

Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Committee on Rules
DATE: September 20, 2023
BY: Leslie Porter, Analyst
RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



DIRECTOR OF THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT¹

The Governor has appointed the following individual to serve as the Director of the Oregon Department of Emergency Management, subject to Senate confirmation.²

Appointee

Erin McMahon

Term

Serves at the pleasure of the Governor.

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 401.062 \(2021\)](#)

Statement of Economic Interest³

Required.

Statutory Requirements

The director is responsible for the performance, duties, functions, and powers of the department.⁴ The Oregon Department of Emergency Management negotiates agreements with the United States Department of Homeland Security to acquire federal funds that provide emergency program management and emergency services.⁵

Duties⁶

The director is responsible for coordinating and facilitating exercises and training, emergency planning, preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery activities with state and local emergency services agencies and organizations.

The director must:

- make rules for the administration and implementation of the enabling statute;

¹ The Office of Emergency Management became the Department of Emergency Management via [Chapter 539, Oregon Laws 2021](#), operative July 1, 2022.

² [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 \(2021\)](#), [ORS 171.565 \(2021\)](#).

³ [ORS 244.050 \(2021\)](#).

⁴ [ORS 401.062 \(2021\)](#).

⁵ [ORS 401.096 \(2021\)](#).

⁶ [ORS 401.092 \(2021\)](#).

- coordinate emergency services activities of all public and private organizations;
- maintain a cooperative liaison with emergency management agencies at all levels of government;
- have other duties authorized by the enabling statute and by the Governor;
- administer emergency management grants;
- provide for, and staff, the State Emergency Operations Center;
- serve as the Governor's representative for coordination of certain response activities and manage the recovery process;
- establish training and professional standards for local emergency program management personnel;
- establish task forces and advisory groups to achieve mandated responsibilities;
- enforce compliance requirements of federal and state agencies for receiving funds and conducting designated emergency functions; and
- coordinate activities of state and local governments to enable them to work together during domestic incidents identified in the National Incident Management System.

The director may also:⁷

- appoint a deputy director;
- organize the department into administrative divisions and appoint an individual to administer each division;
- adopt rules necessary for the administration of applicable laws;
- establish advisory or technical committees to aid and advise, determine the membership of those committees, and serve as an *ex officio* member; and
- enter into interagency agreements with other state agencies.

⁷ [ORS 401.062 \(2021\) to ORS 401.088 \(2021\)](#).

