

2435 King Blvd, Suite 313 Casper, WY 82604 307-315-6441

### **MEETING MINUTES**

May 14, 2025 – 1:00 pm EORI Conference Room 313

### **Commission Members Present:**

Chairman Robert King
Commissioner Ken Hendricks
Commissioner and State Geologist Erin Campbell
Commissioner Paul Ulrich

# **Commission Member(s) Via Zoom:**

Vice Chairman Chad Brister
Commissioner Eli Bebout
Commissioner Nolan Rap, Office of Governor Gordon

# **Commissioner(s) Absent:**

Commissioner Reubin Tarver, Governor's Representative

#### **Commission Staff Present via Zoom:**

Assistant Attorney General Stephanie Sneesby

# **Guest(s) Present:**

Representative Steve Harshman, House District 37
Holly Krutka, Executive Director, School of Energy Resources
Tom Kropatsch, Director WYOGCC
Rob Creager, Director WEA
Braden Connour, Director of Investments, WEA

# **Guest(s) Present Via Zoom:**

Scott Dobson, ATR

# **Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute Staff Present:**

Director Lon Whitman Deputy Director Roger Hillibush Business Manager Gabe Tullis

# **Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute Staff Present via Zoom:**

Sr. Geologist Paul Davis Sr. Petroleum Engineer Shuiquan Li



#### I. Call to Order

\*\*1:00pm Chairman King called the meeting to order; roll was taken, and a quorum was established. Chairman King requested a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Hendricks made the motion to approve the Agenda, Commissioner Ulrich seconded, and the agenda was approved.

#### II. Minutes

**Motion:** Commissioner Ulrich moved to approve the minutes of the Mar 28, 2025; Enhanced Oil Recovery Commission (EORC) meeting as published. Commissioner Bebout seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### III. Director's Report

Director Whitman mentioned that the EORI continues to strive for excellence and a high level of collaboration. We are continuing to build our team unity. The new Sr. Petroleum Engineer is joining us July 1, 2025, after a yearlong process.

The supplemental budget request for \$558,802 to cover two essential positions for EORI, that of Strategic Partnerships and an office assistant, was denied. This request will be added to the FY 27/28 Budget.

EORI is working on an updated report:  $CO_2$  in "Wyoming" that will be completed in June 2025. This report looks at  $CO_2$  EOR in Wyoming from 1986 to 2024. There have been seven fields under  $CO_2$  EOR during this time. The incremental increase in production is 173 million barrels. This has led to an associated tax revenue to the state of Wyoming of \$1.16 billion. Commissioner Bebout made a request for information to be investigated about the benefit to the state in jobs and the effect on the economy resulting from this  $CO_2$  EOR. Director Whitman stated those benefits had been looked at previously, but a current evaluation will be done.

There are 17 collaborative technical projects currently at EORI. Director Whitman stated that EORI is working to expand the knowledge that EOR in Wyoming is more than just CO2 EOR. EORI is working on several projects:

- NGL-EOR project at Skull Creek field begins in July 2025
- Enriched Air-EOR with Scott Dobson for ATR that started in May 2025.
- Five developing CO<sub>2</sub> EOR projects involved eight fields

EORI remains quite busy. There are three regional studies in Muddy, Minnelusa and Minnelusa 3-D seismic. The Minnelusa 3-D seismic study is nearing the report development stage involving six operators and eight fields.

### IV. Engagement

Director Whitman moderated an EOR panel at the WEA Energy Summit early May 2025. The panel was well received.

Director Whitman met with ExxonMobil CO2, Helium and LNG marketing group in Houston.



EOR Insights continues to be a successful platform to engage with our industry partners. The second Quarter presentation will be June 18, 2025, at True River Commons and will cover EORI's WYRIT, the Reservoir Interactive Tool that has been significantly updated and improved.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter EORC meeting will be held in Gillette September 10, 2025, 1:00pm to 5:00pm, at Gillette Technical College Education Center. On September 9, 2025, there will be a field trip to the Alpha field to view the enriched air project. There will be an Industry Symposium at Gillette Technical College Education Center on September 10th in the morning, where three operators will present on projects that have been collaborative with EORI. Director Whitman stated that the Legislative Luncheon held before the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter EORC meeting was successful and he is looking forward to another Legislative Luncheon for the Gillette area district legislators before the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter EORC meeting. The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter EORC meeting is set for November 13, 2025, 1:00pm to 5:00pm. This meeting is a remote only meeting.

EORI is pleased to be working with Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission and PAW to support the Joint Minerals Interim Committee work on EOR in Wyoming. This work will include a review of EOR processes, primary/secondary/tertiary phases, CO<sub>2</sub> sources and supply, current and developing projects and ways to incentivize increased EOR activity in Wyoming. The first meeting will be held May 21, 2025, in Casper.

Commissioner Bebout questioned Director Whitman about two new helium EOR projects in Southwest Wyoming and asked if there was any information that could be shared. Director Whitmans was aware of the projects, he is not in communication with the newest project, but he has been in contact with Robert Ferguson at Blue Spruce, and that CO<sub>2</sub> availability for EOR would be a few years into the project.

### V. Financial Report

EORI is under budget for the fiscal year due to the lack of a petroleum engineer, but otherwise the budget is looking good. Vice Chairman Brister agreed that the budget is looking healthy, and he saw no issues with the reports.

# VI. IT Data Technology Highlights

Technology is business as usual, Window 10 is ending in October, shift to Windows 11 is in progress across EORI's workstations. As far as infrastructure, the storage for the internal use database is being evaluated to for upgrades as needed to meet the data usage of the Technical Team.

Outreach continues with EOR Insights where the WYRIT application tool will be showcased for our industry partners. June 18, 2025, at 8 am at True River Commons. EORI had a booth at the WEA Energy Summit, and it was very well received with great engagement and good exposure for the benefit EORI has brought to the state of Wyoming oil and gas industry.

The Data team has been involved in producing fact sheets and publications for the Technical Team's projects. The Data team has been working collaboratively with many of our state partners. There is a quarterly meeting with the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission data and mapping section to ensure data quality. There was a luncheon with the Wyoming Geological Survey Oil and Gas section to introduce ourselves to them and further collaboration. The data team was highly involved in the set



up and execution of the Legislative Luncheon held on May 14, 2025. Six legislators attended the luncheon and EORI looks forward to the luncheon in September in Gillette.

The EORI Website updates continue, with the most recent being the cleaning up of the library section. All publications EORI has are available digitally.

The collection of historic data is continuing.

Chairman King asked about the pipeline maps that are available on the website. These maps are available on the website through a pipeline map server and the curation and digitization of the historic pipeline maps continues. Commissioner Campbell asked about the digitization of logs and the creation of LAS files. EORI has the capability of not only creating raster scans but creating LAS files as well.

There is significant effort toward the creation of an access portal for the end user to have more streamlined access to the data EORI is curating.

Commissioner Bebout had a question about the use of AI in EORI operations. EORI is not using AI yet in technical operations and well production data, but it is used to assist in day-to-day activities.

# VII. EORI Partner Projects Deep Dive

- James and Brian Hume presented for TR Operating on the Minnelusa Three Field Cluster.
- Elio Dean presented for XOil and the NGL EOR Project at Skull Creek
- Scott Dobson presented for ATR on Enriched Air EOR

#### **VIII. Wyoming Energy Authority Updates**

Rob Creager, director of Wyoming Energy Authority, presented The WEA Update.

### IX. WOGCC Updates

Tom Kropatsch, Director of the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, presented APDs, Operatorship, and the 8(m) Rule

### X. Executive Session

There was no executive session.

#### **XI. Comments from Commissioners**

Vice Chairman Brister commended Deputy Director Hillibush for the information packet and the smooth technical operation of the meeting.

Director Whitman stated he is working on the restructuring of the Technical Advisory Board and the work they want to accomplish with EORI. They are working on creating language for a charter and working toward meeting with the EORC at least once a year.

# **XII. Future Meeting Dates**

Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2025, at 1:00pm at Gillette College Technical Education Center.

#### XIII. Adjourn



Chairman King made a motion to adjourn. At 4:30 pm, the meeting was adjourned.

\*\* Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm \*\*

XIV. Minutes Approved

Pohart king Chairman

Date