

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

## **MEETING MINUTES**

March 28, 2025 – 1:00 PM Meeting Virtual via Zoom

**Commission Members Present: Virtual meeting** 

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

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

Commissioner Reubin Tarver, Governor's Representative (joined late due to prior commitment)

## Commissioner(s) Excused:

Commissioner Eli Bebout

Commissioner Nolan Rap, Office of Governor Gordon

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

Assistant Attorney General Stephanie Sneesby

**Guest(s) Present: Virtual Meeting** 

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

Esther Wagner, CERPA, SER Holly Krutka, Executive Director, School of Energy Resources

**Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute Staff Present: Virtual Meeting** 

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

Director Lon Whitman
Deputy Director Roger Hillibush
Business Manager Gabe Tullis
Data Architect Shane Singleton
Sr. Petroleum Engineer Shuiquan Li

Sr. Geologist Nick Jones

Sr. Geologist Steve Whitaker

Sr. Geologist Paul Davis

Operations and GIS Coordinator Kellie Cairns Vlastos

### I. Call to Order



# \*\*1:10pm Chairman King called the meeting to order; roll was taken, and a quorum was established.

Chairman King made a motion to approve the agenda. Director Whitman made a change to the agenda, the operator presentation during the Executive Session was postponed to a later date. Chairman King then requested approval of the agenda with Director Whitman's modification. Commissioner Hendricks moved for approval, Vice Chairman Brister seconded, and the agenda was approved unanimously.

### **II. Welcome New Commissioners**

Commissioner Paul Ulrich, UW Board of Trustees, comes from an extensive oil and gas background, beginning with Encana in 2001 and later became the Vice President of Jonah Energy in 2014. Commissioner Ulrich is the Governor appointed UW Trustee for the EORC, and representative of the ERC for the School of Energy Resources.

Representative Reuben Tarver (joined late) was appointed by the Legislative Management Council. Chairman King requested Commissioner Tarver's thoughts on the recent legislative session. Commissioner Tarver stated he was pleased with what was accomplished on the bonding bill that was passed and the work on CO<sub>2</sub>. Chairman King encouraged engagement with EORI for any questions or help Commissioner Tarver might need.

### III. Minutes

**Motion:** Commissioner Campbell moved to approve the minutes from the December 3, 2024, Enhanced Oil Recovery Commission (EORC) meeting as published. Vice Chairman Brister seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

## IV. Director's Report

Director Whitman provided a brief overview of EORI to familiarize the new commissioners with EORI and our Mission. Director Whitman also mentioned that the EORI continues to strive for excellence and a high level of collaboration. We are continuing to build our team unity.

The last round of Sr. Petroleum Engineer interviews are complete. Amitabh Garg was the top candidate and has accepted the position and will start on July 1, 2025.

EORI did not receive the requested supplemental budget, and it was suggested to add this request to the FY 27/28 Budget. This request was for \$558,802 to cover two essential positions for EORI, that of Strategic Partnerships and an office assistant.

EORI has three new publications:

- Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute—Increasing Oil Recovery Through 20 Years of Collaborative
  Work with Wyoming Operators. This publication highlights the return on investment the
  Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute has made for the state of Wyoming in the 20 years we have
  been working with the oil and gas industry in Wyoming.
- A Review of the Wyoming Pipeline Corridor Initiative: Facilitating CO<sub>2</sub> EOR in Wyoming. This publication discusses the development process for the WPCI in Wyoming.
- 20 Years of Collaborative Work with the Wyoming Oil and Gas Industry. This publication gives an overview of the Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute and the work we have been involved with



in Wyoming over the life of the Institute. The Governor's office issued a beautiful press release regarding EORI's value to Wyoming.

There are 17 collaborative technical projects currently at EORI. This includes three regional studies being led by the institute. EORI continues to provide collaboration even though our team is small.

## V. Financial Report

With the support and encouragement of Vice Chairman Brister, EORI has developed clear and concise financial reports that show the state funded monies and the non-state funded money clearly. Chairman King appreciates that the reports are clear and helpful and emphasized that the EORC is a separate state funded agency. Commissioner Ulrich also appreciates the concise reports and that the EORC, and thusly the EORI budgets, are not tied to UW. SER Executive Director Holly Krutka commended Director Whitman and Business Manager Tullis for all their work on the financial reports.

## VI. Engagement

EOR Insights continues to be a successful platform to engage with our industry partners. The first quarter meeting was held on January 8, 2025, from 8-10 AM where Robert Downey presented CycleStim technology. The second quarter meeting will be held June 18, 2025, at True River Cross Commons and will focus on the updated and improved WYRIT interactive mapping application.

EORC meetings for 2025 have been determined. The second quarter meeting will be held in Casper on May 14, 2025, from 1-5 PM. Director Whitman has proposed holding a Legislative Luncheon before this meeting for the local district legislators. The third Quarter meeting will be held in Gillette September 10, 2025. 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 where three operators will present on projects that have been collaborative with EORI. Director Whitman has proposed another Legislative Luncheon for the Gillette area district legislators. The fourth quarter EORC meeting will be remote on November 13, 2025, from 1-5 PM.

2025 Joint Minerals Interim Committee work will be a three-tiered approach from the EORI, Wyoming Oil and Gas Commission and the Wyoming Energy Authority to educate legislators on the primary/secondary/tertiary processes in the oil and gas industry. EORI will also discuss what incremental production is and how EOR is necessary to produce that resource that would otherwise remain untouched. These meetings begin May 21-22 and July 29-30 in Casper and September 11-12 in Cheyenne.

## VII. Operations, Data and Technology

Deputy Director Hillibush gave an overview of the Operations, Data and Technology group and the scope of work and the support given to EORI as administration support, Human Resources support and data support.

# VIII. EORI Data/WYRIT

A presentation was given on the EORI WYRIT (Wyoming Reservoir Information Tool) by Kellie Cairns Vlastos and Shane Singleton.



### IX. Executive Session

At 2:40 PM, a request for Executive Session for personnel-related reasons was called by Chairman King. Vice Chairman Brister moved for Executive Session, and it was seconded by Commissioner Hendricks.

### X. Return to Public Session

At about 3:05 PM a request for a motion to move into the Public Session was called by Chairman King. Commissioner Ulrich called for the move to Public Session and Chairman King seconded the motion.

## **XI. Comments from Commissioners**

Introductions from each commissioner were made for Representative Tarver to familiarize himself with his fellow commissioners.

Chairman King requested that Jimmy Goolsby be kept in our thoughts as he is battling cancer. Jimmy Goolsby was a former member of the EORC

# **XII. Future Meeting Dates**

The next EORC meeting will be May 14, 2025, in Casper in the EORI conference room. A Legislative Luncheon will be held prior to the EORC meeting.

# XIII. Adjourn

Chairman King requested a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Vice Chairman Brister and seconded by Commissioner Ulrich and the meeting was adjourned.

\*\* Meeting adjourned at 3:20pm \*\*

**XIV. Minutes Approved** 

Robert King, Chairman

Date