

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE OWIN HEARING BEFORE THE
CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE WEDNESDAY
20 MAY 2009**

Bob Cummings – Legislative Fiscal Office

“Does the project have business value and do we have trust and confidence?”

The LFO has worked with the OWIN project team and with the work group and feels, first of all, that this project does have business value and a strong business case and certainly at this particular point we have quite a bit of trust and confidence that the team that’s been assembled can do the job at this particular point.

As for project management expectations, at this point once that QA (Quality Assurance contract) gets taken care of, I don’t see any key problems that would preclude the LFO from saying that this project has a clean bill of health for charging forward from a project management perspective.

Overall, the LFO finds that the OWIN project team has done a very good job since January when the additional funding was approved for the project. And at this particular point – especially when the QA is in place – we feel that this project is ready to go forward pending funding.”

SENATOR JACKIE WINTERS AND OWIN DIRECTOR LINDSAY BALL

Senator Winters: “Of the jobs that are to be generated are these all, or most of them, in-state or out-of-state?”

Lindsay Ball: “We feel fairly confident that the vast majority of these jobs will be filled by Oregon workers. Now the reason I say that is, if you take a look at a construction site, a radio site that’s under construction, there’s cement, there’s electrical, there’s high steel work, there are boom trucks, there are Caterpillars and back hoes...things of that nature on the site. Typically, if a person from outside the state is on a contract, they won’t bring that kind of workers to the state of Oregon. They’ll sub contract out to Oregon firms. We’ve seen that be the case in the past.

Now the one thing that we are doing....we certainly can’t dictate where people are from who come to work, but one on the things that we’re doing with the people that are going to be under contract is that we’re going to try to give them a little incentive. In our

project management office, it's going to be part of their contract that they report to us where their workers come from. How many Oregonians? How many from out of state? So that way on a monthly basis, each time they send us a notice we'll know how many employees they have from the state of Oregon. Now, I can't do any more than that. I'm going to do all I can to make sure the money stays here in the state."

Senator Winters: "I'm sure we've got people who can build towers and pour concrete and all those other types of construction activities."

CHIEF OF STAFF TOM CLEMO – TUALATIN VALLEY FIRE AND RESCUE

"I appreciate the opportunity to have the end users come up and speak. Both as a line firefighter for 20 years and now as a Chief Officer, the opportunity to talk among different, disparate jurisdictions has never been realized in the State of Oregon. And it's frustrating at best. And it's very nice to see that we're getting ahead of the problem before the event occurs.

We've had several instances across the state – namely in the wild land community – where we can't talk to one another. And that just is frankly unacceptable.

The partnerships are pretty remarkable. I sit on the Board for the Regional Replacement Project for the Portland metro region. It's bringing together four of the state's largest systems into one in direct coordination with OWIN. Seven of the sites that we'll all enjoy sit within Washington County and it's at no cost to OWIN to hang their equipment on them and to use our generators. We take care of the maintenance and it truly is a genuine partnership that has been duplicated statewide. I travel nationally and many states have not gotten to the place we are today."

REPRESENTATIVE BILL GARRARD

"In 1994 Klamath Falls was hit with a 6.3 earthquake. I was in charge of our area communications. Within about the first minute of that earthquake, we lost all communications. We could not talk to one another. We could not get emergency communications out. 9-1-1 was just overloaded so badly. When I hear these folks talk about what they're trying to do, let me just emphasize that this is really important because catastrophes can hit any of our areas at any time and we are not prepared presently."

SENATOR DAVID NELSON

"From my viewpoint, the partnerships are making this project go. Without the partnerships and the local people, I think the Co-Chair and the President would be looking very seriously at a \$70 million hit in 2011. The fact that you've got these

partnerships built up....it's really going to be difficult for legislators to turn our back on the fact that there's a whole community of people involved trying to save lives.”