

OSSPAC MINUTES
March 13, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. at Oregon Emergency Management.

OSSPAC Members Present:

Gerry Williams, Vice Chair	C.E.M. Research (Public member)
Carl Farrington	(Stakeholder: multi-family housing)
Rose Gentry	ODOT (State agency: transportation)
Ravi Mahajan	Building Codes Division (Stakeholder: building codes)
Tom Manning	Tillamook County Emergency Management (Public member)
Autumn Rudisel	Lewis & Clark Bank (Stakeholder: banking)
Mark Tyler	(Stakeholder: school district/community college/university)
Yumei Wang	DOGAMI (State agency: geology & mineral industries)
Jay Wilson	OEM (State agency: emergency management)

OSSPAC Members Absent: (With attendance for last year)

Jason Atkinson	Senator (legislative assembly)
Peter Courtney	Senator (legislative assembly)
James Doane, Chair (5/6 attendance)	Tualatin Valley Water District (Stakeholder: utilities)
Bert Kile (4/6 attendance)	ARC (Stakeholder: American Red Cross)
Diane Merten (4/6 attendance)	Benton County (Public member)
Gene Miles (3/6 attendance)	City of Mt. Angel (Stakeholder: local government)
Susan Steward (0/6 attendance)	BOMA (Stakeholder: building owners)
Chris Thompson (1/6 attendance)	catena engineers (Stakeholder: structural engineer)

Vacant Positions: DLCD (State agency: land conservation & development)

Others in Attendance:

Bev Hall	Oregon Emergency Management
James Bela	Oregon Earthquake Awareness
Bob Simonton	OUS
J.R. Gonzalez	OPUC
Jerry Murray	OPUC
Rick Carter	OPUC
Don Lewis	DOGAMI
Kent Yu	Degenkolb Engineering
Jennifer Schroeder	Corvallis Schools
Debbie Guerra	Pacific Power (PacifiCorp)
Michael Ball	Pacific Power (PacifiCorp)

1. Administrative Matters

1a. Welcome and Introductions

Gerry Williams, Vice Chair, welcomed everyone and led in the introductions.

1b. Review and Approval of Minutes from Jan. 9, 2007

Not having a quorum present, approval of the minutes were tabled.

1c. Public Comment

1d. Old Business

Rose Gentry handed out updated bylaws from suggestions of our last meeting. Gerry Williams asked Rose to check on the legality of several issues before our next meeting.

1e. New Business

I. Recognition of Yumei Wang's Nomination

Yumei was acknowledged for being chosen as one of fifteen nationwide experts appointed to serve on the newly created Advisory Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction (ACEHR) for NEHRP (National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program). A news release was available at the meeting.

II. WSSPC Award Nomination. Based on Chair Jim Doane's prior recommendation of OSSPAC nominating DOGAMI for the WSSPC Award for Excellence for 2007 for their work on SB 2, OSSPAC members unanimously concurred with the nomination.

1f. Events Notification

Jay Wilson announced that there will be a WSSPC conference in Reno September 30-October 2, 2007. This is occurring in

conjunction with the International Code Council meeting, also in Reno.

Jay also announced that the April 25-28, 2008 National Earthquake Conference held in Seattle will have sessions regarding state earthquake commissions.

Rose announced that on May 31 at the Portland State Office Building there will an ODOT meeting with bridge engineers from other states with a focus on seismic issues.

The OEMA (Oregon Emergency Managers Association) annual meeting will be held May 7-10, 2007 at Salishan. Speakers include Adjutant General Rees and General Caldwell from the Oregon Military Department, the new FEMA Region X Director Susan Reinertson, and representatives from the Oregon State Legislature.

1g. **Time and Location for May 3, 2007 Meeting**

It was decided to hold the May meeting in Salem on May 3 to avoid conflict with the OEMA conference May 8. Bev Hall checked on that date and the Capitol is unavailable, so Bev and Rose will work together to find a location in Salem.

2. **Reports of the Sub-Committees**

Gerry said his sub-committee hasn't met since our last meeting and he was waiting to hear from Jim Doane regarding his meeting with Senator Courtney.

Jay has been taking feedback from his sub-committee regarding the press release about April being Earthquake Awareness Month. Jay is hoping to get high level promotion this year from the Department of Education and the Governor's office.

3. **Report on SB-2 Committee Meeting: Jay and Gerry**

Jay said that DOGAMI gave an update on the needs assessment done by them regarding schools, hospitals and critical facilities. The inventory is done and the report is being prepared for release, perhaps in May. Regarding SB-3, there is no funding for staff to run the program, but feels the committee can still be formed. Jay would like OSSPAC to use the April awareness month to get public information out about earthquakes before the report is released. Jay recommends OSSPAC give policy advisement to the Governor's Office, the Legislature, and the DOGAMI and OEM Directors regarding the formation of the SB-3 Grants Committee structure.

Gerry said he thinks there are problems with the mechanics of SB-2 regarding not automatically forming the committee. He thinks a grassroots effort is needed to do things like putting signs on schools as to how safe they are regarding a seismic event.

Don Lewis from DOGAMI said they are cleaning up the databases from the SB-2 needs assessment. They should have a draft of the report ready in mid-April.

Jay would like OSSPAC to make recommendations for the SB-3 committee members. This grant program is a 50 year process and is working with a billion dollars.

Gerry would like OSSPAC to have an opportunity to look over the draft of DOGAMI's SB-2 report. Carl Farrington and Mark Tyler volunteered to do so. This will be a limited review and not available electronically.

4. **Break**

5. **Earthquake Recovery Strategy - PacifiCorp**

Michael Ball, Business Continuity, spoke first. PacifiCorp has a call center in Portland and Salt Lake City, which can back each other up. They have 208 business continuity plans which they exercise regularly.

Debbie Guerra, Emergency Manager for Restoration Efforts, said they have a good system of coordination with other agencies and utilities in other states. They work in Oregon, Washington, California, Wyoming, Utah and Idaho. With mutual assistance, they can mobilize in four hours. In a big event the issues are debris, credentialing, and transportation.

In answer to a question regarding their 24/7 centers being seismically safe, Michael said that they are reviewing that currently. After a seismic event, their priority would be public safety and maximizing their ability to restore power. Their solvency is very strong, so they could keep their business going for a long time without income during a disaster.

Gerry asked how OSSPAC could help them. Michael said information sharing. Debbie said that after some earthquakes such as a past one in California, they didn't get any information since they are a private business. They thanked the PUC for inviting them to the Pacific Peril Exercise held recently. They would like to be invited to more of those type of events.

6. **Emergency Recovery Strategy – Public Utilities Commission**

J.R. Gonzalez said that the PUC's mission is safe and adequate service at fair rates. They are not a utility, they regulate rates. After some large

events in the recent past such as 9-11, they looked at vulnerability. Now they have to be proactive for many possibilities. The Commission in 2004 reviewed their emergency response and security. The findings showed that they are very comfortable with utilities. They have done a tabletop exercise. Their main goal is to give good information to the Governor. Most of the utilities have elaborate plans and a good line of communication. Of course, with a huge disaster like Katrina, the timeline stretches out to months for restoration. Recovery could last for years. Communication problems could be huge depending on damage, but restoration would be the fastest compared with other lifelines. With gas and electricity problems, gas would have to be turned off first, then electricity can be restored, to avoid explosions and fires. Electrical load profiles have changed substantially with changing demographics, so starting up areas with brown or blackouts may likely be more complex than earlier when loads were much lower. J.R. said that they have a coordination center (Energy Assurance Under Crisis) that deals with the Department of Energy, phone companies, utilities, etc. Emergency generators for critical facilities will likely require assistance from the National Guard.

Tom Manning said that in the last disaster in Tillamook, the Unified Command included utilities. They need to be recognized as critical. Tom said they stationed police officers in utility offices with radios for communication.

J.R. said that in an event like a 9.4 earthquake, with damage from B.C. to northern California, it is hard to address everything. First, employees – families, availability. Assessments would be critical – communication, transportation. **His recommendations to OSSPAC to emphasize to the Governor include:**

- 1. Oregon needs to have cooperative agreements (by a specified timeframe) w/other states in place before the disaster (Idaho, Utah, etc...towards the east). This includes agreements involving the Oregon PUC. Making arrangements after the disaster is too late and would be inefficient.**
- 2. Proactive education is needed for families, individuals that include instructions to be self-sustaining for weeks (not days). Without personal preparedness, companies will not have the personnel to help with emergency actions.**
- 3. Need to mobilize on assessments of both pre-disaster and post disaster inventories and systems.**

Gerry said that OSSPAC can drive strategy for mutual aid agreements, education, and assets being located in the eastern part of the state.

7. **Commission Discussion of Hearing Strategy**

Gerry said he would like to hear from state agencies, locals, hospitals, and law enforcement for feedback. Also, the private side, for instance if the Rose Garden is part of a plan for emergency housing or medical. Jay said he would like to work on the committee for SB-3 first. Gerry said we should talk about that at our May meeting. Yumei would like to have a speaker from the Corps of Engineers in May as well as talking about SB-3.

8. **Public Comment**

James Bela spoke about his concerns of the BCD reducing the code requirements for 3" plate washers in construction. He gave two handouts.

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.