



Oregon Geologist Examiner

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Board Offices

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Next Board Meeting

June 11, 2010
1:00 PM

Preceded by 8:30 AM
Work Session
Salem, Oregon

Board Commits to Updating Report Guidelines

The Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners is the caretaker of three guidelines for preparing reports. The Guidelines for Preparing Engineering Geology Reports in Oregon (EGG) were adopted by the Board on May 8, 1990. The Hydrogeology Report Guidelines (HRG) were adopted by the Board on June 10, 2005. Both of these documents are posted on the web page under the Publications tab. A final document titled Geologic Report Guidelines (OGRG) was presented to the Board in February 2008, but has not been officially adopted and posted on the web page.

Board Chair Taylor facilitated a lively discussion at the December 4, 2009, Work Session about these three guidelines. Numerous questions and comments arose during a roundtable discussion. The first question directed to the members was: "Does the Board consider the guidelines an asset?" The Board concurred that the guidelines are more valuable than not. A second question was raised: "Does the Board continue with the current products or are revisions necessary?" All members concurred that the current guidelines need updating. The third question asked: "How should the Board deal with the current guidelines?" The members concurred that until revisions are complete, the current posted guidelines will remain on the web site.

Two additional questions were raised: "How should updates for the guidelines be handled?" and "Should updates be completed internally or with outside help?" The discussion concluded with the recognition that outside help would be needed and a retreat should be scheduled to develop a plan of action.

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OSBEELS Update: Certified Water Right Examiner

Are You Interested in Obtaining a Certification as a Water Right Examiner?

Pursuant to Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 690-014-0050, if you are a Registered Geologist you may obtain a certification as a Water Right Examiner (WRE) by applying for the WRE examination with the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying (OSBEELS). The WRE examination contains questions to test the individual's ability to properly perform the surveying, mapping, hydraulic computations, and information gathering duties required by the Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 537.798. The examination is held every spring during the month of April and administered by the Water Resources Department (WRD).

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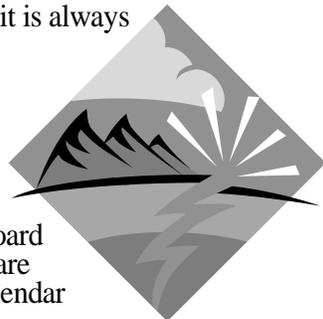
Knight's Notes

On Monday, March 8, I fielded a rather interesting phone call from a self-proclaimed psychic who lives in the central Willamette Valley. She stated that for the past few weeks, she has been feeling a very big (*her language was a bit more graphic*) earthquake. She validated her ability to forecast such a catastrophe by sharing that two times while living in California, her premonitions came true: one time an earthquake, the other time a financial failure. She offered that she does not like going public, but would like folks to be alert to this. I thanked her for calling and alerting the Board staff and offered that some people tend to be skeptical about such non-scientific topics!

Within a few days of the phone call, the headline in the local newspaper heralded the coming of a BIG EARTHQUAKE! On March 17, Governor Ted Kulongoski proclaimed April to be Earthquake and Tsunami Awareness Month. The DOGAMI web site <http://www.oregongeology.org/sub/default.htm> offers information to help prepare for an earthquake.

Psychic predictions aside, it is always good to *be prepared!*

As ever,
Susanna Knight
Administrator



PS: Current and former Board Members and Volunteers are reminded to mark their calendar for the annual July picnic.

Welcome to New Registrants

The Board welcomes the following new registrants and wishes them a safe and successful practice in Oregon.

GIT by Passing Exam: 10/02/2009

Griffin, Rusty	T2270	02/22/2010
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RG By Cooperative Registration:

Bare, Mark	G2269	02/08/2010
Vandegrift, Edwin	G2271	03/15/2010
Cass, Christopher	G2272	03/23/2010
George, Benjamin	G2084	03/29/2010

Report Guidelines

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The Board met again in a retreat format on Saturday, February 6, 2010, from 9 AM to 1 PM in the Conference Room of the Board office building. The retreat was facilitated by Board Chair Taylor who distributed Program Notes which offered the following retreat objective:

To develop an action plan and RFP for contracted technical writing services to update existing OSBGE "guidelines" documents.

During the retreat, key words were posted on the whiteboard. Through a brain-storming process, the following key words were developed: "community," "best practice," "industry," "standards," "Board," "guidelines," and "minimum." Taylor then asked each member to write a statement incorporating all of the words. The statements were compiled and the group worked through an editorial process. After lengthy discussion, the group settled on the following:

The purpose of the [EGG/HRG/OGRG] guidelines is to encourage best practice in the industry.

The next discussion centered on the objectives of guideline use. Another lively roundtable discussion occurred, and the members concluded the following:

- Guidelines are *not* designed for the consumer/citizens.
- Guidelines are designed as outreach for practitioners.
- Guidelines serve as an outreach to the regulatory community.

In establishing the objectives of the guidelines, the following statement was developed:

The purposes of these guidelines are to:

- 1) Assist geologic report writers in producing documents that meet industry best practices; and
- 2) Provide a tool for registrants to use in designing and crafting quality geological reports.

In committing to guidelines revision, the Board also agreed that a 5-year review cycle should be included.

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OSBEELS Update: CWRE

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During the April 2009 examination administration, three Registered Geologists successfully passed the examination and were granted a certificate to engage in the professional activities of a Certified Water Right Examiner (CWRE). Congratulations to the following individuals!

John Jenkins, RG
James Newton, RG
Marsha Walker, RG

Are You Currently a CWRE?

If you already hold a certification as a CWRE, please be sure to also keep your information current with OSBEELS. In accordance with OAR 820-010-0605, it is your responsibility to inform OSBEELS in writing, within 30 days, of any address change, including change of e-mail address. It is also your responsibility to inform OSBEELS of any name change within 30 days. For your convenience, submit the REGISTRANT INFORMATION UPDATE form, available on the OSBEELS web site at www.oregon.gov/osbeels.

Additionally, you may place your certification in the retired status in accordance with OAR 820-010-0520. If you place your certification in the retired status, you would no longer be able to engage in the professional activities of a CWRE. However, at any time within a period of 5 years from the date of your request for the retired status, you may request to be placed in the active status; a form and fee will be required. You may find the REQUEST FOR RETIREMENT STATUS form on the OSBEELS Web site at <http://www.oregon.gov/OSBEELS/docs/Forms/RetirementForm.pdf>.

Contacting the WRD

If you have additional questions regarding the responsibilities of a CWRE or would like further information regarding any workshops related to water rights, please visit the WRD Web site at www.wrd.state.or.us/OWRD/WR/index.shtml or contact Leona Albin, WRD Executive Support Assistant by phone at (503) 986-0818.

Report Guidelines

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This would allow the Board to review one report per biennium. Any costs associated with reviewing and updating guidelines would be spread over multiple budget cycles. The retreat concluded with a discussion of the professional qualifications of a person who might be retained by the Board to work on this project.

The discussion continued at the March 4, 2010, Board Work Session. Members agreed that the current HRG represents the best example of an effective working document. Board Member Mark Yinger agreed to take the lead in developing a scope of work for the HRG. Those objectives will be vetted by the Board and then distributed to a review panel to assist in completing this component of the guideline update. The Board anticipates working with a technical writer to finalize the document.

As the guidelines revision process is just beginning, the Board is seeking registrant volunteers with hydrogeology experience to serve on a review committee to assist in developing this project. Please call (503) 566-2837 or email (osbge.info@state.or.us) if you are interested in strengthening the integrity of your profession.

Lapsed Registrations

If you failed to submit your annual renewal during December, January, and February, your registration is now *expired*. The following registrants no longer have an active registration. Per ORS 672.525, you may not provide or prepare for the public practice of geology any geologic maps, plans, reports, or geological documents unless you are registered with the Board. If your name appears below, but your renewal was processed and you have a current pocket card, please contact the Board office so corrections can be made to the Board's database. For reinstatement, a signed renewal form along with the annual fee and restoration fee is required.

Shelley **Birch**, G1601 (01/31/2010); James **Brad-dock**, G1386 (12/31/2009); Robert **Carson III**, G1682 (12/31/2009); James **Consort**, G0990 (02/28/2010); Sean **Dixon**, G2159 (12/31/2009);

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Lapsed Registrations

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R David **Enos**, G1553 (01/31/2010); James **Flynn**, G1483 (12/31/2009); Rick **Graff**, G1689 (12/31/2009); Kim **Johnson**, G1501 (02/28/2010); David **Nelson**, G2239 (01/31/2010); Jinsuk **Park**, G1861 (12/31/2009); C **Payton**, E0439 (12/31/2009); Janice **Perttu**, G1281 (12/31/2009); James **Romer**, G1491 (12/31/2009); Kerry **Ruebelmann**, G1299 (02/28/2010); James **Schick**, E1860 (01/31/2010); Gunnar **Schlieder**, E1139 (12/31/2009); Jonathan **Snell**, G1021 (12/31/2009); Jerome **Summerlin**, G1598 (12/31/2009); Randolp **Tomer**, T2236 (12/31/2009); Holly **Weiss-Racine**, T2233 (12/31/2009).

2010 Calendar of Upcoming Events

- April 8, 9: ASBOG Council of Examiners
Raleigh, North Carolina
- June 3: Cut-off Date for October ASBOG Exams
- June 11: Quarterly Board Meeting
Salem, Oregon
- July 17: Annual Board Picnic
- Sept. 10: Quarterly Board Meeting