

OREGON AG BRIEFING

A QUARTERLY REPORT FROM THE
STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE



SPRING

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

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For information about
the State Board of
Agriculture and its
members, click [here](#).

FEBRUARY 2018 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



Board of Agriculture members and ODA Director Taylor at the Capitol

- The Board of Agriculture received a legislative update, at its February meeting, from a panel of industry representatives from Food Northwest, Friends of Family Farmers, Oregon Association of Nurseries, Oregon Cattlemen's Association, Oregon Environmental Council, Oregon Farm Bureau, Oregonians for Food and Shelter, Oregon Seed Council and Oregon Water Resources Congress on important issues being discussed and worked on during the legislative session. Topics included Cap & Invest, Land Use issues, Wolf conservation and the M & E tax deferral program. The panel also highlighted the collaborative efforts under way to prepare and work together on the upcoming Federal Farm Bill.
- During the afternoon the Board teamed up with ODA staff to meet key lawmakers in the Capitol to establish a dialogue between Board members and elected officials to discuss priority issues including ODA's potential budget requests for next biennium.
- ODA's Strategic Plan Key Objective 6: Connect & Promote Oregon Food & Agriculture as a Valued Experience for Consumers & an Exciting Career Choice came to life in a presentation from the Oregon FFA State Officers. The group shared with the Board about their individual Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects and their year of service representing Oregon and the FFA. As a result two Board members participated along with the ODA in the State FFA Convention in March.

BOARD MEMBER: BRYAN HARPER



Board of Agriculture member Bryan Harper is a 5th generation farmer from Junction City. His family migrated from Wisconsin to Oregon in the early 1890's when his great-great grandfather began farming in the south Willamette Valley. Today, Harper Farms grows approximately 500 acres of hazelnuts alongside the 275 acre small woodland tree farm.

Learn more about Bryan and Harper Farms in the [video](#) where Business Oregon's Bryant Campbell sits down to chat about being a black business owner in Oregon as part of Black History Month.

2018 UPCOMING MEETING CALENDAR

June 5 - 7

Best Western
Hood River Inn
1108 E Marina Way
Hood River

September 25 - 27

North Bend

November 27 - 29

McMinnville

BOARD ACTIONS

- ▶ The Board received an update from Oregon OSHA Administrator Michael Wood on the rule making process regarding Worker Protection Standards. The Board voted to provide a [letter](#) to the rules committee regarding the proposed rules relating to the Worker Protection Standard and the Application Exclusion Zone (AEZ).
- ▶ Work continues by the Board on the review and updating of Resolutions. At the February meeting Resolutions 024 Insect Pest and Disease Control, 203 Local Conservation Cost-Share Funds and 274 ODA involvement in the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board were updated and approved. If you would like a copy of Board Resolutions email State Board of Agriculture Coordinator Karla Valness at kvalness@oda.state.or.us.

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

The State Board of Agriculture is changing how frequently you will hear from us. As you may know, the State Board of Agriculture is mandated to report to the legislature at least once a biennium. Starting with the Winter 2017 edition, the Board will provide a quarterly briefing on the issues we are working on/discussing, and thoughts we are hearing from stakeholders.

We hope you find this newsletter helpful and it keeps you informed on agricultural issues in Oregon. If you have any questions, the Board is available for conversations.

To receive updates about the State Board of Agriculture, click [here](#).



Visit our new web page with resources for teachers and learn more about Oregon's 225 commodities, the regions where they are produced and the importance of agriculture to the states' economy at oregon.gov/oda