OREGON WINE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
COVID-19 Response
APRIL 6, 2020 <<FINAL>>
VIA TELECONFERENCE

ATTENDANCE

BOARD:	Bob Morus (Chair), Kevin Chambers (Vice Chair), Eugenia Keegan (Chair Emeritus), Donna Morris (Treasurer), Hilda Jones, Bertony Faustin, Justin King, Barbara Steele
STAFF:	Tom Danowski, Marie Chambers, Stacey Kohler
ABSENT:	Jason Tosch

MEETING OPENING

Call to Order

Chair B. Morus called the Oregon Wine Board public meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

Board Minutes

The Board reviewed minutes from the March 30 Oregon Wine Board meeting.

> Vice Chair K. Chambers moved that the March 30 Board meeting minutes be approved as submitted. H. Jones seconded. The motion carried 8-0.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Frequency and Structure for the Special COVID-19 Board Meetings

The Board discussed how it would like to proceed with the COVID-19 Response Special Board meetings.

- The Board directors decided they would continue to hold regular, scheduled calls weekly while the crisis continues with the understanding that some Directors may have conflicts from time to time.
- Chair B. Morus said that if a critical issue arose that required full Board approval the Board would disseminate the information for input from all 9 Board members.
- T. Danowski asked that if Board directors have specific agenda items, they would like to address at the weekly Board meetings to reach out to him directly.

Effectiveness and Structure of Weekly All-Industry Teleconferences

T. Danowski brought up for discussion the effectiveness of the All-Industry Discussion Forums held weekly on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.
- D. Morris commented that these meetings were productive and valuable in showing leadership to the Oregon wine industry in identifying and communicating issues and plans with various business leaders.
- The Board would like to add an open question and answer session to the agenda for All-Industry Discussions Forums to address issues and questions of the Board.

<u>Invitations to other industry organizations to OWB Board meetings</u>

- The OWB discussed inviting other industry organizations to Board meetings periodically to exchange ideas, communicate Wine Board priorities, answer questions and invite input.
- In a continued effort to broaden dialogue, understanding and industry input the OWB Chair will extend an invitation to OWC's Board Chair and Co-Chair to join the April 20 OWB Board meeting.
- OWB directors will review OWC's by-laws and other information available on the OWC website for discussion during the OWB's April 13 teleconference.

<u>Grape Tonnage Tax Payments due to OLCC June 30, 2020</u>

M. Chambers updated the Board in response to an earlier request that OWB management explore the possibility of a one-time deferral of grape tonnage tax payments due to OLCC from Oregon wineries on June 30, 2020. Such a request would be in recognition of the severe business disruptions caused by the COVID-19 emergency.

- While the $25 per ton tax rate and the semi-annual due dates for payments are fixed in statute, OLCC has some discretion to allow a grace period of up to 90 days on tax payments within which no interest or penalty will accumulate, a winery's license renewal application would not be disturbed and no outstanding balance would be sent to collections.

A motion was made whereas the Oregon wine industry is under severe stress due to the COVID-19 crisis, and whereas the Oregon Wine Board supports regulatory relief to Oregon wineries and vineyards, therefore be it resolved the Oregon Wine Board endorses OLCC's current operating practice of accommodating delayed payments of the grape tax for wineries under financial stress when requested by a taxpaying licensee. Be it further explained the Oregon Wine Board communicate these avenues of relief to the industry. OWB management staff will reach out to the OLCC in reaching agreeable language. D. Morris moved to approve. B. Steele seconded. The motion carried 7-0-1. K. Chambers abstained.

MEETING FINALIZATION

Chair B. Morus adjourned the Oregon Wine Board meeting at 5:31 p.m.