

MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Resources Commission

FROM: Barry Norris, Administrator
Technical Services Division

SUBJECT: Water Resources Commission Meeting
Agenda Item F, January 15, 2004

Commission Approval of Appointments to the Ground Water Advisory Committee

I. Issue Statement

The nine-member Ground Water Advisory Committee (GWAC) has three members whose terms expired on November 30, 2003. OAR Chapter 690, Division 235 rules describe a process for soliciting candidates. Staff used this process to generate a list of candidates for the three positions. In addition to these appointments, the GWAC member serving the environmental category has resigned due to time restrictions, leaving a one-year vacancy on a three-year term to be filled.

II. Background

The Commission's Ground Water Advisory Committee is appointed and charged with certain duties pursuant to ORS 536.090. These duties include: (1) Advice on all matters relating to rules for the development, securing, use and protection of ground water; and the licensing and examination of well constructors; and (2) review of the proposed expenditure of Start Card Fee revenues. The Committee is to consist of nine members who represent a range of interests and expertise, with at least three of the members actively engaged in some aspect of the water supply or monitoring well drilling industry.

The Commission's rules under OAR Chapter 690, Division 235, provide a process to identify possible GWAC candidates, prescribe categories of expertise which may be represented on GWAC, and allow appointments for up to three years. The rules result in expiration of three terms per year, thus staggering membership. Any mid-term vacancy is filled for the remainder of the term. Each year, staff seek Commission action on GWAC appointments and/or reappointments.

In accordance with the rule process, GWAC has three regular membership positions that must be filled. In order to comply with the GWAC statute, a person who is active in the well construction industry must fill one of the positions. The other two positions may represent other ground water related interests. Current GWAC membership is listed in the Attachment.

The Department's search for new GWAC candidates included reviewing recommendations from individuals and Department staff, as well as determining whether current members wish to continue to serve. Staff also solicited and received recommendations from the Oregon Ground Water Association (OGWA) for the well industry position. Additionally, staff sent notice to persons on the GWAC mailing list. The notice advised interested parties of the anticipated term expirations and asked that those wishing to be considered for a position on GWAC notify staff.

III. Discussion

A total of eight individuals expressed interest in the three regular GWAC positions. The recommended candidates for full terms include two current members and one new appointment representing three ground water interests. The Department recommends appointment of John Stadel (well industry category), and reappointments of David Graham (hydrogeology category) and Barry Beyeler (local government category). Terms for these three members would begin immediately and end November 30, 2006.

In addition to these appointments, the Department recommends appointment of Marilyn Reeves (environmental category) for a term to start immediately and to serve the remainder of the unexpired term through November 30, 2004. Ms. Reeves would replace Gayle Killam who resigned with regrets in December 2003 due to time limitations.

Well Industry Category:

John Stadel is a well constructor and owner of Arrow Well Drilling of Newberg. Mr. Stadel has been a licensed well constructor in Oregon for more than 15 years and has been a licensed monitoring well constructor for more than 12 years. He is a member and past President of the Oregon Ground Water Association (OGWA). At present, Mr. Stadel primarily constructs domestic-sized water supply wells.

Hydrogeology Category:

Mr. Graham is principal hydrogeologist and general manager of the Medford office of Environmental Management Services, Inc. He is part owner of this four office consulting firm. Mr. Graham's experience includes studies of contaminate hydrogeology, water supply, and water quality. He has over 25 years of ground water experience and is a member of OGWA. Staff recommend the re-appointment of Mr. Graham based on the breadth of his experience, his interest in committee service, and the fact that his presence adds balance to the geographic representation of GWAC.

Local Government Category:

Mr. Beyeler has expressed an interest in being reappointed and has contributed to GWAC with his knowledge of municipal ground water supply and water quality issues. He is currently the Community Development Director for the City of Boardman. Mr. Beyeler has served on numerous water committees at several state agencies. He has served in the past as chair and vice-chair of GWAC. Staff recommend Mr. Beyeler's reappointment based on his strong participation and the fact that his presence adds balance to the geographic representation of GWAC.

Environmental Category:

Ms. Reeves is a retired resident of rural Yamhill County and lives in the recently formulated Amity Hills/Walnut Hill Ground Water Limited Area. She is involved with land use issues through the Friends of Yamhill County, an affiliate of 1000 Friends of Oregon. Ms. Reeves has served for eight years on the Building Codes Structural Committee for the state of Oregon as an at-large member and as chair of the Hanford Advisory Board from 1994 to 2001. Staff recommend Ms. Reeves appointment to provide continued environmental representation on the committee.

IV. Alternatives

The Commission may consider the following alternatives:

1. Appoint John Stadel (well industry), and reappoint David Graham (hydrogeology) and Barry Beyeler (local government) to terms beginning immediately and expiring on November 30, 2006 and appoint Marilyn Reeves (environmental) to an unexpired term beginning immediately and expiring on November 30, 2004.
2. Direct staff to return to the next Commission meeting with another slate of appointments to GWAC which reflects a different set of interest categories and/or candidates.

V. Recommendation

The Director and staff recommend that the Commission follow Alternative 1 and appoint the recommended slate of candidates for the stated terms.

Attachment:
Current GWAC Membership

Donn Miller
December 31, 2003
503-986-0845

**OREGON WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION
GROUND WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Barry Beyeler
Comm. Development Director
Boardman, OR

Serving in Local Government Category
Term Expires 11/30/03

Ed Butts
Stettler Supply Co.
Salem, OR

Serving in Monitoring/Water Well Industry Category
Term Expires 11/30/03

Paul Christensen
Christensen Well Drilling
Eugene, OR

Serving in Monitoring/Water Well Ind. Category, Vice-chair
Term Expires 11/30/04

David Graham
Environmental Mgmt Services, Inc
Medford, OR

Serving in Hydrogeologist Category
Term Expires 11/30/03

Nitin Joshi
City of Salem
Salem, OR

Serving in Local Government Category, Chair
Term Expires 11/30/05

Malia Kupillas
Pacific Hydrogeology Inc.
Mulino, OR

Serving in Hydrogeologist Category
Term Expires 11/30/05

Gayle Killam
River Network
Portland, OR

Serving in Environmental Category – *Resigned 12/03*
Term Expires 11/30/04

Jim Mack Sr.
Bandon Well & Septic Company
Bandon, OR

Serving in Monitoring/Water Well Industry Category
Term Expires 11/30/05

Don Rajnus
Malin, OR

Serving in Groundwater User Category
Term Expires 11/30/04

December 2003