



Morrow County Clean Water Consortium Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2026
Port of Morrow Riverfront Center
Boardman, Oregon

Consortium Members Present

Matthew Jensen
Tamra Mabbott
Lisa Mittelsdorf
Kelly Doherty
Jared Tesch

Consortium Members Absent

David Sykes

Others Present

Valerie Ballard
Isabel Gonzales
Ana Maria Rodriguez

Others Present Via Zoom

Robin Canaday
Ronan Igloria
Barbara Phillips
Nick Ducote
Justin Green
Griffin Beach
Berit Thorson
Kristin Ostrom
Antonio Sierra
Andrew Cutler
Debbie Radie
Jim Doherty

Call to Order

4:08 p.m.

Minutes

Minutes: February 10, 2026

Tamra Mabbott motioned to approve the revised minutes distributed at the beginning of the meeting. Lisa Mittelsdorf seconded. Vote: 3 in favor (Mabbott, Mittelsdorf, Doherty), 1 absent (Sykes). Motion carried.

Business Items

Community Initiated Project Request

Nick Ducote, contracted grant writer of Ducote Consulting, with Ronan Igloria of GSI Solutions, have worked with Managing Director Jared Tesch and Matthew Jensen to create two Community Initiated Project (CIP) grant requests through federal funding sources. The Morrow County New Water System Feasibility Project is budgeted at just over \$2 million and the Rural Residential Nitrate-Contamination Drinking Water Solutions Pilot Project at \$1.45 million. The New Water System Feasibility project would identify a community supported public water system, while the Rural Residential project would look to find solutions for individual rural residences which cannot be served by public systems.

The requests have been submitted to the offices of Senators Merkley and Wyden for review.

Update from Managing Director

Jared Tesch, Managing Director, met with many local key parties and stakeholders, including Morrow County staff, Port of Morrow Commissioners, Courtney Crowell with Governor Kotek's office, Water for Eastern Oregon (H2OEO), Northeast Oregon Water Association, representatives from the cities of Boardman and Irrigon, Willamette Partnership, and Oregon Rural Action.

Mr. Tesch has been developing a dedicated website for the Consortium, which is still under construction but now live for visitors (www.mccleanwaterconsortium.org).

He has an upcoming personal trip to Washington D.C., but has meetings scheduled with the offices of Senators Merkley and Wyden to discuss the Consortium and water issues.

Consideration of Proceeding with Engineering Studies for West Glen Community

The Request for Proposals for engineering services in West Glen is proposed for consideration. This will take the feasibility study done by Meiers Engineering and begin the process of engaging with engineering services.

Lottery bonds are unavailable until 2027, but Mr. Jensen and Mr. Tesch will be meeting with Business Oregon to enquire about using Consortium money and reimbursing that money later with the lottery funds.

The consensus was to wait until after Mr. Jensen and Mr. Tesch meet with Boardman Mayor Keefer to see if an RFP is a viable option.

Other Business

Kevin Ince, Budget Officer, informed the Consortium that once expenditures reach \$250,000-\$1 million, an AUP (Agreed Upon Procedures) or a modified audit is required annually by an independent audit firm. Once expenditures exceed \$1 million, a full audit is required, and if expenditures are below \$250,000 the Consortium is allowed to perform the in lieu of self-report.

Public Comment

Kristin Ostrom with Oregon Rural Action requested that the Consortium meet with representatives of local group, West Glen United.

Adjourn

5:57 p.m.