

OSSPAC MINUTES
June 6, 2007 – Special Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. at Oregon Emergency Management in Salem.

OSSPAC Members Present:

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| James Doane, Chair | Tualatin Valley Water District (Stakeholder: utilities) |
| Gerry Williams, Vice Chair (by phone) | C.E.M. Research (Public member) |
| Carl Farrington | (Stakeholder: multi-family housing) |
| Rose Gentry | ODOT (State agency: transportation) |
| Bert Kile | ARC (Stakeholder: American Red Cross) |
| Tom Manning | Tillamook County Emergency Management (Public member) |
| Autumn Rudisel | Lewis & Clark Bank (Stakeholder: banking) |
| Susan Steward | BOMA (Stakeholder: building owners) |
| Mark Tyler | (Stakeholder: school district/community college/university) |
| Yumei Wang | DOGAMI (State agency: geology & mineral industries) |
| Jay Wilson | OEM (State agency: emergency management) |
| Kent Yu | (Stakeholder: structural engineer) |

OSSPAC Members Absent: (With attendance for last year)

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| Jason Atkinson | Senator (legislative assembly) |
| Peter Courtney | Senator (legislative assembly) |
| Diane Merten (4 of 6 attendance) | Benton County (Public member) |
| Gene Miles (1/6 attendance) | City of Mt. Angel (Stakeholder: local government) |

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

Others in Attendance:

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| Bev Hall | Oregon Emergency Management |
| Paul Evans | Governor's Office |
| Richard Riggs | Governor's Office |
| Daniel Santos | Governor's Office |
| Vicki McConnell | DOGAMI |
| Al Newnam | CCWD |
| James Bela | OR Earthquake Awareness |

1. Administrative Matters

1a. Welcome and Introductions

Jim Doane, Chair, welcomed everyone and led in the introductions.

1b. Public Comment

James Bela spoke on his opinions regarding Building Codes and their imminent adoption of new code changes that may reduce existing seismic provisions.

2. Discussion and Recommendation to the Governor and Legislature concerning DOGAMI report on Seismic Safety

Mark Tyler said the report was informative and eye-opening. The Dept. of Education has only received a few calls so far, but expected more as the report is circulated. Mark did question the \$15 per square foot cost as quite low and would be discomfoting for the public if they relied on that and their costs were estimated as a lot higher.

Carl Farrington asked Gerry Williams regarding his experiences retrofiting buildings. Gerry said he had worked on large projects such as OHSU and US Bankcorp Tower, but also South Salem High. He said once work gets started, the estimated cost is not applicable. Things always come up.

Other members mentioned other possible financial concerns like finding asbestos, not including soft costs, or surprises in general. Tom Manning said that the \$15 is from the FEMA matrix. Yumei Wang said that cost does not include inflation and was from the 1990s. OSSPAC does need to mention that this is just a start. Once you get into a building, other things are often done. Engineering studies need to be done. Estimated costs can not be relied on from this report.

Jay Wilson asked Yumei how the estimates fared in the latest projects in the OUS system. Yumei said she had done the estimates, and one went way over budget due to finding rebar not properly installed. Other projects came in under budget. It is difficult to estimate.

Members asked if anyone had received calls about the report including legislators. Mark reiterated that he had just a few calls and none from legislators. Jim Doane had received one call from a school superintendent. Kent Yu said that the report raises awareness, but also that some school districts already know the risks in their area.

Vicki McConnell said that the legislature was notified that the report is on DOGAMI's website. They have had a lot of hits on it. Vicki said that errors and omissions are on the website, also. Yumei suggested that the Dept. of Education have the final report on their website, also. Mark agreed, and said that his concern is that consistent info be given out.

Autumn Rudisel asked about schools in the tsunami zones. Tom said that you want the structure to remain safe for use as shelters. Vicki said that some structures should not be rehabilitated, but moved instead. There are ten that fall in that category. Tom said that land swaps can be done, but it takes time, and sometimes it can't be done due to forest land being unavailable. Yumei said that schools can put in deflective, protective walls.

Mark said that most communities use their schools as evacuation shelters. Jay said that if schools are closed in a disaster, the hardest thing is getting the community back together without schools in place first. Bert said that in large earthquakes, schools can't be used as shelters for very long - schools need to be used for schools. Kent said perhaps using a consequence-based evaluation method may be a good approach.

Paul Evans asked for OSSPAC's input about Senate Bill 1. The Bill is asking for \$616,680 for administering and staffing the grant committee. Autumn asked about the size of the grants committee. Yumei said it is in SB 3. Vicki said it includes members of OSSPAC, Human Services, DOGAMI and DAS.

Yumei asked how OSSPAC can help local districts issue local bonds for matching funds. Some don't know how to go about it.

Dennis Sigrist, Oregon State Mitigation Officer, spoke on the success Oregon has had with local communities getting money for mitigation, pre- and post-disaster. The cap is \$3 million federal share, \$1 million local share. There is a 75/25 match (locals having to pay the 25%). There is money for technical assistance, though the plan has to pass the cost-benefit analysis. Dennis said there needs to be a systematic way of giving technical assistance for jurisdictions. There shouldn't be high competition and anxiety over applications. Having criteria made early on is important.

Yumei said that in California simple applications were made, but they still have to be able to do the project successfully. Tom said there are other grants out there for engineering. He also recommended that those communities ready to go should be able to go first.

Jim Doane said since there is such a large problem out there, the grants will be competitive no matter what. Paul Evans said that creativity will be rewarded. This is a good opportunity. Yumei asked how the state can help locals get expertise. Paul said that school boards get together each year.

Jay asked about how the Grant Committee will approach the funding needs of hospitals. Vicki said that with SB 4 and 5 the money for schools and emergency facilities can not be mixed. Schools are a large piece. Hospitals will only qualify for the acute care portion.

Carl said he would like OSSPAC to present a stand with cohesiveness with DOGAMI. Jim Doane would like OSSPAC's letter for the Governor and Legislature to say that DOGAMI produced a state of the art report, that costs listed are only for the seismic piece, and schools need specific information. Autumn said that OSSPAC should work parallel with the grants committee with land use issues, technical assistance with money attached, and engineering studies.

Jim Doane asked for volunteers to help him draft the letters. Jay, Autumn, Rose and Gerry volunteered. Vicki said that the letter should be sent to OEM's Director Ken Murphy, also. Paul Evans said the sooner the better. He also said that OSSPAC's public members should try to visit the co-chairs of Senate Bill 1. He suggested the first letter with our take on the seismic report be sent within ten days. Yumei said that in five days, a letter should be sent requesting \$700,000 instead of the \$616,860. Jim said based on a draft of the letters being circulated to members for input, should letters be sent? Mark so moved, Bert seconded, and motion carried unanimously.

Mark said he felt that besides Natalie Richards being acknowledged, OSSPAC should thank DOGAMI for their hard work on putting out the report. Vicki suggested that it be sent to the SB 2 team. She will send Jim the names of the members of the team. Mark moved and Rose seconded that Jim send a letter of thanks on behalf of OSSPAC to the DOGAMI SB 2 team. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion and recommendation concerning SB 1 (2007 session)
Covered in number 2.

4. Reports of the Sub-Committees

Tabled.

5. Public Comment

James Bela said that he felt that \$700,000 for SB 1 would be a travesty. He said that evaluations could be done instead. He doesn't agree with the pass/fail rapid screenings method done. He thinks people need at least 20 years of experience to do them. He feels there is a bigger problem in falling hazards.

Carl said that the screenings are only one tool. He also wanted it on the record that building codes have not been weakened due to any action on OSSPAC's part. The representative on OSSPAC from Building Codes works on codes as part of his job at Building Codes, not OSSPAC. If James has a problem with codes, he should limit it to addressing Building Codes directly.

Mark said that it appears that the retaining washer is James' main issue. Mark feels that we should consider that issue heard and move on.

6. Adjourn

Yumei moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 5 p.m. The next regular OSSPAC meeting will be held July 10, 2007 at 9 a.m. Bev has reserved the Capitol though that may change due to remodeling projects.