

RESOLUTION 2026-17
A RESOLUTION OF THE RAINBOW WATER DISTRICT
ADOPTING A POLICY FOR GIFTS OF MERCHANDISE

WHEREAS, Rainbow Water District (District) is a domestic water supply district organized under Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) Chapter 264 and ORS 264.410 provides that “the power and authority given to districts is vested in and shall be exercised by a board of five commissioners, each of whom shall be an elector of the district”, and

WHEREAS, public officials of the District (including elected Commissioners and appointed Budget Committee members) are subject to government ethics rules provided in ORS Chapter 244, and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Government Ethics Commission adopted a new Government Ethics Law Guide for Public Officials on June 12, 2026, which incorporated changes adopted by the Oregon Legislature under House Bill 4161 in 2026, and notes that public officials are allowed to accept merchandise provided to them by a public body if the cost of the merchandise does not exceed \$100 in a calendar year, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rainbow Water District Board of Commissioners that the Policy for Gifts of Merchandise attached as Exhibit A is hereby adopted to provide more specific guidance on the District’s policy regarding gifts of branded merchandise.

Effective Date: This Resolution and the referenced policy shall be effective upon its approval and adoption.

ADOPTED by a vote of _____ Yes votes and _____ No votes this 8th day of July, 2026.

Attest:

President, Board of Commissioners

Secretary, Board of Commissioners

EXHIBIT A

RAINBOW WATER DISTRICT
GIFTS OF MERCHANDISE POLICY

This policy is limited to gifts of merchandise provided by Rainbow Water District (Rainbow) to public officials serving Rainbow in a paid or volunteer capacity. This policy is adopted for the purpose of complying with Oregon Government Ethics Law (ORS Chapter 244). The benefit provided by this policy supports efficient operations and supports volunteer public official identification, engagement, and morale.

Volunteers serving on Rainbow's Board of Commissioners or Budget Committee are eligible to receive gifts of merchandise. This is typically limited to Rainbow-branded clothing which may include short- or long-sleeved shirt, sweatshirt or hoodie, vest, jacket, or hat. District branding is limited to the white or blue version of the logo as approved by the Superintendent.

Appointed Budget Committee Members may:

1. Receive one or more articles of clothing provided with District branding (logo).
2. Purchase their own article(s) of clothing and provide them to District with a copy of the purchase receipts. District staff will reimburse the cost of the clothing and coordinate with vendors to add customized artwork appropriate for District branding. The total cost of clothing may not exceed \$42 to allow \$8 for embroidery or screen printing.
3. The total value of clothing with customization (or other merchandise gifted by Rainbow) may not exceed \$50 per year.

Elected Commissioners may:

1. Receive one or more articles of clothing provided with District branding (logo).
2. Purchase their own article(s) of clothing and provide them to District with a copy of the purchase receipts. District staff will reimburse the cost of the clothing and coordinate with vendors to add customized artwork appropriate for District branding. The total cost of clothing may not exceed \$84 to allow \$16 for embroidery or screen printing.
3. The total value of clothing with customization (or other merchandise gifted by Rainbow) may not exceed \$100 per year.

Rainbow is not responsible for any articles of clothing purchased by individuals that are lost or damaged during the customization process, with liability limited to reimbursement of the actual purchase cost of the item. Elected and appointed volunteers shall properly dispose of damaged or unused clothing so that branded clothing could not be used inappropriately or to impersonate Rainbow officials.