



North Santiam Sewer Authority

northsantiamsewer@gmail.com

northsantiamsewer.net

P.O. Box 256
444 S 1st Ave
Mill City, OR 97360

NSSA Board Meeting #101

April 7, 2025, at 6:00 pm

Mill City, City Hall

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86874219981>

Meeting ID: 868 7421 9981

- A. Roll Call and Declarations of Conflicts of Interest
- B. Announcements
- C. Public Comment

Old Business

- D. Consent Agenda
Approval of March 3rd Regular Board Summary Notes

New Business

- E. Treasurer's Report (Evans) Motion Needed
- F. County Update (Einmo)
- G. Agency Updates (DEQ, Business Oregon, Regional Solutions Coordinator)
- H. Staff Report (Conroy)

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location
05/05/2025	NSSA Regular Board Meeting	Mill City, City Hall and Zoom
06/02/2025	NSSA Regular Board Meeting	Mill City, City Hall and Zoom



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NSSA Board Meeting #100 Summary Notes

March 3, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Mill City, City Hall and Zoom

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

A. Roll Call and Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Present: Janet Zeyen-Hall, Secretary, Mill City; Ron Evans, Treasurer, Gates; Denny Nielsen, Detroit, Communications Chair; Emily Scofield, Vice-Chair, Gates; Tony Morones, Idanha;

Absent: Tim Kirsch, Chair, Mill City

Marion County: Brian Nicholas

DEQ: Mary Camarata

COG Staff: Laura Conroy, Deza'Rae Collins

Keller Associates: Pam Villarreal

Others: Ken Woodward

No conflicts of interest were declared.

B. Announcements: None

C. Public Comments: None

Old Business:

D. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda by Nielsen, seconded by Morones;
Unanimous Motion passed.

In favor: All present. **Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None.

New Business:

E. Treasurer's Report (Evans): Ron Evans presented the Treasurer's Report, including invoices paid to MWCOG for services and remaining actual funds available.

Motion to approve the Treasurers Report by Zeyen-Hall, seconded by Nielsen;
Unanimous Motion passed.

In favor: All present. **Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None.

F. Adoption of Budget Calendar and Budget Officer (Conroy)

Motion to approve the Budget Calendar and Appoint Laura Conroy as Budget Officer by Evans, seconded by Zeyen-Hall;
Unanimous Motion passed.

In favor: All present. **Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None.

G. Proclamation for World Engineering Day (Conroy)

Motion to approve World Engineering Day Proclamation by Zeyen-Hall, seconded by Evans;
Unanimous Motion passed.

In favor: All present. **Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None.

H. County Update (Einmo): See video on YouTube Channel for update.

I. Agency Updates (DEQ, Business Oregon, Regional Solutions):

DEQ: See video on YouTube Channel for discussion.

Business Oregon: No updates.

Regional Solutions: No updates.

J. Staff Report (Conroy): See memo attached to agenda packet.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:34p.m.



100 HIGH STREET S.E., Suite 200 | SALEM, OREGON 97301 | www.mwvcog.org
T: 503.588.6177 | F: 503-588-6094 | E: mwvcog@mwvcog.org
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Date: April 3, 2025
To: NSSA Board
From: Laura Conroy, Administrator and Budget Officer
Subject: March Staff Report

Introduction

This memo provides an overview of staff activities in MARCH in support of the NSSA. COG staff are monitoring the permitting and rule change processes being undertaken by the DEQ, planning for the 2025 legislative session as an opportunity for additional funding for Detroit/Idanha, and working with the Marion County staff on a contract for services.

Funding for NSSA Administration

The county is working through its internal processes on a renewal of the previous agreement that the county had with NSSA for services. Linn County has expressed interest in providing funding support as well. COG staff have been in conversation about those options.

Permitting Pathway Meetings

DEQ Rules Advisory Committee – permanent rule making

The first Rules Advisory Committee meeting occurred on Monday March 31st. Conversation focused generally on an overview of the Maui decision and the Three Basin Rule. A second meeting is being set. The DEQ plans to have 3 meetings before a draft rule is ready for public comment. Staff continue to work with Salem, the CTGR and the County regarding rulemaking.

DEQ – emergency rulemaking

It was decided to forego petitioning for an emergency rule to allow construction to begin without a permit in favor of a legislative fix as described below.

Legislative Efforts

Staff coordinated with Chair Kirsch and Vice Chair Scofield to provide written and oral testimony on Senator Girod's bills to allow construction to begin on the Mill City treatment facility without a permit. A hearing was held March 25th and a work session was held on March 27th. The Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire at a future meeting will recommend the bill to the Senate floor for vote and it will go to the House for consideration. Staff will keep NSSA board members up to speed on the progress of the bill.

Oregon law prevents DEQ from issuing a Clean Water Act permit for sewage treatment plants in the canyon. The CWA permit requires facilities to treat wastewater to a higher standard than under Oregon law.

Oregon law requires DEQ to issue permits before construction of treatment facilities can begin. The 50M ARPA investment from the legislature must be expended by December 2026. In order to complete construction by December 2026, construction on the project must begin by May 2025. Without a legislative fix, DEQ cannot issue a permit and even if it could issue a permit it is unlikely a permit could be issued quickly enough for construction to start and be completed by December 2026.

Funding

COG continues to coordinate with Marion County to find additional funding to complete the Gates-Mill City phase of the project and full funding for the Idanha-Detroit phase.

Residential Septic Grants

DEQ is requesting additional funding for septic grant programs as part of the 2025 legislative process. If funded, DEQ will issue an RFP to agencies interested in operating a septic grant program. COG has provided feedback about the success of its septic grant program monitoring these efforts and is prepared to submit an application for a septic grant program.

Budget Process

The NSSA board adopted a Budget Calendar and appointed a budget committee at its March meeting. The Budget Committee meets on Monday April 7th at noon via zoom and at the COG offices. Notices for the meeting were published on the NSSA website and in the Statesman Journal. A copy of the proposed budget was made available at the COG front desk. Committee members received their packets March 31st. If the budget committee recommends the budget to the full board the full board will hold its hearing and adopt the budget in May.