



# Oregon Environmental Restoration Council Meeting

**MINUTES ARE NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL**

## May 6, 2026 Hybrid Council Meeting

Land Board Room in the State Lands Building, 775 Summer St NE, Salem, OR 97301

Zoom Webinar and live streamed on [YouTube](#).

All meeting materials can be found on [oregonerf.org](http://oregonerf.org) under the specific meeting date.

### ATTENDEES

#### OERC MEMBERS

Jenn Bildersee  
 Debbie Colbert  
 Michael Dembrow  
 Leah Feldon  
 Geoff Huntington  
 Rep. Ken Helm  
 Cheyenne Holliday  
 Molly Kile  
 André Ourso  
 Chuck Sams  
 Sen. David Brock Smith  
 Leslie Wu

*Absent: Alai Reyes-Santos*

#### OWEB STAFF

Nicole Bettinardi  
 Gina Flores  
 Lucas Langstraat  
 Clare Lanusse  
 Nicole Maness  
 Sara O’Brien  
 Stephanie Page  
 Miriam Scharer  
 Rachel Thompson

**OTHERS**  
 Christina Appleby  
 Lisa Batey  
 Hayley Brazier  
 Lisa Charpilloz Hanson  
 Paris Edwards

#### OTHERS

James Fraser  
 Kim Fritz-Ogren  
 Ivan Gall  
 Brenda Gessner  
 Kira Glover-Cutter  
 Gabriela Goldfarb  
 Seth Greenfest  
 Andrea Hanson  
 Rian Hooff  
 Sristi Kamal  
 Andrea Kreiner  
 Kaleb Lay  
 Jan Lee  
 Annette Liebe  
 Diane Lloyd  
 Kaitlin Lovell

#### OTHERS

April McEwen  
 Micah Meskel  
 Mason Murphy  
 Hoang-Van Nguyen  
 Holly Purpura  
 Tawny Reader  
 Sarah Reif  
 Colin Reynolds  
 Ali Ryan Hansen  
 Jonathan Sandau  
 Kris Schraeder  
 Neil Schulman  
 Youjun Suh  
 Erica Toledo  
 Doug Woodcock

### Minutes, May 6, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 pm by Co-Chair Michael Dembrow: [Recording](#)

Timestamp	Details
<a href="#">00:01:42</a>	<p><b>Roll Call and Opening Remarks, Meeting Overview and Objectives</b></p> <p>Co-Chair Michael Dembrow opened the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda <i>Information item.</i></p>
<a href="#">00:09:21</a>	<p><b>Item 1 – Consent Items</b></p> <p>Motion #1. Geoff Huntington moved that the Council approve minutes from the March 18, 2026 Council meeting. Molly Kile seconded. Jenn Bildersee, Debbie Colbert, Michael Dembrow, Leah Feldon, Cheyenne Holliday, Geoff Huntington, Molly Kile, André Ourso, and Leslie Wu voted in favor. Alai Reyes-Santos and Chuck Sams absent. Motion passed.</p>
<a href="#">00:11:28</a>	<p><b>Item 2 – State Agency Presentations</b></p> <p>Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund Program Coordinator Rachel Thompson introduced staff from Oregon Department of State Lands, Oregon Department of Agriculture, and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. Staff from those agencies presented to the Council on agency missions, strategic objectives, and areas of opportunities within their agencies that the Agency Program Fund may help to address. <i>Information item. Note: Additional eligible state agencies will present at upcoming Council meetings</i></p>

Timestamp	Details
<a href="#">00:49:13</a>	<p><b>Item 3 – Agency Program Fund Proposal Preview</b></p> <p>Senior Natural Resources Policy Advisor Geoff Huntington from the Governor’s Office introduced the agenda item and introduced Annette Liebe (on special assignment with the Governor’s Office). Annette Liebe and staff from Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI), Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD), Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) previewed the preproposal for an interim allocation of funds from the State Agency Program Fund for the 2025-2027 biennium. Council asked questions and requested additional information from the Governor’s Office and agencies. <i>Information item.</i></p>
<a href="#">03:21:25</a>	<p><b>Item 4 – Public Comment</b></p> <p>This time was reserved for the Council to hear verbal public comment and review any written public comment submitted for the meeting. All written public comment can be viewed on the website <a href="#">here</a>. The following individuals provided verbal public comment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neil Schulman, Executive Director, North Clackamas Watersheds</li> <li>• Kris Schaedel, Conservation Program Manager, Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District</li> <li>• James Fraser, Oregon Policy Director, Trout Unlimited</li> <li>• Hayley Brazier, Ph.D., Wildlife Conservation Specialist, Oregon Zoo on behalf of Metro (representing the Oregon Zoo and Parks and Nature)</li> <li>• Colin Reynolds, Senior Advisor, Northwest Program, Defenders of Wildlife</li> <li>• Sristi Kamal, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Environmental Law Center</li> <li>• Tawny Reader, Consumer Lending Director, Craft3</li> <li>• Kaleb Lay, Director of Policy &amp; Research, Oregon Rural Action</li> <li>• Micah Meskel, Director of Urban Conservation, Bird Alliance of Oregon</li> <li>• William Anderson, Councilor, City of Milwaukie</li> </ul>
<a href="#">03:51:24</a>	<p><b>Item 5 – Strategic Priorities</b></p> <p>Oregon Environmental Restoration Program staff, Nicole Maness and Rachel Thompson, introduced the agenda item with an overview of the statutory requirements described in <a href="#">ORS 541.882</a> for Council’s identification and adoption of strategic priorities, which include consultation with the Environmental Justice Council (EJC) and Oregon state agencies. Co-Chair Michael Dembrow proposed Council leadership leads consultation with the EJC which was supported by the Council. Program staff facilitated a discussion by Council on key terms in the Monsanto settlement agreement and authorizing legislation, and on developing an articulation of a purpose statement for the Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund. Additional discussion will follow at the July 15, 2026 Council meeting. <i>Information item.</i></p>
<a href="#">04:56:50</a>	<p><b>Next Steps, Reminders &amp; Wrap Up</b></p>

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 pm by Vice Chair Cheyenne Holliday