The OWRB defines policy and conducts the state’s water business through a nine-member Board appointed by the Governor. Board members and agency staff are guided by the OWRB’s mission—protecting and enhancing the quality of life for Oklahomans by managing and improving the state’s water resources to ensure clean and reliable water supplies, a strong economy, and a safe and healthy environment.

**Water for 2060 Advisory Council**

A fifteen-member advisory council was created in 2013. The Council was chaired by J.D. Strong, OWRB Executive Director, and was comprised of fourteen members appointed by the Governor, Speaker of the House, and President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The members were well-versed in municipal, rural residential, agricultural, industrial, oil and gas, and recreational water uses, as well as water efficiency, water and wastewater reuse, and marginal quality and brackish water use practices and technologies.

The 15 members were tasked with studying and recommending appropriate water conservation practices, incentives, and educational programs to moderate statewide water usage while supporting Oklahoma’s population growth and economic development goals.

Quarterly meetings and workshops provided the Council an opportunity to hear from leaders in public water supply, crop irrigation, and a variety of industries, and consider strategies for increased water use efficiency. The Advisory Council also visited several sites in the Panhandle for guided tours of agriculture operations, a public wastewater treatment plant, and a bioenergy production facility.

Information gleaned from these workshops and site visits was used to shape the recommendations submitted to the Governor, Speaker of the House, and President Pro Tempore in 2015. These recommendations are outlined in the Water for 2060 Advisory Council Report available online at [www.owrb.ok.gov/2060](http://www.owrb.ok.gov/2060).

With passage of the Water for 2060 Act (HB 3055) in 2012, Oklahoma became the first state in the nation to establish a bold, statewide goal of consuming no more fresh water in 2060 than was consumed in 2010.

Water for 2060 emphasizes the use of education and incentives, rather than mandates, to achieve this ambitious goal without limiting Oklahoma’s future growth and prosperity.

**Advisory Council Members**

- J.D. Strong
  OWRB Executive Director
- Jim Bachmann
  Tulsa
- Lauren Brookey
  Tulsa
- Tom Buchanan
  Altus
- Bob Drake
  Davis
- Dan Galloway
  Stillwater
- Roger Griffin
  Broken Bow
- Charlette Hearne
  Broken Bow
- Mark Helm
  Oklahoma City
- Nathan Kuhnert
  Oklahoma City
- Phil Richardson
  Minco
- Kevin Smith
  Enid
- Trent Smith
  Choctaw
- Joe Taron
  Shawnee
- Jerry Wiebe
  Hooker

**Full Report Available at** [www.owrb.ok.gov/2060](http://www.owrb.ok.gov/2060)
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Oklahoma Water Resources Board
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Oklahoma City, OK 73118
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WWW.OWRB.ok.gov

Water for 2060 Advisory Council
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Water for 2060 Act
HB 3055 (2012) — “The Legislature hereby declares that, in order to protect Oklahoma citizens from increased water supply shortages and groundwater depletions by the year 2060 in most of the eighty-two watershed planning basins in the state as described in the 2012 Update of the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan, the public policy of this state is to establish and work toward a goal of consuming no more fresh water in the year 2060 than is consumed statewide in the year 2012, while continuing to grow the population and economy of the state and to achieve this goal through utilizing existing water supplies more efficiently and expanding the use of alternatives such as wastewater, brackish water, and other nonpotable supplies. Provided, however, that nothing in the Water for 2060 Act shall be construed as amending the provisions of law pertaining to rights or permits to use water.”
All Water Use Sectors

Public Water Supply Recommendation 1

Goal: Developing strategies and benchmarks for Public Water Supply water efficiency
Legislative Action: Provide funding for development and distribution of the guide.
Estimated Cost: $200,000 initial cost plus annual updating

Public Water Supply Recommendation 2
Provide State Funding and Financing for Water System Loss Reduction.

Goal: Reducing water loss in transmission/distribution systems
Legislative Action: Provide funds for state matching-fund grant program.
Estimated Cost: $1,000,000

Public Water Supply Recommendation 3

Goal: Reducing water loss in transmission/distribution systems
Legislative Action: Provide funding for development and distribution of the guide.
Estimated Cost: $200,000

Public Water Supply Recommendation 4
Encourage Regionalization and Supply Sharing.

Goal: Best practices and information sharing
Legislative Action: Continue gross production tax funding for OCWP implementation.
Estimated Cost: $200,000 plus annual allocations for infrastructure mapping

Crop Irrigation Recommendation 1
Apply State Financing Programs to Water-Efficient Crop Irrigation Equipment Conversion and Practices.

Goal: Providing financial incentives and mechanisms for irrigators to implement efficient technologies and practices and increase crop yields
Legislative Action: Allocate annual funding for program costs and authorize expansion of the Oklahoma Agricultural Linked Deposit Program.
Estimated Cost: Funds for OK EQIP and matching-grant programs; linked deposits from current OWRB Financial Assistance Program funds

Crop Irrigation Recommendation 2
Develop an Oklahoma Crop Irrigation Best Practices Guide.

Goal: Best practices and information sharing
Legislative Action: Provide funding for development and distribution of the guide.
Estimated Cost: $300,000

Crop Irrigation Recommendation 3
Actively Support Federal Crop Insurance Reform.

Goal: Reducing or eliminating water waste required to prove out crop insurance claims
Legislative Action: Introduce legislative resolution seeking relief at the federal level.
Estimated Cost: Negligible

Crop Irrigation Recommendation 4

Goal: Reducing water loss in transmission/distribution systems
Legislative Action: Provide funding for development and distribution of the guide.
Estimated Cost: $200,000

Crop Irrigation Recommendation 5
Encourage Regionalization and Supply Sharing.

Goal: Best practices and information sharing
Legislative Action: Continue gross production tax funding for OCWP implementation.
Estimated Cost: $200,000 plus annual allocations for infrastructure mapping

Energy and Industry Recommendation 1
Facilitate Increased Sharing of Information and Supplies Between Energy and Industry Water Users.

Goal: Facilitating the sharing of best practices and more efficient shared use of supplies between Energy and Industry water users
Legislative Action: None required.
Estimated Cost: None required.

Energy and Industry Recommendation 2
Develop an Energy and Industry Water Use Best Practices Guidance and Recognition Program.

Goal: Increasing awareness and recognition of efficient Energy and Industry water use practices
Legislative Action: Establish the program and annually recognize efficient Energy and Industry water users; provide funds for development of guidance and administration.
Estimated Cost: $30,000-$50,000 per year

Energy and Industry Recommendation 3
Promote Industrial Use of Marginal Quality Waters.

Goal: Increasing the use of marginal quality water supplies in industrial applications
Legislative Action: None required.
Estimated Cost: $100,000 and state agency staff time

Public Water Supply Recommendation 5
Encourage Regionalization and Supply Sharing.

Goal: Recognizing Public Water Supply systems with high levels of efficiency and reuse
Legislative Action: Establish the program, annually recognize efficient communities and systems, and provide funds for administration of the program.
Estimated Cost: $30,000-$50,000 per year (plus implications of lower interest rates and statewide Public Water Supply rating)
### Energy and Industry Recommendation 1
**Facilitate increased sharing of information and supplies between energy and industry water users.**

**GOAL**
Facilitating the sharing of best practices and more efficient shared use of supplies between Energy and Industry water users

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Continue gross production tax funding for OCWP implementation.

**ESTIMATED COST**
Negligible

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### Energy and Industry Recommendation 2
**Develop an energy and industry water use best practices guidance and recognition program.**

**GOAL**
Increasing awareness and recognition of efficient Energy and Industry water use practices

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Establish the program and annually recognize efficient Energy and Industry water users; provide funds for development of guidance and administration.

**ESTIMATED COST**
$30,000-$50,000 per year

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### Public Water Supply Recommendation 1
**Develop an Oklahoma public water supply system water efficiency best practices guide.**

**GOAL**
Developing strategies and benchmarks for Public Water Supply water efficiency

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Provide funding for development and distribution of the guide.

**ESTIMATED COST**
$200,000

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### Public Water Supply Recommendation 2
**Provide state funding and financing for water system loss reduction.**

**GOAL**
Reducing water loss in transmission/distribution systems

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Provide funding for development and distribution of the guide.

**ESTIMATED COST**
$1,000,000

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### Public Water Supply Recommendation 3
**Develop an Oklahoma water system loss reduction best practices guide.**

**GOAL**
Reducing water loss in transmission/distribution systems

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Provide funding for development and distribution of the guide.

**ESTIMATED COST**
$200,000

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### Crop Irrigation Recommendation 1
**Apply state financing programs to water-efficient crop irrigation equipment conversion and practices.**

**GOAL**
Providing financial incentives and mechanisms for irrigators to implement efficient technologies and practices and increase crop yields

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Allocate annual funding for program costs and authorize expansion of the Oklahoma Agricultural Linked Deposit Program.

**ESTIMATED COST**
Funds for OK EQIP and matching-grant programs; linked deposits from current OWRB Financial Assistance Program funds

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### Crop Irrigation Recommendation 2
**Develop an Oklahoma crop irrigation best practices guide.**

**GOAL**
Best practices and information sharing

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Provide funding for development and distribution of the guide.

**ESTIMATED COST**
$300,000

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### Crop Irrigation Recommendation 3
**Actively support federal crop insurance reform.**

**GOAL**
Reducing or eliminating water waste required to prove out crop insurance claims

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Introduce legislative resolution seeking relief at the federal level.

**ESTIMATED COST**
Negligible

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### Crop Irrigation Recommendation 4
**Provide state funding and financing for water system loss reduction.**

**GOAL**
Reducing water loss in transmission/distribution systems

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Provide funding for development and distribution of the guide.

**ESTIMATED COST**
$30,000-$50,000 per year

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### Crop Irrigation Recommendation 5
**Encourage regionalization and supply sharing.**

**GOAL**
Best practices and information sharing

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Continue gross production tax funding for OCWP implementation.

**ESTIMATED COST**
$200,000 plus annual allocations for infrastructure mapping

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### Public Water Supply Recommendation 5
**Promote public education and outreach materials, a statewide resources conservation campaign, and an Oklahoma water efficiency portal.**

**GOAL**
Best practices and information sharing

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Support Water for 2060 Coordinator position and provide authority and funding for its activities; provide funding for development and maintenance of the portal.

**ESTIMATED COST**
$300,000-1,000,000 per year depending on extent of outreach

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### Energy and Industry Recommendation 3
**Develop an energy and industry water system loss reduction best practices guide.**

**GOAL**
Reducing water loss in transmission/distribution systems

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Provide funding for development and distribution of the guide.

**ESTIMATED COST**
$200,000

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### Public Water Supply Recommendation 4
**Encourage regionalization and supply sharing.**

**GOAL**
Best practices and information sharing

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Continue gross production tax funding for OCWP implementation.

**ESTIMATED COST**
$200,000 plus annual allocations for infrastructure mapping

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### Public Water Supply Recommendation 6
**Develop a state recognition and rewards program for highly efficient public water supply systems.**

**GOAL**
Recognizing Public Water Supply systems with high levels of efficiency and reuse

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Establish the program and annually recognize efficient Public Water Supply systems, and provide funds for administration of the program.

**ESTIMATED COST**
$30,000-50,000 per year (plus implications of lower interest rates and statewide Public Water Supply rating)

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### Crop Irrigation Recommendation 1
**Apply state financing programs to water-efficient crop irrigation equipment conversion and practices.**

**GOAL**
Providing financial incentives and mechanisms for irrigators to implement efficient technologies and practices and increase crop yields

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**
Allocate annual funding for program costs and authorize expansion of the Oklahoma Agricultural Linked Deposit Program.

**ESTIMATED COST**
Funds for OK EQIP and matching-grant programs; linked deposits from current OWRB Financial Assistance Program funds