Consortium Board meeting draft agenda. Agenda items included approval of minutes, board elections including Chair, Vice-Chair and County Executive Committee members, carryover resolution, director's report, program updates, and a placeholder presentation. Potential topics for the presentation included highlights from the past 25 years in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Consortium and roundtable member sharing. CTC members had no further suggestions for topics and recommended Consortium staff work with the Executive Committee to finalize the agenda at their meeting next week.

Member Roundtable

CTC members participated in a member roundtable discussion to share updates. A prompt question was provided to facilitate discussion – What is your biggest challenge filling vacancies and how are you addressing it?

West Slope Water District:

- Have not had a lot of vacancies to fill except current finance manager is retiring but a replacement has already been found. Fortunate to find a high quality candidate.

City of Portland:

- Recently completed two executive level recruitments – one went smoothly, the other more challenging to find quality candidates. Recruitments took much longer than anticipated but hired two very talented work group directors.

City of Tigard:

- Still have not found replacement for John Goodrich, Utility Manager. Reworking job description to be just water manager (previous position managed water, sewer and storm water). City wide having a hard time finding engineering candidates.

City of Gresham:

- Partnered with City community services houseless program outreach staff to hand out applications for seasonal positions to people experiencing houselessness.

Rockwood Water PUD:

- Recently hired new Government Affairs Coordinator. Recruitment for that position went well. Had good pool of candidates. Have had challenges hiring qualified utility workers. Has been interesting finding a balance with more and more candidates seeking hybrid work opportunities.

Meeting Attendees:

David Winship – City of Beaverton

Todd Heidgerken – Clackamas River
Water

Greg Robertson – City of Forest Grove

Andrew Degner – City of Gresham

Jessica Dorsey – City of Hillsboro

Bret Bienerth – City of Lake Oswego

Edward Campbell – City of Portland

Kari Duncan – Rockwood Water PUD

Wyatt Parno – South Fork Water Board

Sarah Jo Chaplen and Jeff Page – Oak
Lodge Water Services

Brian Rager – City of Tigard

Rachel Sykes – City of Tualatin

Nick Augustus – Tualatin Valley Water
District

Mike Grimm – West Slope Water
District

Delora Kerber – City of Wilsonville

Maya Buchanan and Deanna Henry -
ODOE

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

Next CTC Meeting: Wednesday, August 3, 2022 via Zoom/videoconference.