



# Fish Restoration & Enhancement Program Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** January 16, 2020

**Location:** ODFW Headquarters  
4034 Faievew Industrial Dr. SE  
Salem, OR 97304

## Current Fish Restoration & Enhancement Program (R&E) Board Members

Board Member	Board Member
Dave Grosjacques –Recreational Fisheries	Ray Monroe –Commercial Troll Fisheries
Rich Heap –Recreational Fisheries	Kay Brown –Public
Cary Johnson –Gillnet Fisheries	Susan Chambers - Fish Processing Industry
Yancy Lind –Recreational Fisheries	

**Members Absent:** Yancy Lind attended meeting by telephone  
Ray Monroe was absent

### Call to Order & Introductions

Chair Rich Heap called the Fish Restoration and Enhancement (R&E) Program Board meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. and brief introductions were made.

Yancy Lind attended the meeting telephonically and Ray Monroe was not in attendance.

### Meeting Agenda Approval

The Board reviewed the meeting agenda and approved by consensus.

### Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the September 5-6, 2019 meeting minutes. An error was noted on the top of page 2 in the last line of the “Program Budget & Administrative Updates” section. Amendment: “anadromous species” should be changed to “saltwater anglers”.

Motion: K. Brown motioned to approve the September 2019 meeting minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by C. Johnson and approved by the Board 6-0.

### Director’s Office

Curt Melcher stopped in to thank the Board for their service and see if they had any questions. The Board asked if he had any feedback on how well the Board was performing given the recent changes to Board processes. The feedback was positive.

### Strategic Plan Overview

Shaun Clements presented on the development of the strategic plan, its purpose, and how it relates to the Board.

## **Conservation and Recreation fund & RAWA**

Davia Palmeri presented on the recently approved Conservation and Recreation Fund and the proposed Recovering Americas Wildlife Act (RAWA). While implementation is still being defined they discussed how the R&E Board could potentially be involved. Support is needed for RAWA. One area identified was that the R&E Board should interact with the Oregon Sportsman's Caucus.

## **Fish Division Priorities**

Bruce McIntosh presented the 2019-21 division priorities and explained how they fit into the strategic plan. He also explained how this has set the framework for many of the projects that are being presented to the R&E Board.

## **Construction Project Manager**

Bryce Hansen introduced himself and presented his vision and ideas for development of fishing facilities in a cost-effective manner. Additional discussion focused on future funding and the need for position authority during the next biennium. Mike Gauvin requested a POP (Program Option Package) for this position to be included as part of the budget for next biennium.

## **Hatchery Bundle Update**

Scott Patterson reviewed the status of the current hatchery projects and provided a list of potential projects for 2021-2023.

## **General Discussion**

The Board spent about an hour discussing what they had heard during the morning and preparing some questions for the lunch discussion.

## **Board Discussion with Management**

During lunch several general questions and topics were discussed with managers. Below is a summary of some of those conversations.

- The Board asked Fish Division "how is R&E doing?" Ed Bowles replied he thought it was going well and then asked the board how they felt it was going and whether they felt as if they had enough say in where the funding goes. The Board seemed comfortable with where things are. Shannon Hurn asked if we had any feedback from applicants. K. Herkamp responded that while some are inconvenienced by the changes most applicants understand why we are prioritizing and seem to be okay with the changes.
- D. Grosjacques asked "what can be done to increase R&E funding without increasing license costs as people don't want that?" Other members noted that the cost of a license is comparable to other discretionary expenses and in many cases a small part of the overall cost to fish. Ed indicated that we are working on a willingness to pay model and will be looking at various ways to increase revenues while minimizing increases to the license cost. This led to further discussion about fees including such topics as a boat surcharge, a saltwater endorsement (could help determine how important marine fishing is). Shannon Hurn mentioned that some Legislators are open to new fee ideas and other changes but we will need to be strategic.
- Some concern was expressed that the number and quality of fishing guides needs to be more regulated as currently anyone can be a guide and any guide can fish on any river. Should consider having a maximum number of guides per waterway. Ed said he will look into that.
- Concern was brought up that OSP does not enforce consistent with ODFW priorities and this leads to priority issues having limited enforcement.
- D. Grosjacques asked about the status of the 25-year Angling Enhancement Plan. It seems as if it has been overshadowed by other plans and is no longer driving actions.

- Y. Lind stated that the agency should be communicating more about climate. Ed Bowles responded that this message will be increasing. In January a draft climate policy will be presented to the Commission with the final plan likely going to them in April for adoption. R&E can play a role in local investments and improve resilience.
- Y. Lind asked about the status of future water temperature related restriction as several waters are exceeding temperature targets. Ed Bowles stated that there will be discussions as part of the climate policy.

### **Screening and Passage Update**

Alan Ritchey provided an update on screening and passage projects and current efforts to update and complete prioritization efforts for passage, screening, and now tide gates. Alan mentioned that paying for ongoing maintenance was the biggest challenge for his program.

### **Board Work Session**

1. **New Meeting Schedule:** Kevin Herkamp presented options to consider when developing their new meeting schedule for next biennium. Discussion focused on option 2b (4 project meetings with 4 interim meetings). The consensus recommendations included:
  - a. Project meetings will occur in March/April and September each year.
    - i. Depending on the number of applications the project review meetings should be 1 to 1.5 days to give the applicants and board enough time to consider the projects. Board business should occur on the half-day or day before or after project review to reduce meeting fatigue.
    - ii. If there is time for a tour at a project review meeting, the tour should occur the day before the meeting as many times there are projects on the tour that are also being reviewed.
    - iii. Kevin Herkamp will develop calendar options, based on feedback from the Board and the actual 2021-23 calendar will be voted on at the May meeting.  
Consideration: Avoid the PFMC meetings in early March, early April, and early September. Also avoid spring break.
  - b. Interim meetings will occur between project review meetings and will be set based on opportunities and conflicts.
    - i. The winter meeting will be telephonic and scheduled sometime between November and January. Final dates will be based on management availability.
    - ii. The summer meeting will likely be field tour based and occur between May and August. Final dates will be based upon relevant field opportunities.
  - c. Tours should attempt to align with strategic plan supported activities.
2. **September 2020 Meeting:** The Board set their September 2020 meeting to align with the STEP Advisory Committee that is scheduled for September 25, 2020. Dave Grosjacques moved to hold the R&E meeting on September 23, 2020 in Brookings and have a joint tour with STAC on September 24, 2020. Susan Chambers seconded the motion and the motion passed by a vote of 6-0.
3. **Operating Guidelines:** Kevin Herkamp presented the current guidelines and prioritization documents.
  - a. Kevin will provide a version of the operating guidelines that incorporates updates related to HB42 and other policies. The Board will then provide comments back to Kevin in time for a revised version to be developed prior to May meeting. Further discussion and possible vote will occur in May.
  - b. Kevin will be discussing the prioritization document with staff in mid-February and provide a revised version for board comments. The Board will then provide comments back to Kevin in time for a revised version to be developed prior to May meeting. Further discussion and possible vote will occur in May.

- c. Need to include some language that decisions on projects are based on how well projects connect to the Strategic Plan and Fish Division Priorities.

4. **Future Agendas:**

- a. May 2020 should include review and approve revised operating guidelines.
- b. May 2020, adopt 2021-23 meeting schedule.
- c. May 2020, short session update. Should have that in summer interim meeting in subsequent years.
- d. May or Sept 2020 work on completion reporting and partnerships as outlined in operating guidelines.
- e. September, Board elections should be a standing item each year (or during winter meeting).
- f. September 2020 should have review of bundle grant concepts and frequent bundle updates after that.
- g. September 2020, pre-Legislature update
- h. September 2020, invite Commission Chair.
- i. September 2020 or winter interim meeting get an update on the statewide trout study.
- j. At each meeting Board members should come prepared to discuss projects in their area.

**Budget Update**

Michael Gauvin provided an update on some recent budget concerns.

- Due to union contract negotiations, the actual personnel costs for staff is higher than projected. We are developing a plan that does not request additional funds from the Board, rather we will ask to move savings from other administrative grants to cover this overage. A request will be submitted in May.
- Recently we were informed that our projected R&E expenditures would exceed our limitation and we would need to cut potentially \$250,000 in spending. We are looking into the issue as our numbers do not show that. Post meeting follow up: Due to an error personnel costs were being double counted, our original projections were correct and no cuts are needed.

**Friday January 17, 2012 – Field Tour**

7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Bryce Hansen and Jeff Davis lead a tour to the Toledo High School and Marine Resources Program in Newport. In attendance were Rich Heap, Dave Grosjacques, and Susan Chambers. Ray Monroe joined part way through.

The board members present were impressed with both the Toledo High School work on developing amenities for R&E funded fishing facilities and believes Bryce has done an outstanding job of coordinating with school leadership. The members also appreciated reviewing the ODFW Marine Resources Program and seeing projects, both completed and in-process, for which R&E funds were used.

## **ACTION ITEMS AND TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION**

- Board
  - Since the Commission is mostly new, the Board should attempt to have another joint tour with the Commission and get to know their local Commissioners.
  - Interact with the Oregon Sportsman's Caucus. Need to work with Shannon to connect the Board with upcoming Caucus events.
  - Invite Commission Chair to September 2020 meeting
  - Provide comments back to Kevin on operating and prioritization guidelines
  - Visit projects in your area and report on them at Board meetings.
- Staff
  - Update application form to include:
    - Is this identified in ODFW Strategic Plan? Explain.
    - Has this proposal or similar proposal for this project location been denied by OWEB or other restoration funding source?
  - Update and send operating and prioritization guidelines to Board.
  - Invite R&E members to IRT meetings.
  - Present administrative budget adjustments in May 2020.
  - Present 2021-2023 calendar in May 2020.