

Date: May 30, 2018
To: State Board of Agriculture members
From: Karla Valness, Special Assistant to the Director
Subject: Resolutions

During the February 2018 State Board of Agriculture meeting, subcommittees proposed taking action on resolutions during the next State Board of Ag meeting (June 5-7, 2018 at the Best Western Plus Hood River Inn in Hood River).

The resolution and the recommendation action provided by the associated subcommittee is as follows:

Proposed action: DRAFT - For review and discussion*

Resolution	Title	Subcommittee
107	Priority for Agricultural Use of Water	Natural Resources
309	Coordinated Streamside Management Approach to Water Quality (Replaces Resolution 309)	Natural Resources
313	Water Quality Strategic Implementation Areas (SIAs) and SWCD Focus Areas (Replaces Resolution 311)	Natural Resources
New	Siting of energy transmission and generation facilities on agricultural land	Land Use

Proposed action: Adopt updated language as presented*

Resolution	Title	Subcommittee
169	Need for Documented Agricultural Work Force	Government Relations
307	Farmworker Housing	Government Relations

* The State Board of Agriculture will be accepting public comment these resolutions during either of the public comment opportunities listed on the board agenda. Comments on these resolutions will be limited to two minutes per individual.

Proposed action: Change status of resolution from active to inactive

Resolution	Title	Subcommittee
145	Fee Associated with Agricultural use of Waters of the State	Natural Resources
311	Agricultural Water Quality Management Program Strategic Implementation	Natural Resources

At the November 2017 meeting, the board also approved a motion to discuss **Resolution 301: Farmer's Choice of Production Systems -- Scale, Markets, and Technology** during the next full board meeting. This discussion was postponed at the February 2018 meeting and has been scheduled for the June 2018 meeting in Hood River. Please see agenda for date and time of this discussion. The original resolution and draft (now titled: *Minimizing conflicts of coexistence in agriculture*) are included in this packet.

**WORKING DRAFT – update of Board resolution #107, originally adopted 4/12/1984
DRAFT 5/25/2018**

Title (original title was SB 225 minimum streamflow process)

Priority for Agricultural Use of Water

Background (this is from the original resolution)

- I. Agriculture is a major industry in Oregon, providing a vital and important economic base for citizens of the state.
- II. Agriculture is the single largest consumptive water user in the state and must be recognized as being a beneficial use of water and in the public interest; and
- III. Watershed damage and water supply depletion have resulted from numerous actions by man on the land and in the water and is not attributable to any single activity or water user group; and
- IV. Agriculture has been responsible for many conservation projects which have served to enhance and stabilize water quantity and quality in the state.

Resolution (the bullet below is slightly modified language from the original resolution)

- The Board of Agriculture believes that agriculture, along with other beneficial uses and users of water, must be considered equally and coordinated with all water resource planning and management activities in the state; and

Discussion questions for the subcommittee to consider as we discuss how to update this resolution:

- *Should we include a statement regarding board position about continuation of instream water rights process?*
 - *Thoughts regarding minimum stream flows still waiting to be converted,*
 - *Thoughts regarding new applications to convert ag water rights to instream? How should potential out-of-stream agricultural uses be considered when the state is evaluating instream water rights?*
 - *Thoughts regarding new water reservation requests and how the evaluation process should work and consider instream water rights?*

Possible language for the subcommittee to consider:

- *Current and future agricultural uses of water should be considered as part of the instream water rights evaluation process*
- *Creative solutions should be pursued that fulfill agricultural needs of water as well as instream and other needs.*

Summary (this is part of the language from the original resolution)

Agricultural uses of water should be considered equally with all other beneficial uses in water resource planning and management activities within Oregon.

Resolution #309 DRAFT 5/25/2018

Title

Coordinated Streamside Management Approach to Water Quality,

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Background

Since 2012, the Department of Agriculture (ODA), as directed by the Board of Agriculture (BOA), has developed and implemented a strategy to more efficiently and effectively prevent and control water pollution from activities on agricultural lands. That strategy has included systematic identification of Strategic Implementation Areas (SIAs) and Focus Areas in Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) to assess land conditions related to water quality and assist landowners in protecting and improving water quality. The approach has included: assessment based on existing public domain data, prioritization of need based on existing conditions, focused outreach, and enforcement action by the Department of Agriculture when warranted.

In November 2017, representatives of ODA and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) presented a concept to the Board of Agriculture to incorporate ODA's SIA and Focus Area activities into a more coordinated approach to streamside management that includes federal, state and local partners and is designed to leverage more resources for incentive-based conservation and monitoring, while sustaining ODA's role in compliance and enforcement of statutes and rules pertaining to agricultural water quality management. ODA and OWEB will jointly lead the coordinated approach.

Streamside areas have a significant influence on water quality and provide a variety of functions, including streambank stability, moderation of solar heating, and filtration of pollutants from overland flows. They are also a very visible sign of agriculture's commitment to protect water quality and implement the Agricultural Water Quality Program. Streamside areas also provide habitat for fish and wildlife.

While many landowners have invested time and money to improve and restore their streamside areas, many areas in Oregon are still in need of improvement. Outreach, education, and technical assistance is essential to continue streamside restoration efforts along agricultural lands. Monitoring streamside conditions is also important to be able to show change in streamside conditions over time and evaluate the effectiveness of the Agricultural Water Quality Program. A regulatory backstop is provided by ODA to ensure compliance.

In a Coordinated Streamside Management Approach, improvements to the current SIA and Focus Area process will include: more funding for SWCDs and watershed councils for landowner outreach, technical assistance, and on-the-ground projects; a multi-year framework for conservation and restoration work; watershed-scale monitoring of water quality trends; more support from state and federal agencies; ability for ODA to focus on compliance.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon Board of Agriculture supports integration of ODA's SIA and Focus Area activities into a Coordinated Streamside Management approach that expands multi-agency efforts focused on improvement of streamside areas through outreach and education, technical assistance and monitoring, and compliance enforcement to encourage streamside restoration and improve water quality in the agricultural community.

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Summary

Recognizes the importance of streamside areas to water quality. Adopts a multi-agency coordinated approach to improving water quality and habitat for fish and streamside-dependent plants and animals in agriculturally-influenced areas. Directs resources towards outreach, education, technical assistance, monitoring, on-the-ground projects, and compliance enforcement to encourage streamside restoration in the agricultural community. Replaces Resolution 309.

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Resolution 313

Recommendation: Keep Active and update with edits per review by SH and BB.

Replaces Resolution 311,

Title Water quality Strategic Implementation Areas (SIAs) and SWCD Focus Areas

Background

Since 1993, the Board of Agriculture has been actively involved with guiding the department's efforts to establish and implement Oregon's Agricultural Water Quality Program. Recognizing the need to provide quantitative measures of agricultural efforts to improve land condition, the Board passed a resolution in March of 2013 supporting development of a systematic approach to assess conditions on agricultural lands that may impact water quality. The Board also supported development of a mechanism for the program to strategically focus and prioritize resources to improve water quality associated with agricultural lands and activities. With the help of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), the department has successfully developed a systematic approach using ODA Strategic Implementation Areas and SWCD focus areas to assess land conditions that are related to water quality and assist landowners in protecting and improving water quality.

Resolution

- 1) The Board of Agriculture supports the department's systematic approach to assess critical conditions on agricultural lands that may impact water quality. This includes both the assessments of focus areas by SWCDs and the department's use of Strategic Implementation Areas to focus compliance efforts.
- 2) The Board of Agriculture recommends that ODA in concert with other Natural Resource Agencies through the Coordinated Streamside Management Approach prioritize watersheds and develop an accelerated schedule for full-scale statewide implementation of the department's SIA and SWCD Focus Area approach. The schedule should describe what resources are needed to achieve that schedule, what actions are needed to acquire those resources, and how the Board can be of assistance.
- 3) The Board of Agriculture recommends that ODA remain the lead agency responsible for ensuring that both incentive-based and regulatory actions are taken in accordance with Oregon's Agricultural Water Quality Management Act (ORS 568.900 to 568.933) to address landscape conditions that could affect water quality and that could cause water pollution. ODA may utilize data and information from other natural resource agencies as part of the Coordinated Streamside Management Approach.
- 4) The Board of Agriculture recommends ongoing investment of resources by the department in widespread outreach efforts to inform farmers and ranchers of SIA and focus areas assessment results and what actions they can take to protect and enhance water quality on their land.
- 5) The Board of Agriculture recommends that the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between ODA and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) be reviewed every biennium and updated as needed, and that the Board be briefed on changes to the MOA when they occur.

Summary

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5)
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The Board supports accelerated implementation of ODA's systematic approach to identify and document existing conditions and changes on agricultural lands that could impact water quality over time using outreach, assessment and prioritization of geographic areas to address the most serious water quality problems and achieve agricultural TMDL load allocations.

The Board also supports ODA remaining responsible for documenting and controlling pollution on agricultural lands and using data and information from other natural resource agencies as part of the Coordinated Streamside Management Approach to document conditions on the landscape, including water quality impacts, and using this information to prioritize program activities. The Board recommends that the MOA between ODA and DEQ be reviewed every biennium and updated as needed.

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Resolution 311

Title

Agricultural Water Quality Management Program Strategic Implementation

Background

In May 2012, the Board passed an action item recommending "ODA's Natural Resource Division develop alternatives to a complaint-based Agricultural Water Quality Management Program. In addition, staff should identify current processes that could be streamlined, or eliminated, in order to devote more resources to building relationships, plan implementation, and compliance." As a first step, the Board received the annual Oregon Agricultural Water Quality Report in September 2012. As part of that report, ODA presented the Board with a history of the Agricultural Water Quality Management Program (program), discussed ongoing partnerships that help carry out program goals, and identified opportunities for improving program effectiveness.

At the November 2012 meeting, ODA presented the Board with options by posing questions around alternatives for initiating a strategic compliance process and for site selection criteria. As a result of these discussions, ODA has focused significant time and resources to develop a strategy to more efficiently and effectively carry out the program responsibilities to prevent and control water pollution from agricultural lands. Initially introduced as strategic compliance, the Board's input led to broadening this proactive work to a concept of strategic program implementation.

Strategic program implementation is envisioned as an Oregon path toward effective implementation—to work together with agricultural and rural landowners in small geographic areas to address water quality concerns and landscape conditions by aligning available resources with our local, state and federal natural resource partners. Progress may be gauged by first assessing and recording land conditions that impact water quality, and then concisely targeting outreach, technical assistance, and financial incentives to address identified needs. By promoting voluntary cooperation among landowners and

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DRAFT 5/10/2018

Title

Siting of energy transmission and generation facilities on agricultural land

Background

WHEREAS, the State Board of Agriculture has heard from the agricultural community about concerns related to the location and development of power transmission facilities through agricultural lands, including underground and above ground transmission lines and land intensive generation facilities on highly productive agricultural lands.

WHEREAS agriculture is both land and soil dependent, while the siting of energy related facilities do not require soils with a high capability for agricultural production.

WHEREAS, deliberations regarding designation and treatment of agricultural lands under the statewide land use planning program have included consideration of actions that designate or treat differently lands zoned exclusive farm use based solely on soil quality without accounting for other factors that are conducive to the production of high-value agricultural products, including livestock.

WHEREAS numerous applications to develop solar energy generation have been or are under review throughout the state, but especially in the Willamette Valley on highly productive agricultural lands. This has led several counties to amend or consider amending their land use codes to limit beyond state law the siting of solar energy generation on agricultural lands.

WHEREAS, the State Board of Agriculture has been contacted by the State Soil and Water Commission regarding concerns it has related to the increased development of agricultural lands by solar energy generation facilities. In response to the letter from the Soil and Water Commission the Board discussed issues related to the siting of solar energy generation facilities on productive farmland and expressed several concerns related to location on productive agricultural lands. The discussion by the Board resulted in a written request to the Land Conservation and Development Commission asking that the Commission initiate an evaluation of the current administrative rules related the siting of solar facilities on lands zoned exclusive farm use.

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Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture is concerned about the conversion of high-value and productive farmland and the implications to ongoing and future agricultural operations by energy facility development on lands zoned exclusive farm use.

The Board:

1. Recommends an evaluation by the Land Conservation and Development Commission of existing administrative rules related to the siting of energy facilities on land zoned exclusive farm use.
2. Supports establishing review criteria to evaluate not only the individual impact of proposed energy development on agricultural lands, but also the cumulative impacts of existing and potential similar nonfarm land use on agricultural operations.
3. Supports the evaluation of the impacts of proposed linear energy transmission facilities on agricultural operations that focuses on individual segments of a linear facility that are comprised of similar agricultural characteristics.
4. Supports better definition of highly productive farmland (instead of “high-value farmland”) based on multiple factors such as soils, crop types, operational characteristics, and developed agricultural infrastructure.
5. Supports land use regulations that afford greater protection for highly productive farmland including, land use requirements that preclude the location of energy facilities on highly productive or less valuable farmland when otherwise reasonable alternatives exist.
6. Supports evaluation and reconsideration of existing land use regulation that promotes serial development of energy facilities to skirt other more stringent review standards.

Resolution # 169 updated 2/2018

Background

Need for Documented Agricultural Work Force

Background

Whereas, Oregon agriculture's farmgate value is \$5.2 billion dollars;

Whereas, Oregon agriculture is the second largest economic sector in the state;

Whereas Oregon farmers, ranchers, fishermen and processors need a reliable, qualified, and legal workforce to raise, harvest, and process over 225 different agricultural commodities produced in Oregon;

Whereas foreign-born workers comprise a significant portion of the Oregon agriculture and food processing workforce;

Whereas finding skilled, qualified agricultural labor is a growing challenge for Oregon's farmers, ranchers, fishermen and food processors, as well as nationwide;

Whereas when domestic workers are not available, agriculturalists should have access to a guest farmworker program to ensure the continued production of locally grown, harvested and processed Oregon agricultural commodities.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the State Board of Agriculture supports the introduction of immigration laws that create a path forward for existing agricultural workers in the United States to obtain legal documentation. Be it further resolved that the Board strongly recommends to Congress that modifications be made to existing laws, particularly the H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers Program, so all agricultural sectors have the opportunity to secure a qualified workforce.

Proposed Action: Adopt Updates as presented.

Resolution #307 updated 2/2018

Title

Farmworker Housing

Background

Whereas Oregon's agriculture, food and fiber industry is economically linked at 13.8 percent, or 326,617, of full and part-time jobs in Oregon;

Whereas a portion of the agricultural workforce related to production agriculture is seasonal and the housing needs for this population of workers are unique with seasonal employment estimated to be over 100,000 during peak harvest;

Whereas the number of on-farm housing and community-based housing opportunities do not meet the demand of the seasonal agricultural workforce;

Whereas farmers are concerned about the growing number of houses traditionally used for farmworker housing being converted to short-term rentals;

Whereas the Farmworker Housing Tax Credit Program is an important tool to help address the availability and livability of housing for seasonal and year-round farm workers in Oregon.

Resolution

Be it therefore resolved that the State Board of Agriculture supports the Farmworker Tax Credit Program and continues to encourage farmers to help address the need for farmworker housing. Also, be it resolved that the State Board of Agriculture encourages the Oregon legislature to consider additional strategies that would provide further opportunities to address the need for farmworker housing.

Proposed action. Adopt updates as presented

Oregon State Board of Agriculture: Resolution Detail

Title

Fee Associated with Agricultural use of the Waters of the State

Background

The State Board of Agriculture believes a fee associated with agricultural use of the waters of the state would be acceptable under the following conditions: 1) That fees be set at a level that does not impose economic hardship on agricultural users. 2) That all water users, including instream users, be assessed a similar fee. 3) That the revenues generated by these fees be used for limited and clearly defined purposes.

The Board also believes that metering or other forms of agricultural water use reporting is an appropriate activity if similar reporting is required of all other water users.

Resolution

Resolved that the State Board of Agriculture support the above recommendations.

Summary

Believes a fee associated with agricultural use of Oregon's waters would be acceptable under certain conditions. Additionally - metering, or other forms of agricultural water-use reporting, is acceptable if similar monitoring is required for all water users in the state.

Notes**Resolution Number**

145

Subject

Water

Resolution Date

3/1/91

Date of Last Review**Committee**

Natural Resources

Moved by

Eric Lindauer

Seconded by

Barry Fujishin

Action

Passed

Status

- Active
- Inactive
- Revise

Proposed action: Change status from active to inactive

DRAFT 5/25/2018

Resolution 311 –

Recommendation: Make Inactive as resolution 313 updates to cover this one now. SH and BB.

Title

Agricultural Water Quality Management Program Strategic Implementation

Background

In May 2012, the Board passed an action item recommending “ODA’s Natural Resource Division develop alternatives to a complaint-based Agricultural Water Quality Management Program. In addition, staff should identify current processes that could be streamlined, or eliminated, in order to devote more resources to building relationships, plan implementation, and compliance.” As a first step, the Board received the annual Oregon Agricultural Water Quality Report in September 2012. As part of that report, ODA presented the Board with a history of the Agricultural Water Quality Management Program (program), discussed ongoing partnerships that help carry out program goals, and identified opportunities for improving program effectiveness.

At the November 2012 meeting, ODA presented the Board with options by posing questions around alternatives for initiating a strategic compliance process and for site selection criteria. As a result of these discussions, ODA has focused significant time and resources to develop a strategy to more efficiently and effectively carry out the program responsibilities to prevent and control water pollution from agricultural lands. Initially introduced as strategic compliance, the Board’s input led to broadening this proactive work to a concept of strategic program implementation.

Strategic program implementation is envisioned as an Oregon path toward effective implementation—to work together with agricultural and rural landowners in small geographic areas to address water quality concerns and landscape conditions by signing available resources with our local, state and federal natural resource partners. Progress may be gauged by first assessing and recording land conditions that impact water quality, and then concisely targeting outreach, technical assistance, and financial incentives to address identified needs. By promoting voluntary cooperation among landowners and natural resource partners to address landscape impairments and by ODA pursuing regulatory action, when necessary, compliance with local area rules may be accomplished most successfully.

Compliance with the area rules is achieved through ensuring site capable streamside vegetation (grasses, shrubs and trees, where appropriate) is established to provide shade and stream bank stability as well as through creating upland conditions that control erosion and hold soil in place. Work completed by agricultural landowners needs to be acknowledged and the landscape re-assessed with coordinated monitoring to measure change. These strategic efforts address the maturing of ODA’s Agricultural Water Quality Management Program and the need to provide meaningful and measurable outcomes.

Resolution

Be it resolved: The Board of Agriculture supports the Department of Agriculture’s continuing efforts in the implementation and enforcement of the Agricultural Water Quality Management Program.

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N313¶

Title¶

Improve water quality associated with agricultural lands and activities using outreach,¶ assessment and prioritization of geographic areas to address the most serious water quality¶ problems and achieve agricultural TMDL load allocations.¶

Background¶

Since 1993, the Board of Agriculture has been actively involved with guiding the¶ department’s efforts to establish and implement Oregon’s Agricultural Water Quality¶ Program. Recognizing the need to provide quantitative measures of agricultural efforts to¶ improve land condition, the Board passed a resolution in March of 2013 supporting¶ development of a systematic approach to assess conditions on agricultural lands that may¶ impact water quality. The Board also supported development of a mechanism for the¶ program to strategically focus and prioritize resources to provide meaningful results. With¶ the help of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), the department has successfully¶ developed a systematic approach using ODA Strategic Implementation Areas and SWCD¶ focus areas to assess land conditions that are related to water quality and assist landowners¶ in protecting and improving water quality.¶

Resolution¶

- 1) The Board of Agriculture supports the department’s systematic approach to assess¶ critical conditions on agricultural lands that may impact water quality. This includes both¶ the assessments of focus areas by SWCDs and the department’s use of Strategic¶ Implementation Areas to focus compliance efforts.¶
- 2) The Board of Agriculture recommends that ODA in concert with other Natural Resource¶ Agencies prioritize watersheds and develop an accelerated schedule for full-scale statewide¶ implementation of the department’s systematic approach. The schedule should describe¶ what resources are needed to achieve that schedule, what actions are needed to acquire¶ those resources, and how the Board can be of assistance.¶
- 3) The Board of Agriculture recommends that ODA 568.900 to 568.933 take a leadership role with natural¶ resource agencies for agricultural lands and issues in ensuring that both voluntary and¶ regulatory actions are taken to address landscape conditions that affect water quality and¶ that could cause water pollution.¶

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Be it further resolved: The Board of Agriculture supports a full suite of tools necessary to pursue the state's water quality goals that includes continuing complaint-based inspections, undertaking agency-initiated site inspections, and focusing strategic implementation in small geographic areas.

Be it further resolved: The Board of Agriculture supports the Agricultural Water Quality Management Program establishing and piloting a strategic program implementation process that prioritizes and targets resources to achieve compliance with the local area rules. The effort should be founded on the basic conservation principles of erosion control, nutrient management, stream bank stabilization, and moderation of solar heating of streams, promoted by aligning resources with local, state and federal natural resource partners.

Be it further resolved: The Board of Agriculture supports identifying key geographic areas to focus the department's resources on accelerating landscape assessments, accounting for conservation efforts, and measuring results and outcomes.

Summary

Water quality management program

Proposed action: Change status from active to inactive

Title

Minimizing conflicts of coexistence in agriculture

Background

Whereas a broad spectrum of production systems and technologies exist in agriculture;

Whereas farmers should, of their choosing, be able to pursue and utilize all available legal technologies and agriculture production systems to grow crops and raise livestock;

Whereas those engaged in production of agricultural crops or livestock are entrepreneurs, venturing their own knowledge, capital, resources, and ideals to bring products to market with the intent to make a profit;

Whereas all growers have the responsibility for good stewardship of natural resources, and farmers and ranchers must make management decisions that support such stewardship regardless of production system;

Whereas deliberate communication between neighboring producers about practices and cropping choices is essential to maintain crop integrity, resolve potential conflicts between neighboring operations, and help maintain successful farm operations;

Whereas Oregon farms vary in scale, organizational structure, and length of time in operation – some new, some over a century in the same family farm business – all contributing to the mosaic of agriculture in our state;

Whereas farmers have opportunities and responsibilities to many markets, including those nearby (local), regionally, and internationally, any of which may involve selling direct to consumers or wholesale, via contract or open market pricing;

Whereas those engaged in agricultural pursuits recognize that improvements in production processes require research, technological advances, and infrastructure to support adoption of new methods;

Whereas providing a sustained global food supply will require every available production methodology and technology, adapted to local conditions, that improves output while enhancing natural resources;

Resolution

Therefore, the State Board of Agriculture supports:

- a) Stewardship of all production systems on farmlands and agriculture applications, striving for economic viability, sound natural resource management, good neighbor and employee relations, and community connections;
- b) Ongoing, constructive communication between growers about farm

- management plans and practices to minimize coexistence conflicts;
- c) Growers retaining the legal and economic opportunity to choose production technologies and resources, size of operation, and business structures necessary to produce products that meet the markets they choose to serve.
 - d) Growers using Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize conflict between production systems as necessary, such as communication and coordination, use of conflict resolution tools including the Farm Mediation Program; agronomic practices, and buffers and isolation in space/time;
 - e) State and Federal programs that encourage a variety of agriculture production systems with appropriate research, data gathering, infrastructure, tax policies and marketing support; facilitate commerce; support efficiencies in inputs, production and yields; sustain natural resources; conduct regulatory work; and provide financial and technical assistance when available and appropriate.
 - f) Participation by ODA in efforts to proactively prevent and resolve coexistence conflicts, including participation in broad and inclusive efforts to discuss and identify solutions, and promotion of the Farm Mediation Program as a tool to resolve conflict.

Summary

Supports stewardship of natural resources; ongoing communication; choice of production technologies, practices and business structures; BMPs to minimize conflict, and state and federal programs that support a variety of production systems.

Notes

On February 17, 2017, the board motioned to move Resolution 301 from the Government Relations subcommittee to the Marketing and Food Safety subcommittee.

DRAFT - for full board discussion

Title

Farmer's Choice of Production System -- Scale, Markets, and Technology

Resolution Number

301

Background

Whereas a broad spectrum of production systems, certification programs, and technologies exist in agriculture (with many labels) – ranging from organic, natural, sustainable, Good Agriculture Practices (GAP), conventional, biotechnology, and many more;

Resolution Date

6/7/11

Whereas farmers should, of their choosing, be able to pursue and utilize all available legal technologies and agriculture production systems to grow crops and raise livestock;

Subject

Marketing

Whereas those engaged in production of agricultural crops or livestock are entrepreneurs, venturing their own knowledge, capital, resources, and ideals to bring products to market with the intent to make a profit;

Committee

Government Relations

Whereas all growers have the responsibility for good stewardship of natural resources, and every farmer/rancher must make management decisions that can support such stewardship regardless of production system;

Moved by

Doug Krahmer

Whereas good communication between neighboring farmers about practices and cropping choices is important to maintain crop integrity, resolve potential conflicts between neighboring operations, and help maintain successful farm operations;

Seconded by

Tracey Liskey

Whereas Oregon farms vary in scale, business structure, and length of time in operation – some new, some over a century in the same family farm business – all contributing to the mosaic of agriculture in our state;

Action

Motion Carried

Whereas farmers have opportunities and responsibilities to many markets, including those nearby (local), regionally, and internationally, any of which may involve selling direct to consumers or wholesale, via contract or open market pricing;

Status

- Active
- Inactive
- Revise

Whereas those engaged in agricultural pursuits recognize that improvements in production processes require research, technological advances, and infrastructures to support adoption of new methods;

Whereas feeding and supplying a world population projected to increase from 7 billion to over 9 billion people in the next 30-40 years will require every available production methodology and technology, adapted to local conditions, that improves output while maintaining natural resources;

Resolution

Therefore, the State Board of Agriculture supports:

- a) Wise management of all production systems on farmlands and agriculture applications, striving for economic viability, natural resource stewardship, good neighbor and employee relations, and community connections;
- b) Growers retaining the legal and economic opportunity to choose production technologies and resources, size of operation, and business structures necessary to produce products that meet the markets they choose to serve.
- c) Growers using Best Management Practices (BMPs) where needed to minimize conflict between production systems as necessary, such as required isolation or control areas, good neighbor (farm-to-farm) communications about crops to be grown, pinning systems that notify other growers of crops and production systems, and other methods of adequate management to minimize cross pollination or crop commingling, noise or nuisance impacts, and other potential interactions;
- d) State and Federal programs that encourage a variety of agriculture production systems with appropriate research, infrastructure, tax policies and marketing support to engender new ideas; facilitate commerce; support efficiencies in inputs, production and yields; sustain natural resources; and provide financial and technical assistance when

available and appropriate.

Summary

Notes