

**OSSPAC MINUTES**  
**September 18, 2007**

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

**OSSPAC Members Present:**

James Doane, Chair	Tualatin Valley Water District (Stakeholder: utilities)
Gerry Williams, Vice Chair	R Brown Consulting Group LLC (Public member)
Carl Farrington	(Stakeholder: multi-family housing)
Bert Kile	ARC (Stakeholder: American Red Cross)
Tom Manning	Tillamook County Emergency Management (Public member)
Diane Merten	Benton County (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)**

Jason Atkinson	Senator (legislative assembly)
Peter Courtney	Senator (legislative assembly)
Rose Gentry (5 out of 7)	ODOT (State agency: transportation)
Richard Rogers (Newly official member)	(State agency: building codes)

**Vacant Positions:** DLCD (State agency: land conservation & development)  
Stakeholder: local government

**Others in Attendance:**

Bev Hall	Oregon Emergency Management
Abby Kershaw	Oregon Emergency Management
Ken Murphy	Oregon Emergency Management
Dennis Sigrist	Oregon Emergency Management
Lindsey Gay	United States Army Corps of Engineers
Robin J. Kirkpatrick	Department of Administrative Services
Cheryl Nordhagen	Oregon Dept. of Human Services
Bob Simonton	Oregon University System
Mike Surber	Oregon Assoc. of Hospital and Health Systems
Mark Prince	Oregon Fire Chiefs
Morgan Allen	OR Dept. of Education
Julie Suchanek	Oregon Community College Association
Don Lewis	Dept. of Geology and Mineral Industries

**1. Administrative Matters**

**1a. Welcome and Introductions**

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

**1b. Review and Approval of Minutes for March, May, June and July**

Having a quorum, Gerry moved and Carl seconded to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**1c. Unfinished Business**

None

**1d. New Business**

Yumei reminded everyone about her noon presentation on the Japan earthquake following the meeting.

**1e. Events Notification**

There is a Benefit Cost Analysis training Sept. 25 and 26 in Portland. Several OSSPAC members are planning on attending.

Jay reminded everyone of the WSSPC Annual Conference Sept. 29-Oct. 3. Jay also reminded members of the April 2008 National Earthquake Conference to be held in Seattle. Jay also said that on Sept. 19 there will be a tsunami notification test.

Yumei said that DOGAMI has set up a meeting on Sept. 21 to meet with the PUC and energy companies.

- 1f. **Time and Location for November 13, 2007 Meeting**  
Jim Doane requested that we meet again at OEM at 9 a.m.
2. **Discussion of Bylaw Revision – Rose Gentry**  
This item was tabled due to Rose's absence.
3. **Schedule of Election of Officers – Chairperson, Vice Chairperson**  
Jim Doane placed the name of Gerry Williams for election to the chair position. Carl Farrington seconded. Gerry was unanimously voted in as the new chair. Tom Manning nominated Carl Farrington as vice chair. Gerry seconded. Carl was then unanimously voted in as the new vice chair.
4. **Review OSSPAC letter to Governor regarding PUC**  
After discussion, Gerry moved that we send out the letter. Yumei seconded and the motion passed. Jim Doane asked for any corrections/comments to be sent to him by Thursday.
5. **Break**

### **Seismic Rehabilitation Grants Program/Committee**

The remainder of the meeting was assigned to discussion of the Grants Program/Committee and all that entails.

Ken Murphy, Director of OEM, spoke on the need for help from OSSPAC to develop the makeup of the grants committee and the criteria to be used. He stressed that the grant guidance has to be perfectly clear to applicants (some grants now have 70 pages in their guidance). He suggested having workshops around the state once that stage is reached. Since this is a 20 year project, the database will have to be kept current on potential projects.

Four positions are budgeted for 2008 (program coordinator, accountant, engineer and administrative support). Ken suggested having the program coordinator position in place as soon as possible. The biggest unknown now is how much bond money will be available.

Abby Kershaw, Financial and Recovery Services Director for OEM said that with bond money there are often strings attached. There are a lot of unknowns and cost shares have to be matched. She suggested starting small and showing good project management.

Dennis Sigrist, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the grant programs he administers through FEMA. Each mitigation dollar spent saves \$4 in losses avoided. A benefit-cost analysis is

needed for FEMA money. If you don't use federal money, just local/state money, they aren't necessary. For FEMA grants, counties and local jurisdictions also have to have a FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation plan in place. Oregon has had an approved Mitigation Plan for several years and now has an enhanced plan, which increases the State's possible mitigation grant funding following a disaster. There is a 75/25 cost share for most Mitigation project grants.

Dennis said the important points are to have a systematic plan, have projects around the state, have strong contracts with applicants, be ready for the surprise factor, and keep to a rigorous timeline.

Don Lewis from DOGAMI then spoke. The final seismic report was posted on their website in July. Bonds are not new to entities such as school districts, fire departments, etc. We need to catch up on the process and make it simple for applicants. Don thinks the legislature will seriously consider our proposal, though bond money is hard to get. Gerry asked when will the first dollar be spent. Don said there is a 24 month limit, so bonds should be issued close to the project beginning. He said the steps would be to first form the grant committee, devise the form and method of application by 2009, lobbyists need to be registered, and the aim for money available by spring of 2010. Don said that in a benefit-cost analysis, one life is worth \$3 million compared to \$17,000 for a major injury.

Mark Prince representing Oregon Fire Chiefs said that 80% of fire department buildings around the state are unmanned. He wondered how they would get money. Jim Doane said that in bigger cities they have done a lot of work on their own already.

Morgan Allen representing Oregon Department of Education said that there are 198 school districts. He said there needs to be articulation about upgrading buildings vs. using this money for seismic upgrades.

Jim Doane asked Don Lewis how to balance rich districts and poor. Don said that there is no requirement that they have to match funds – the wording uses the word “may.”

Robin Kirkpatrick from DAS suggested starting small and move to larger projects later when successes can be shown. He suggested to look at the assessment of highest risk buildings, choose a number (\$20-100 million), be comfortable asking for that amount, and be prepared to get half. Legislators should be identified now to lobby for support in 2009.

Bob Simonton from OUS suggested using Higher Ed to lobby on our behalf with lessons learned from recent retrofits. Cheryl Nordhagen from DHS said that they can help, also.

Jim Doane said that Gerry Williams will name an OSSPAC subcommittee to work on the forming of the grants committee.

**6. Public Comment**

James Bela distributed a handout regarding FEMA 154 on rapid visual screenings and his concerns with it.

**7. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Yumei Wang gave a presentation after the meeting regarding her trip to Japan following the July 16, 2007 earthquake. She gave out a handout regarding earthquake safety recommendations.