



Consortium Board Meeting Agenda

DATE: Oct 7, 2026
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

HOW: This meeting will be held remotely via Zoom
Attendees Please Turn Cameras On

Consortium Overview Refresher 6:10 – 6:25 p.m. (same Zoom link)

Goal: To provide new or existing Board members with an overview of the Consortium and its work prior to the Board meeting.

Agenda

Introductions (5 minutes)

Approval of Consortium Board Meeting Summary for June 3 2026 (5 minutes)

Public Comment (5 minutes)

Election of Officers – All (10 minutes)

Goal: To elect one at-large member to serve a two-year term to the Consortium Executive Committee.

Staff Report – Bonny Cushman, Managing Director (5 minutes)

Goal: To inform Consortium Board members on the status of Consortium projects, committees, and other work.

2027-2028 Budget and Work Plan Discussion (20 minutes)

Goal: To gather Board input on two proposed FY 27-28 Budget and Work Plan concepts options.

Desired goal: Consortium staff have a clear understanding of the Board's priorities including which option(s) to continue to develop and direction on how much of a percentage increase to the Consortium and member dues budgets.

Project Spotlight: PSU Population and Household Estimates (40 minutes)

- Introduction
- Project Overview: Ethan Sharygin, Population Research Center at Portland State University
- Emma Martin, City of Hillsboro & Joint Water Commission
- Janine Casey, Rivergrove Water District
- Ben Beal, Portland Water Bureau

Next Meeting Date/Location:
February 3, 2027/via Zoom/videoconference

Consortium Board Meeting Summary

June 3, 2026



CALLED TO ORDER: 6:32 PM

ADJOURNED: 8:04 PM

QUORUM MET: 14 Board members present

Approval of the February 4, 2026 Meeting Summary

Commissioner Gary Barth made a motion to approve the February 4, 2026 Consortium Board meeting summary as presented. Councilor Bridget Brooks seconded the motion. The Consortium Board approved the February 4, 2026 Consortium Board meeting summary as presented (13:0:0).

Public Comment

None

Election of Officers

Bonny Cushman, Managing Director, informed Consortium Board members that elections for the Board Chair and Vice-Chair were needed. Article 4 of the Consortium bylaws contains the procedural requirements for officers. It states that the Board shall have at least a Chair and a Vice-Chair and that they must come from two different counties. The term of both offices is one-year with the possibility of a consecutive second year upon re-election.

Chair Brouse and Vice-Chair Barth completed their second year of service in their respective roles and are therefore not eligible to serve another term.

Chair Brouse opened the meeting for nominations for Board Chair.

Commissioner Naomi Angier nominated Commissioner Gary Barth for Board Chair. Councilor Mitch Green seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The Consortium Board unanimously approved the nomination of Commissioner Gary Barth for Board Chair. (13:0:0)

Chair Brouse opened nominations for Board Vice-Chair.

Councilor Mitch Green nominated Councilor Bridget Brooks for Board Vice-Chair. Commissioner Gary Barth seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The Consortium Board unanimously approved Councilor Bridget Brooks for Vice-Chair. (13:0:0)

Ms. Cushman reported that in addition to the Chair and Vice-Chair elections, the Board needed to elect new county representative Executive Committee (EC) members. Membership is entity specific; allowing the entity's Board alternate to attend and vote at EC meetings. The terms of office for these positions are two years and the Board is allowed to appoint consecutive terms for county representative members at its pleasure. Ms. Cushman advised that the EC meets three to four times a year in advance of the Consortium Board meetings. The EC's main roles are to identify major policy issues, the annual budget and work plan, and make recommendations to the Board.

Board members caucused by county. Board members representing Clackamas County appointed Commissioner Heidi Bullock from Oak Lodge Water Services. Board members representing Washington County appointed Commissioner Jim Duggan from Tualatin Valley Water District. There were not enough Board members from Multnomah County present to caucus. The appointment of the Multnomah County EC representative was held over to the October Consortium Board meeting.

Managing Director's Report

Bonny Cushman, Managing Director shared the following program and project updates:

Tri-Annual Activity Report: A detailed tri-annual activity report was included in the meeting materials packet. Board members were encouraged to look over the report for information on activities conducted since the last Board meeting in February.

PSU Population and Household Estimates/Forecast Project: The Consortium has had an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Portland State University/Population Research Center since 2013. PSU is the statewide expert on this work and completes similar work for most of the cities and counties in Oregon. The Consortium's current IGA runs through the end of June. A new IGA which just completed the signature process goes through 2031. The total cost for the project is \$89,742 which includes annual estimates and one forecast through 2067. Ms. Cushman mentioned that this project is a great example of how the Consortium can do cooperative purchases on behalf of Consortium members. In this case, members have apple to apples data sets to work with and realize cost savings by working together.

Staffing Plan: Ms. Cushman has been working with City of Portland's Human Resources and Water Bureau staff to recruit for the Consortium's Analyst I position which is currently filled by Patty Burk. Ms. Cushman noted that right now is a difficult time to recruit at the City since they are experiencing reductions in force which are also causing bumping. Ms. Cushman advised that she had hoped to have the recruitment completed by this spring, but it is looking more likely that this will occur sometime this summer. Patty's status has been extended through the end of this calendar year to cover this transition time.

Partnerships: Ms. Cushman has begun meeting with regional partners. She noted that these meetings have been a great way to introduce herself, connect with partner staff in her new role, and to learn a little more about how the Consortium and regional partners work together. Ms. Cushman is also

conducting one-on-one meetings with each Consortium member. She hopes to have them completed by fall and will circle back with what she's learned afterwards.

Regional Coordination: Consortium staff were accepted to speak at the Oregon Environment Short School in July and the AWWA WaterSmart Innovations Conference in October. They will be presenting about the how the Consortium is a success story in regional collaboration at both and showcasing the What Do You Know About H2O activity book at the WaterSmart Innovations conference. The Consortium regularly presents at Short School. Ms. Cushman noted that this is a great way for the Consortium to share projects with water provider staff from across the region and support ongoing professional development since attendees can earn CEUs.

Summer Outlook 2026

Over the past several months, Ms. Cushman has attended the Oregon Water Utility Council (OWUC) and one of the topics that has been covered at those meetings is the State's upcoming summer water supply. The discussions have focused on the warm winter and dry spring. At the time of the Consortium Board meeting twelve Oregon counties had drought declarations; although none in the northwest region and statewide drought conditions have been declared in Washington and Idaho.

Ms. Cushman advised that the Consortium runs an annual media campaign each summer and will be kicking off this year's campaign the week after July 4th. She explained that since drought is already in the headlines and the region operates in a shared media market, the campaign give the Consortium an opportunity to share information with the public about our region's resilient water sources and how water providers work together to collaboratively manage the region's water supplies; to highlight that water supplies and how they respond to drought conditions vary widely; and to invite the public to learn more about where their water comes from and what they can do to use water wisely this summer.

Ms. Cushman noted that over the years, the Consortium has developed several outreach resources to help members communicate about ways to conserve water during the summertime and to learn about the region's water supplies. The Consortium's conservation materials are available in six languages and they send out the Weekly Watering Number by email and text. Ms. Cushman mentioned that the Consortium also has several other online resources and tools for the public to learn more about their drinking water including the Our Region's Water/Summer Supply web pages and the Drinking Water Advisory Lookup Tool which helps them know who their provider is.

FY 2026-27 Carryover Resolution

Ms. Cushman reminded Consortium Board members that in the FY 2025-26 Consortium budget, there was \$35,000 budgeted for the Trust Your Tap project. The goal of this project is to collect more localized information about perceptions of drinking water and barriers to use. Ms. Cushman advised that they had hoped to have the project completed this spring but due to the large number of proposals they received the selection process and contracting is taking longer than anticipated. As a result, Ms.

Cushman asked the Consortium Board to carry over the \$35,000 in the Consortium budget from FY 2025-26 to the FY 2026-27 budget year.

In addition, Consortium staff asked to carry over \$10,000 for emergency water bags and \$24,000 for the completing and printing of the What Do You Know About H2O Activity Books. Both of these projects are anticipated to be completed this summer. The total carryover amount requested was \$69,000.

Commissioner Gary Barth made a motion to approve a budget carryover of \$69,000 from the FY 2025-26 Consortium Budget and Work Plan to the FY 2026-27 Consortium Budget and Work Plan.

Commissioner Naomi Angier seconded the motion. The Consortium Board unanimously approved the motion to approve a budget carryover of \$69,000 from the FY 2025-26 Consortium Budget and Work Plan to the FY 2026-27 Consortium Budget and Work Plan. (13:0:0)

Project Spotlight: What Do You Know About H2O Activity Book

Ms. Cushman advised that the “What Do You Know About H2O” activity book was originally created in 2006 and has gone through a complete overhaul this past year. The activity book targets 3rd to 5th graders and can be used in the classroom or at home. Consortium staff worked with Consortium committee members and a graphic designer to completely rework the content and design to align with the Consortium brand. The color palette was updated and existing art and mascots were used whenever possible. The content is now organized by topic, e.g., water sources, conservation, vocabulary, etc. The Consortium partnered with Tinker LLC to host two teacher work sessions to gather practical input from educators on how to best present math and writing content in the workbook. This was the first time input from teachers and students was sought. Ms. Cushman provided an overview of the content and several of the activities in the activity book.

The activity book is in its final review and editing. Printing and distribution is expected to be completed in July. Each Consortium member will receive a start-up supply of activity books and will have the opportunity to order additional books if desired. Copies will be sent to Consortium Technical Committee and Board members.

Next steps for this project include:

- Development of teacher worksheets – writing and math worksheets, accompanying teacher resource packet with information gleaned from listening session on how to use these materials in the classroom.
- Repurposing content to use online – There is so much content, especially graphic that will be able to be used on the Consortium website and social media.
- Creating and implementing a marketing plan to get these resources out to schools
- Presenting the project at WaterSmart Innovations Conference in October 2026
- Translating the activity book into Spanish

Emergency Drinking Water Framework Presentations

Rebecca Geisen, retired Consortium Managing Director joined the Consortium Board meeting to present on Phase II of the Emergency Drinking Water Framework Plan.

Ms. Geisen explained that there has been significant investment in emergency drinking water planning by the Consortium over the last 20+ years. This work started with changes to the Safe Drinking Water Act after 9/11 (and updates in 2018) and was further supported by the completion of the Oregon Resilience Plan (ORP) in 2013. The ORP assessed the vulnerability of buildings, transportation, energy, communication, and water/wastewater systems, and set performance targets for each sector to achieve resilience over the next 50 years. The Framework Plan is one of the Consortium's many recent investments in emergency planning which also included a regional water system interconnections study; the purchase of ten mobile water treatment systems, nine water distribution trailers and three portable pipe systems; several emergency preparedness trainings, tabletops, and drills; and multi-lingual, multi-media public outreach. This work has been funded by approximately \$2 million in USAI grant funds and \$250,000 in Consortium funds.

Phase I of the Drinking Water Framework Plan was completed in November 2022. During this phase, the consultant reviewed Consortium member plans, state and federal regulations and recommendations, and plans from US and Canada; researched document roles and responsibilities around the delivery of emergency drinking water from federal to local level; and looked at the UASI region population and calculated a base water need for the region assuming two gallons per person per day. Through a comprehensive survey and interviews, they assessed emergency water supply sources from resilient infrastructure and other emergency drinking water sources; quantified gaps in emergency drinking water supply; and developed regional recommendations by sector (water provider, county, state).

Ms. Geisen advised that after the Framework Plan was completed, Consortium staff brought together stakeholders to identify next steps to begin implementing some of the recommendations – focused on what the Consortium could do that would benefit the region and support more local planning. Phase II of the Framework plan was a direct result of this stakeholder work.

During Phase II, UASI and Consortium funds were used to hold workshops/tabletop training exercises to facilitate collaboration and planning between county emergency management, public health, and drinking water providers. Five county (Clackamas, Clark, Columbia, Multnomah and Washington counties) exercises were conducted. The five counties had different strengths and gaps in emergency drinking water planning so the project was tailored to support county and water providers where they are at in their planning. The goal of these workshops was to strengthen coordination, clarify roles and responsibilities, test assumptions, and identify steps to ensure emergency drinking water following a major disaster; provide opportunity to discuss emergency water sources, availability, storage, treatment, and distribution strategy; and to discuss how emergency drinking water demands will be evaluated and reconciled with available water resources and water distribution systems.

Ms. Geisen provided an overview of lessons learned and next steps for the three county (Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington) workshops that are in the Consortium service area region.

Meeting Attendees

Member	Representative	Staff
Beaverton, City of	Councilor Kevin Teater	
Clackamas River Water	Commissioner Naomi Angier	Todd Heidgerken
Cornelius, City of		
Forest Grove, City of		Greg Robertson
Gladstone, City of		
Gresham, City of		Mike Whitely
Hillsboro, City of	Councilor Jim Yent	
Lake Grove Water District		
Lake Oswego, City of		
Milwaukie, City of	Councilor Robert Massey	
Oak Lodge Water Services	Commissioner Kevin Williams	
Portland, City of	Councilor Mitch Green	Ting Lu, Rebecca Geisen
Raleigh Water District		
Rivergrove Water District		Janine Casey
Rockwood Water PUD		Jeremy Hudson
Sandy, City of	Councilor Kristina Ramseyer	Ryan Wood
Scappoose, City of	Associate members do not have Board representation.	
Sherwood, City of	Councilor Renee Brouse Chair, Consortium Board	Rich Sattler
South Fork Water Board		
Sunrise Water Authority	Commissioner Gary Barth Vice-Chair, Consortium Board	
Tigard, City of	Councilor Tom Anderson	
Troutdale, City of		
Tualatin, City of	Councilor Bridget Brookes	
Tualatin Valley Water District	Commissioner Jim Duggan	
West Slope Water District	Commissioner Paul Schuler	Ken Ackerman
Wilsonville, City of	Councilor Sam Scull	Martin Montalvo

Other Attendees

Bonny Cushman, Regional Water Providers Consortium
Patty Burk, Regional Water Providers Consortium
Riley Berger, Regional Water Providers Consortium
Kathleen Holt, Holt Strategies LLC

Consortium members agencies not represented by elected officials at this meeting included the City of Cornelius, City of Forest Grove, City of Gladstone, City of Gresham, Lake Grove Water District, City of Lake Oswego, Raleigh Water District, Rivergrove Water District, Rockwood Water PUD, South Fork Water Board, and City of Troutdale.

Next Meeting of the Consortium Board

October 7, 2026, 6:30PM – 8:00PM

Consortium Executive Committee Information Sheet



Thank you for your interest in serving as a member of the Consortium's Executive Committee! This document includes information on what you can expect to do in this role. We are happy to share the full bylaws if you would like to see them as well.

About the Executive Committee: The Consortium's Executive Committee (EC) is a subset of the Board. It consists of the Board Chair and six Consortium Board members that are appointed by the Board. The EC is intended to mirror the larger Board's make-up by geographic location and agency type.
Meeting frequency and time commitment: The EC meets up to four times a year in a year in September, December, January, and April. All meetings are online and one and a half hours (1.5) in length. Estimated time commitment is a maximum of 6-8 hours annually.
Terms: The term of office on the EC is two years. The Board may appoint consecutive terms at its pleasure except for the Chair, which runs concurrent with the term of the Board Chair. In even-numbered years, the Board will caucus by county to select their representative to the EC. In odd-numbered years at-large EC members will be selected based on an open nomination.
Officer: The Consortium Board Chair is also the Chair of the EC. If the Board Chair is not present, the EC will appoint a temporary chair for that meeting. The Board Chair alternate may attend and vote at the EC meetings but does not Chair the EC meetings.
Vacancies:
Purpose: The purpose and function of this committee is designated by the Board. The EC is directed to:
Review recommendations from CTC on: Board agenda; annual budget and work plan; legislative proposals, bills, rules, etc.; and other policy initiatives
Assist the Board in timely and meaningful policy action as needed and directed by the Board
Review the proposed annual Consortium Work Plan and Budget prior to Board action and make recommendations to Board. Make recommendations to the Board on use of Budget carryovers
Initiate review of the Strategic Plan and make recommendations to the Board for revisions and updates
Review Oregon legislative proposals, bills, rules and relevant Federal programs or laws provided by Consortium staff. Make recommendations to bring issues to the Board or act independently of the Board if a timely action is required.
Assist Board in dispute resolution under Article 9 of the Consortium Board bylaws as requested



Beaverton, City of
Clackamas River Water
Cornelius, City of
Forest Grove, City of
Gladstone, City of
Gresham, City of
Hillsboro, City of
Lake Grove Water District
Lake Oswego, City of
Milwaukie, City of
Oak Lodge Water Services
Portland, City of
Raleigh Water District
Rivergrove Water District
Rockwood Water PUD
Sandy, City of
Scappoose, City of
Sherwood, City of
South Fork Water Board
Sunrise Water Authority
Tigard, City of
Troutdale, City of
Tualatin, City of
Tualatin Valley Water District
West Slope Water District
Wilsonville, City of

1120 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 405
Portland, OR 97204
503-823-7528
www.regionalh2o.org

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Memorandum

October 7, 2026

To: Consortium Board
From: Bonny Cushman, Managing Director
Subject: Fiscal Year 2027-2028 Draft Proposal of Budget and Work Plan Concepts

Greetings Consortium Board Members,

We kicked off our budget and workplan process for Fiscal Year 2027-2028 by sharing draft concepts with the Consortium Technical Committee (CTC) at their meeting on September 2, 2026.

At that meeting, I asked the CTC to provide input on whether:

1. The estimated budget increases I'd outlined aligned with their expectations; and,
2. If they supported three new project concepts for FY 2027-2028.

CTC members discussed the concepts and requested that Consortium staff rework the initial proposal to minimize increases to the Consortium's budget and membership dues. They also requested staff provide them with two reworked budget and workplan drafts:

- Draft Option A: Flat member dues budget (no increase to dues)
- Draft Option B: Flat Consortium budget (1.3% dues increase)

Staff presented the reworked options to the Executive Committee (EC) on September 9, 2026 and the EC supported sharing the revised budget and work plan with the Board at its October meeting.

The purpose of this memo is to provide Consortium Board Members with the reworked budget and work plan options (A and B). The table on pages 3-7 summarizes the proposed changes and impacts necessary to create the two options.

A note on the annual budget and work plan development process and timeline:

It is important to note that this is the start of developing next year's budget and work plan. There will be several options for CTC and Executive Committee members to provide further input as we develop a final budget and work plan this fall. The Board adopts the annual budget and work plan at their February meeting.

Table of Budget Proposed Budget Scenarios:

	% Change in Consortium Budget	Carryover	Adjusted Member Dues* Budget
Levels proposed at CTC September 2026 meeting	3-5 % increase	\$165,436	5% increase
Option A – flat member dues	-1% decrease	\$165,436	0%
Option B – flat Consortium budget	0%	\$165,436	1.3% increase

** Individual member dues are determined by number of customer accounts and average daily water demand data. As a result, member dues can fluctuate and may not proportionally reflect the dues budget increase.*

Personnel Costs: Personnel costs are expected to go up for FY 2027-2028. Consortium staff used conservative placeholder estimates to develop its initial budget and work plan. We will get final staffing costs from City of Portland in December.

Materials and Services Costs: This area of the budget covers all administrative, program, and project costs of running the Consortium. The initial estimates shared with the CTC at their September meeting focused on reallocating **existing** budget and accounting for minor, anticipated increases. The new options (A and B) will result in **reductions** in the materials and services portion of the budget – most notably in our media campaigns and public outreach work.

A reminder about the future of carryover funds: It is anticipated that starting in FY 2028-2029 carryovers are likely to be greatly reduced. This is important because the Consortium has historically used carryover funds to defray membership dues. As the carryover shrinks in coming years, member dues will need to increase in order to continue to fund Consortium staff and programming. Staff are resharing this information now with the intent of ensuring that members know ahead of time that we anticipate these future budget impacts.

Background information: Consortium staff recommend that we continue to use all carryover funds to defray member dues in FY 2027-2028. The carryover amount is the same for all three scenarios outlined in the table above.

Note: Fiscal Year 2026-2027 is the first year with our new 3 FTE staffing model. All three staff positions are fully funded by the Consortium. Previously, the Consortium had two staff positions which split their time between the Consortium and the Portland Water Bureau. Historically, larger carryovers came from unspent money related to these two positions. It is anticipated that staffing costs will be more steady with this new staffing model.

Contingency funding remains at \$50k: Last February, the Board voted to increase the Consortium's contingency line item from \$10,000 to \$50,000 in FY 2026-2027 (and potentially for future years). Taking this action now will help to stabilize fluctuation of member dues in the short term and to ensure that the Consortium has ample funding to respond to emerging issues in the longer term. Staff are recommending that the contingency continue to be \$50,000 for FY 2027-2028.

Next steps: We welcome your input. CTC members are encouraged to reach out to me directly to share their thoughts on the proposed budget concept options. Board members, we will be discussing the information proposed in this memo at the Wednesday, October 7, 2026 meeting. We will use all feedback from members to help inform further development of the FY 2027-2028 budget and work plan.

Table Outlining Budget and Work Plan Impacts for Options A and B:

Strategic Initiative Area: Meeting Water Needs	Current Budget	Option A	Option B	Background/Context Information
English media campaign	\$176,000	\$118,000 <i>Cuts \$58k and reallocates \$5k to Workforce Development (see below)</i> <i>Also reallocates \$35k to do a one-time program evaluation (see below).</i>	\$128,000 <i>Cuts \$48k and reallocates \$10k to Workforce Development (see below)</i> <i>Also reallocates \$35k to do a one-time program evaluation (see below).</i>	This is the largest materials and services line item in the budget. Media partners are selected annually, which provides flexibility for how much is budgeted for this programming. Members rely on public outreach/media campaigns for meeting Water Conservation and Management Plan requirements. Cuts and reallocated funding would result in a smaller and potentially shorter campaign. Current campaign includes three months of messaging July-Sept. Adjusted campaign would result in fewer media partners, no public relations/strategic media contractor, and potentially shortening the campaign so that it starts in mid-July and ends in mid-September.
Consulting services: Program Evaluation of Media Campaign /Public Outreach	N/A	\$35,000 <i>New initiative - one-time funding</i>	\$35,000 <i>New initiative - one-time funding</i>	Staff are recommending using \$35k to hire a consultant to conduct a one-time program evaluation regardless of which budget option is adopted. Develops baseline data on the effectiveness of current campaigns to help Consortium staff and members make informed and strategic decisions about future goals and success metrics. The Consortium last conducted a similar program evaluation in 2018.
Multilingual media campaign, translation, and outreach	\$56,000	\$30,000 <i>Cuts \$26k</i>	\$30,000 <i>Cuts \$26k</i>	This would result in a smaller Spanish language media campaign and little to no advertising in other non-English languages. Much of the multilingual advertising currently focuses on publicizing emergency preparedness resources focused on how to store, treat, and access water. Keeps translating the “What Do You Know” activity booklet into Spanish and potentially 1-2 small translation projects.
Development of 1-2 Public Outreach Materials		<i>No changes</i>	<i>No changes</i>	Uses existing budget to complete projects. Project needs identified by Consortium members and community members. TBD if both projects will be done in same fiscal year. Potential projects: 1. Create “How to use household bleach to treat water in an emergency” print piece. (Will require Consortium and member staff time) 2. Translate the “What Do You Know About H2O?” kids activity book into Spanish (will require Consortium staff time to work with translation contractor).

Portland State University Population Estimates/Forecasting	\$22,600	\$23,000	\$23,000	Increases slightly for one year to complete forecasting work which occurs once every 5 years. This is year one of a five-year Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with PSU.
Strategic Initiative Area: Emergency Planning and Resiliency		Option A	Option B	Background/Context Information
Emergency Equipment Drill		<i>No changes</i>	<i>No changes</i>	Drill will be planned this year fiscal year and occur in September 2027. Consortium and member staff will plan and implement.
GIS/Interconnections Work Group:		-	-	New initiative which will use Consortium and member staff time to pilot. Uses a regional work group to create a plan for updating and maintaining the Consortium's Interconnections geodatabase. Updates will occur in following years and could be completed by Consortium and member staff <i>or</i> members could opt to pay a contractor to complete the work. Background info: The Consortium invested time and money to develop the interconnections geodatabase in the 2010s. The geodatabase has been used in several workshops and tabletop exercises over the years and members have repeatedly identified the importance of this work and a need to update and modernize this regional asset. Questions for members: Is this the right time to tackle this work? Will you have capacity to help update the database in coming years?
Emergency Framework Workshop		-	-	This is a placeholder workshop topic. It will have been two years since completing the Framework Tabletop Exercises. Question for members: Is this the right time for this work? Will your staff have capacity to plan a workshop? Are you currently working on recommendations from your county's FY 2025-2026 tabletop exercise (After Action Reports are available on the member page on the regionalH2O.org website.)

Strategic Initiative Area: Strengthening Regional Partnerships		Option A	Option B	Background/Context Information
Technology Services: Drinking Water Advisory Tool		Placeholder \$6k	Placeholder \$6k	Anticipated possible cost increases due to City of Portland centralizing technology services. These are conservative estimates. We expect to have better information later this fall. This work supports annual maintenance of the tool and reconciling annual drinking water service area boundary updates used by the tool and the PSU project.
Workforce Development	N/A	\$5k New initiative – May be ongoing or one-time (reallocated \$ from English media campaigns and outreach printing budget)	\$10k New initiative – May be ongoing or one-time (reallocated \$ from English media campaigns and outreach printing budget)	This is a placeholder for a TBD project. Workforce Development has emerged as a priority for Consortium members. A temporary work group consisting of CTC members is working with staff putting together recommendations for projects and the Consortium's role in this area. These recommendations will be shared with the CTC at their November meeting.
Consortium Membership		-	-	The Consortium developed its current membership levels in 2018. This project will focus on updating Consortium's membership levels and will be accomplished with staff and member time.
Strategic Plan Update Preparation		-	-	The Consortium will be updating its Strategic Plan in FY28=29. This project will focus on reviewing the existing plan accomplishments and discussions with members. It will be accomplished with staff and member time.

Contractors Currently Help the Consortium Complete the Following Work: The purpose of the table below is to help Consortium members know which areas of the annual budget and work plan are completed through contracts and agreements.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Project/Work Accomplished</u>	<u>Background Information</u>
COP Technology Services	DWA Tool Maintenance and Service Boundary Updates	City of Portland has completed this work annually for 10+ years. This includes reconciling drinking water boundary maps and sharing the mapped information with PSU for the Population Estimates and Forecasting work. Technology services also support and maintain the Drinking Water Advisory Tool on the PublicAlerts website.
PSU	Population Estimates and Forecasting	The Consortium and PSU just signed a new five-year Intergovernmental Agreement this past spring.
Graphic Designer	Various graphic design projects which support the Consortium website, annual report, media campaign, and other public outreach projects.	This contract is crucial to the work of the Consortium and the current contract runs through June of 2029.
Website/Social Media/Online Services	This line item includes the Consortium's website contractor along with several paid services which are necessary for website hosting, scheduling and archiving social media, and sending out e-newsletters.	The website contractor will be completing security updates and minor projects for this fiscal year. All other website work will be completed in-house.
Professional Memberships	This includes a total of \$2k for the Consortium and covers annual membership costs for the Alliance for Water Efficiency, AWWA, and Oregon Water Utility Council.	The total amount for professional services has remained the same for several years.
Media Campaign	Annual media campaigns which include television, cable, radio, TriMet, and digital advertising on several platforms in English. Spanish campaigns are much smaller and include radio, cable, and several digital platforms. Advertising in other languages focuses on emergency prep and is completed through digital advertising platforms.	Since media partners are selected annually, there is more flexibility in this area of the budget than other areas.
Translation	Translation projects include: website content, Spanish language campaign ad production, and print projects.	This is determined on a per project basis each year. Next year, this will entail the "What Do You Know About H2O?" activity book and 1-2 small additional projects.
Weekly Watering Number	Uses a contractor to provide weekly watering guidelines and weather forecasting for the Consortium service area from mid-April to mid-October annually.	Consortium uses this information to send out an email and text to about 5k recipients weekly.

Triannual Activity Report

FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

June 1, 2026 – September 31, 2026



Introduction

The Regional Water Providers Consortium provides leadership in the planning, management, stewardship, and resiliency of drinking water in the greater Portland, Oregon metropolitan region. The Consortium is comprised of 26 water provider members which represent 16 cities and 10 special districts that are located in Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah, and Washington Counties. Its work falls into three program areas: Meeting Water Needs, Emergency Preparedness and Resiliency, and Regional Coordination. Consortium staff compile activity reports three times per year to share accomplishments with the Board.

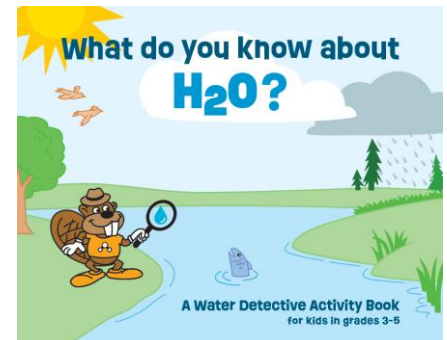
Meeting Water Needs

Conservation-Focused Partnerships

Staff continued to participate in meetings and track the work of the Alliance for Water Efficiency (AWE)'s Education and Outreach committee and the California Water Efficiency Partnership's (CalWEP) Language and Accessibility Task Force.

Youth Education Programming

"What Do You Know About H₂O?" activity book: Staff completed work on the updated activity book and coordinated a print order during this reporting period. Consortium members received a startup supply of the book and had the option to order additional copies. Staff will continue to work on creating web content and teacher resources as the next phase of this project.



2027 Children's Clean Water Festival

Planning began for next year's Children's Clean Water Festival (CCWF). Consortium staff are part of the planning committee, and the Consortium contributes \$3,000 to help fund the CCWF annually. The Consortium also provides staff time to manage the CCWF website, cleanwaterfestival.org.

Emergency Preparedness and Resiliency

Emergency Planning Partnerships

Consortium staff continue to participate in and contribute to several Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization (RDPO) workgroups including the Steering Committee, Public Information Workgroup, and Disaster Messaging Workgroup.

Regional Workshops

- **Healthcare Emergency Summit:** Consortium staff and staff from several water providers attended a two-day event focused on emergency preparedness for regional healthcare providers on September 29-30.

- **EPA Water/Wastewater & Emergency Service Workshop:** Consortium staff and staff from several water providers are participating in a planning committee for an EPA-sponsored workshop which will occur on March 10, 2027 in downtown Portland.

Emergency contact list

Consortium staff completed and distributed the annual update of its regional emergency contact list. The list includes emergency contact information from members, other regional water providers, county partners, and state agencies. This year, staff also updated emergency water equipment information. Consortium members use the list to request assistance or to share vital information with stakeholders in an emergency.

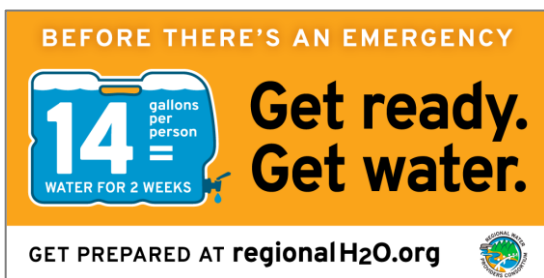
Media Campaigns and Public Outreach

Each year, the Consortium collaborates with water providers, media, and other regional partners to conduct several multimedia campaigns and develop public outreach resources on behalf of its members.

Media Campaigns:

The 2026 multimedia campaigns included a diverse media mix of broadcast television and radio; cable television; digital content on streaming services, websites, newsletters, how-to videos, and social media; ads placed on TriMet buses; and on-air interviews that ranged from 1-30 minutes on radio, television, and YouTube.

The Consortium ran ads which focused on water conservation and emergency preparedness tips in English and Spanish on television, radio, cable, and several digital platforms. It also ran emergency preparedness-focused digital ads in Arabic, Chinese, Farsi/Persian, Khmer, Hindi, Korean, Russian, Spanish and Vietnamese.



All campaigns focus on connecting the public with tips for how they can use water efficiently, protect the health of local waterways, and how to use water to prepare for emergencies. Most of the Consortium’s campaigns ran July-September 2026 with the exception of the “Clean Water. It’s Our Future.” campaign which ran July 2025 – June 2026.

Conservation-focused messaging used the Consortium’s slogan “Use water wisely. It’s just the right thing to do.” And incorporated “Water is too valuable to waste” into its messaging and graphics for the 2026 campaign. Emergency preparedness-focused messaging continued to build on the theme “Before there’s an emergency: Get Ready. Get Water.” With materials and messaging that teach the public how to store, treat, and access drinking water in an emergency.

The Consortium’s annual campaigns are complex and take a lot of planning and coordination to implement. This work is completed by Consortium staff, media partners, and contractors. Affiliated Media played a key role in coordinating much of the day-to-day campaign logistics for the third year in a row. Member staff served as an on-air spokesperson for Spanish language interviews. Translation partner, Verbio, assisted with multilingual digital ad translation and produced two thirty-second video ads which were used in the Spanish language media campaign. Media partners continued to strengthen the Consortium’s capacity to meet its strategic public outreach goals by providing ad production and other added value elements to their media packages at no additional cost.

Campaign Partner	Cost	Ads & Interviews
English broadcast TV (KOIN) A18+	\$25,000	Ads: 817 Interviews: 3x Water Wednesdays Tips (on air in EDNW, News, and posted on koin.com): 12x unique tips, aired approx. 5x each, 50x+ airings. KOIN.com+App: 982K+ impressions (includes imp. from 3x days of Homepage wraps) WeatherChannel.com+App: 275k+ impressions display/pre-roll
English broadcast TV (KPTV)	\$3,000	Ads: 622 616k banner ad impressions 3128 station pageviews
English broadcast TV (KATU) A18+	\$25,000	Ads: 758 Interviews: 2 Weather Snipes 6p News (:10-sec): 24 KATU.com: 75k impressions
English Cable TV	\$15,000	Ads: 2,165
English digital mix (Univox Media) A18-44.	\$30,000	Total Projected Impressions: 4.5 MM+ (YouTube, social media, connected tv, targeted display and audio)
Multilingual digital (Univox Media)	\$28,000	Total Projected Impressions: 3.8 MM+ (YouTube, connected tv, preroll, targeted display and audio) Languages: Arabic, Chinese, Farsi/Persian, Khmer, Hindi, Korean, Russian, Spanish and Vietnamese
English broadcast radio (IHEART) A18+	\$15,000	Ads: 2,603 30-minute Interviews: 2 interviews (ran on 7 stations a total of 14 times total)
English broadcast radio (Connoisseur) A18+	\$15,000	Ads: 3,335 15-minute Interviews: 2 interviews (interviews posted 6 times for 1 month on KINK.fm, KINK YouTube, Peggy LaPoint's webpage) 3 interview snippets posted to KINK Facebook and Instagram (:30-sec cut down) 6 total social media posts.
Spanish broadcast radio (El Rey)	\$11,000	Ads: 191 Interviews: 1 Facebook post: 1
Spanish local news program on YouTube (Noticias NW)	\$5,000	Ads: 80
Spanish broadcast TV (Telemundo)	\$5,000	Ads: 139 (40 of 139 during World Cup programming)
Spanish Cable TV	\$2,000	Ads: 932
TriMet (Intersection media)	\$15,000	Ads: 50 (combo of kings, queens, tails) in 3 counties

Public Outreach Project Updates

regionalH2O.org/aguagregional.org

The Consortium's website remains the center of its public outreach efforts. It contains a wealth of information about water conservation, emergency preparedness, regional water supplies, and the collective work of the Consortium. All media, printed materials, and most of the Consortium's social media direct the public to the Consortium's regionalH2O.org website so that they can learn more. The Consortium also has a second URL, aguagregional.org, for its Spanish website content.

Staff completed seasonal updates on several existing webpages, compiled monthly analytics reports, completed weekly website maintenance tasks, and continued search engine optimization (SEO) work. This year, staff continued to work with a web contractor, a graphic designer, and a translation contractor to update 18 pages of web content in Spanish and add two new pages in Chinese and Vietnamese.

The website received 103,657 pageviews from 26,785 visitors from May 1–August 31, 2026. The Weekly Watering Number, 10 Tips to Save Water Indoors, 10 Tips to Save Water Outdoors, and Emergency Preparedness pages were some of the top visited content during this time.

Consortium Social Media

The Consortium maintains several social media channels including Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube. During this reporting period, staff posted content focused on water conservation, emergency preparedness, the value of drinking water, and recognition of water-related celebrations and observances. Staff also reposted and amplified members' content.

YouTube remains the best platform to share Spanish language and other multilingual content. How-to videos continue to build views and engagement, adding to the channel's almost 2,700 subscribers. Facebook has become less popular overall, so Consortium staff are moving to posting more content on Instagram, while continuing to use Facebook's advertising and insights tools. LinkedIn is the newest platform for Consortium content, and so far, feedback has been positive. Post types and content are tailored for each platform with the goal of meeting people where they are with the information they are looking for.

Member Messaging and Resource Toolkits

Staff created two toolkits for members to use for the months of July and September. July's toolkit contained messaging which aligned with the media campaign messaging theme "Water is too valuable to waste" and September's toolkit highlighted the Consortium's water-focused emergency preparedness resources and messaging during National Preparedness Month.

Toolkits include social media copy, multilingual website links, digital graphic assets, and newsletter articles for members to use in outreach to their customers. Toolkits also support the Consortium's strategic goal to speak with one voice regionally by working together to amplify important messages. Each toolkit is available on the [Member Page](#) or [by request](#).

Weekly Watering Number

The Weekly Watering Number was posted on regionalH2O.org and sent to recipients by email and text message each Thursday. The messaging includes watering guidelines, smart watering tips, and zip code specific watering recommendations. Approximately 4,000 people are subscribed to the Weekly Watering Number, representing customers from all 26 members of the Consortium.

Regional Coordination

Oregon Environment Short School

Consortium staff presented to approximately 25 attendees at the annual American Water Works Association (AWWA) "Water Works School" training event in July. The presentation focused on how the Consortium is a success story in regional collaboration and highlighted the Consortium's regional preparedness and resiliency work. Participating in this annual event is a great way to support ongoing professional development opportunities for water provider staff from across the region and it is one avenue to share the story of the Consortium's work.

Summer Supply Coordination

Consortium Technical Committee members met twice, in July and August, between their regularly scheduled meetings. The purpose of these check-ins was to give water providers an opportunity to share current supply conditions with one another.

Other Regional Partner Groups

Consortium staff continued to attend meetings and follow agendas of the Washington County Water Table, the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC), and AWWA's Oregon Water Utility Council (OWUC). Staff share information from these groups with the Consortium Technical Committee (CTC) as needed.

Workforce Development Work Group

Workforce development continues to be an emerging focus area for the Consortium and members indicated it is a top priority for FY 2026-2027. Consortium staff met with a small workgroup of Consortium members to start defining recommendations for the CTC to consider at their fall 2026 meeting. Project implementation would likely begin in spring.

Consortium Member Relations

- **Member One-on-One Meetings:** As part of her new role as Consortium Managing Director, Bonny is in the process of meeting with staff at all 26 Consortium member water providers. The purpose of these meetings is to connect with members and learn about their priorities. The remaining six meetings will occur this fall and Bonny will share her insights with members early next year.
- **Orienting new member staff to the Consortium:** Staff onboarded several new Consortium members during this reporting period. Onboarding sessions included an overview of the Consortium and resources and benefits tailored to new staff's work.

Consortium Administration

Consortium Staffing

The Consortium is in the process of recruiting its Analyst I position which is currently held by Patty Burk. Patty is in working retiree status through the end of the calendar year. The Consortium received 154 applications for this recruitment. There will be two rounds of interviews in October and November.

Fiscal Year 2027-2028 Budget and Work Plan Development Process

The Consortium kicked off its budget and work plan development for FY 2027-2028 with members in September. Staff shared initial concepts with the CTC in early September and then revised its initial concepts per the CTC's direction. Staff will present the revised concepts with the Board at its October meeting. Further conversations with the CTC and Executive Committee will continue throughout the remainder of the calendar year. Staff will present final concepts to the Consortium Board in February 2027.

Consortium Committee Meetings

Committee	Meeting Focus
Conservation and Communication Committee (CCC)	Current year work plan projects and gathered member input on FY 2026-2027 Budget and Work Plan Concepts.
Emergency Planning Committee (EPC)	Heather Knapp gave an overview of ORWARN's new website . Current year work plan projects and gathered member input on FY 2026-2027 Budget and Work Plan Concepts.
Consortium Technical Committee (CTC)	Staff presented FY 2026-2027 Budget and Work Plan Concepts. CTC requested staff rework concepts and provided two flat budget options. CTC did not have enough attendees to meet quorum requirements and thus were unable to elect new officers or approve the June meeting summary.

Executive Committee (EC)	Staff presented FY 2026-2027 Budget and Work Plan Concepts. Staff also provided the EC with a memo which outlined the two budget options requested by the CTC. EC recommended taking the reworked budget and work plan concepts to the Board in October.
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Note: CCC, EPC, and CTC meetings included time for members to share information, updates, and resources with one another.

Multnomah County Representative Selected for Executive Committee:

At the June Board meeting, Consortium members caucused to select county representatives for the Executive Committee. A representative was not selected for Multnomah County at the meeting due to low attendance. Staff worked with Multnomah County representatives during this reporting period to select their representative, Director Colby Riley from Rockwood Water PUD.

Other Administrative Tasks

- **Expense reporting:** Staff completed the final expense report for FY 2025-2026 and monitored expenditures for FY 2026-2027.
- **Membership dues:** All members submitted their membership dues in full for FY 2026-2027.
- **Contracting:** The Consortium selected Probolsky Research LLC to complete its “Trust Your Tap” project and the contract is in the signature phase. The contractor will run a community survey to gather regional information on the public’s perception of the quality of their drinking water, potential barriers to using tap water for daily activities, and water user/customer communication preferences. The survey will be completed later this fall, and results will be shared with members in early 2027.

Regional Water Providers Consortium				
Annual Expense Report (FY 2025-2026) July 2025 - June 2026 100% through fiscal year				
	Budgeted	Expended	Balance	Percentage Budget Expended
Personnel	706,868	613,440	93,428	87%
Administration/Public Involvement	306,527	261,481	45,046	85%
Emergency Preparedness	136,355	117,220	19,135	86%
Strengthening Regional Partnerships	54,093	32,275	21,818	60%
Meeting Water Needs	209,893	202,463	7,430	96%
Overhead - 29.5%	208,526	180,965	27,561	87%
Administration & Public Involvement	50,500	43,601	6,899	86%
Materials & Services	16,500	9,861	6,640	
Graphic Design	10,000	9,476	524	
Website	24,000	24,264	-264	
Emergency Preparedness	35,000	29,741	5,259	85%
Exercises and Trainings	3,000	359	2,641	
Miscellaneous/Dues	4,000	1,569	2,431	
Emergency Drinking Water Framework - Phase 2	28,000	27,814	186	
Strengthening Regional Partnerships	15,575	14,319	1,256	92%
Drinking Water Advisory Tool	5,000	3,744	1,256	
PSU Population Forecast Project	10,575	10,575	0	
Meeting Water Needs	319,275	300,936	18,339	94%
English Media Campaigns, Digital Campaign, Public Outreach and Public Relations	176,300	158,588	17,713	
Multilingual Campaigns & Public Outreach	56,500	60,523	-4,023	
Weekly Watering Number	6,000	5,495	505	
Youth Education Programming	30,000	30,561	-561	
Professional Memberships	1,200	870	330	
Public Outreach Materials	14,275	9,900	4,375	
Trust Your Tap Project (Carrying over funds to FY 2026/27 by resolution adopted by Board at June 3, 2026 Meeting)	35,000	35,000	0	
Travel/Training	5,000	2,306	2,694	46%
B. Cushman Job Coaching		2,306		
Contingency	10,000	0	10,000	0%
Grand Total	1,350,744	1,185,308	165,436	88%
Original budget total - \$1,310,743, Dues base budget total \$1,174,211 (carryover amount from FY 23-24 = \$136,532)	Grand Total includes \$40k carryover from FY 24-25, \$28k for Framework-Phase 2 and \$12k for YE (\$1,310,743 +\$40,000 =\$1,350,743)			

Regional Water Providers Consortium

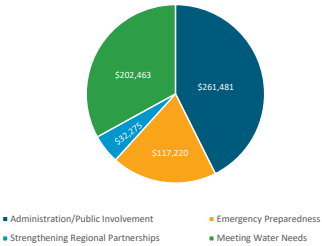
Personnel Hours Report (FY 2025-2026) July 2025 - June 2026 - 100% through fiscal year

Program	Hours Budgeted	Hours Expended	Percentage Hours Expended
Administration/Public Involvement	2505	2094.00	84%
Emergency Preparedness	1075	917.75	85%
Strengthening Regional Partnerships	380	222.00	58%
Meeting Water Needs	1900	1758.50	93%
Total Hours	5860	4992.25	85%

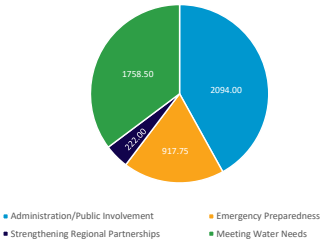
Regional Water Providers Consortium

July 2025 - June 2026 - 100% through fiscal year

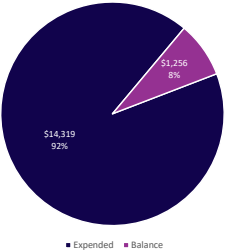
Personnel Expenses by Program Area



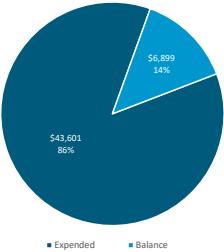
Personnel Hours Expended by Program Area



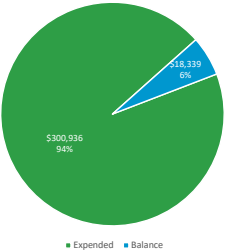
Strengthening Regional Partnerships Program Expenses



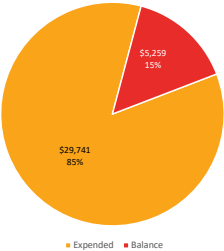
Administration & Public Involvement Program Expenses



Meeting Water Needs Program Expenses



Emergency Preparedness Program Expenses



Personnel Costs

