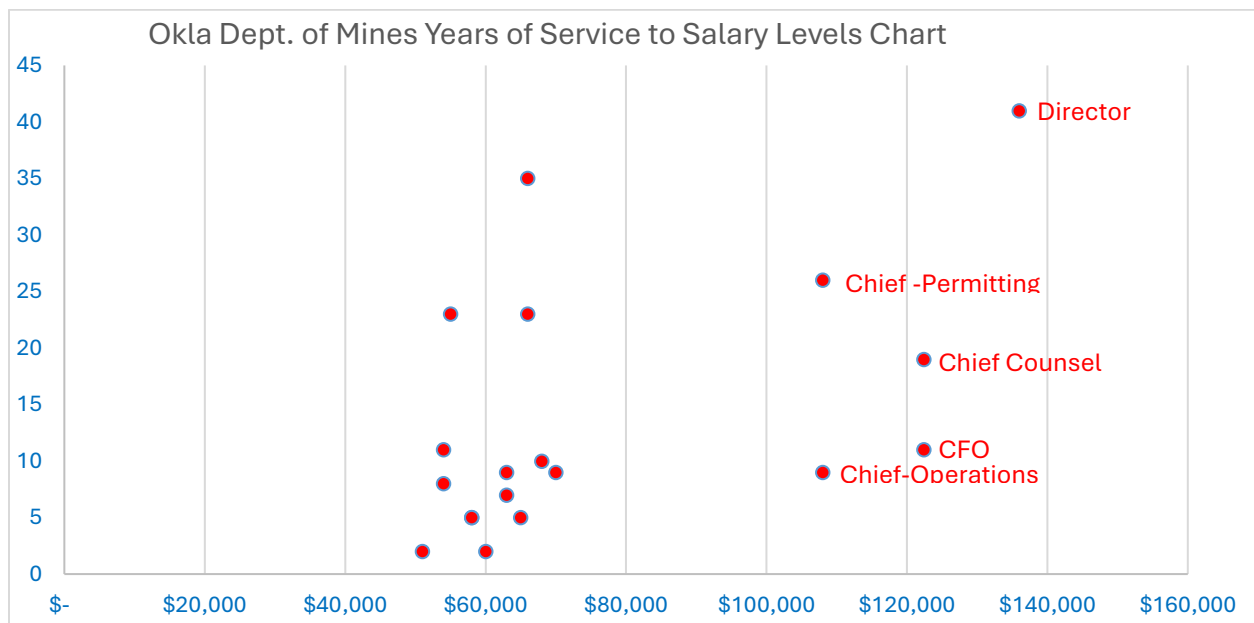




**FY 2027 - Budget Request – \$200,000 additional appropriations**

- \$100,000 for Phase 2 technology enhancements: (ONE-TIME REQUEST)
  - Creation of real-time form driven inspection reports
  - On-line payment process for production and permit fees
  - Additional enhancements of inspection reports to permit records for public review.
- \$100,000 for staff salary enhancements to support cost-of-living increases and staff retention. (RECURRING REQUEST)



- ODM staffing level: 19 employees with one vacancy (open hydrologist position)

**FY 2026 - New funding of \$200,000 appropriations**

- \$100,000 for technology enhancements:
  - Contract issued for work with MTX to create a Public Permit Search and Administrative Console. This will allow a basic workflow to support the public search of permit data. It will create an Administrative Console for the agency to add, update or inactivate permit data. It will create an architectural foundation with the blueprint roadmap to support future growth of the digital footprint for the agency permit data.
- \$100,000 to fund a Hydrologist position (salary, benefits, office supplies and equipment)

- Second round of interviews are taking place for the new hire, with a proposed hire date of January 31, 2026.
- Would be responsible for the development of updating and refining the Water Quality State Implementation Plan for the management of water quality during mining operations and working closely with OWRB and DEQ.
- Will be responsible for evaluating water resources potentially affected by non-coal surface mining operations, review submitted permit applications to ensure water quality protection is integrated into permit conditions, participate in site inspections and water quality testing for compliance with water quality standards, and recommending corrective actions if needed.

#### **FY 2025 – New recurring funding of \$200,000 appropriations**

- \$100,000 for salary enhancements for existing staff : average increase 8.75%
- \$100,000 to fund a Reclamation Project Manager position (salary, benefits, office supplies and equipment)
  - Reclamation Project Manager hired to address forfeited mine reclamation
  - As of December 2025: 6 total reclamation projects completed

#### **FY 2024 – New funding of one-time \$75,000 appropriations**

- Requested funding to digitize mining permit files
  - Partnered with OCI to digitize all current mining permits 100% completed
  - Digital files now available for: Open records requests and field staff access
  - Files will be accessible to the public through the ODM website enhancement of fiscal year 2026.

#### **Additional informational Notes**

The Oklahoma Dept of Mines is a constitutional agency.

In 1986, there were 59 employees at the agency.

In 2022, as a result of the McGirt Supreme Court decision, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) division of the US Department of Interior, decided that the oversight of the coal program on Indian Lands in Oklahoma would be under the jurisdiction of OSMRE, and not under the primacy umbrella of the Okla. Dept. of Mines. There was a loss of 10 employees at that time (10% of total staff) and a loss of \$1.3 million in federal funding.

Besides appropriation, ODM's primary revenue source is the production fee of \$0.0125/ton on minerals. Approximately \$1 million is generated annually. The statutory fee was last raised from \$0.01 in November 2017.