

**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING  
OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY & MINERAL INDUSTRIES**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2007  
PORTLAND STATE OFFICE BUILDING, SUITE 965

**(1) Call to Order:**

Chair Donald Haagensen called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

**(2) Introductions:**

Board Chair Donald Haagensen, Vice Chair Steve Macnab, Board Members Barbara Seymour, Vera Simonton, and Charles Vars were present, as were DOGAMI staff members Director Vicki McConnell, Assistant Director Don Lewis, Assistant Director Gary Lynch, and Administrative Assistant Carol DuVernois. Assistant Attorney General Larry Knudsen joined during the break.

DOGAMI Staff in attendance:

James Roddey  
Charles Kirby  
Ian Madin

There were no members of the public present.

1 **(3) Approval of Governing Board Minutes for August 29, 2007: (Board)**

2  
3 **Motion: Vars moved to approve the minutes as written, seconded by**  
4 **Seymour. Motion carried.**

5  
6 **(4) Board Business:**

7  
8 **a. Process for appointment of new Board member.**

9 The Board took a moment to recognize Vera Simonton's eight years of service to  
10 the Board. Simonton was presented with a plaque and a thank-you gift.  
11 There are currently four people who have expressed interest and have or will fill  
12 out Governor's Interest Forms. They are Umatilla County Commissioner Larry  
13 Givens, Morrow County Commissioner Judge Terry Tallman, Dr. Ellen Morris  
14 Bishop, and Patricia Gainsforth. McConnell briefly outlined each candidate's  
15 qualifications and said that she and Chair Haagensen would begin the telephone  
16 interview process sometime in the next three weeks. These would be followed  
17 by in-person interviews if possible, then the nomination letter to the Governor's  
18 office before the February session.

19  
20 **b. Director Performance Evaluation process: *Action Item***

21 Chair Haagensen briefly described the handouts included in the packet. The  
22 Board discussed whether the questionnaires were inclusive enough and whether  
23 the qualities listed on the forms could actually be evaluated or not. They agreed

24 that the forms were a general list of qualities that could be modified to suit the  
25 position of the director of this agency. They also discussed the external  
26 stakeholder form and the biases they would need to be aware of in choosing who  
27 to canvas. Macnab noted that check boxes are not effective. He believes that  
28 two or three focused questions would be better than 15 multiple choice  
29 questions. Simonton pointed out that people are more likely to complete the form  
30 if they don't have to write anything. She believes that the multiple choice form  
31 will generate a greater response. The Board agreed to submit comments on the  
32 forms and process to Chair Haagensen. He will then re-do the form and run it by  
33 the Board before the next meeting. They agreed the Board should evaluate the  
34 Director annually, and that the external stakeholder and internal staff forms  
35 should be used less frequently. McConnell suggested using the director's  
36 anniversary date as timing for the review. There was discussion as to how to  
37 present the results of the review to the director. Suggestions were to either have  
38 the Chair present the results after discussions with the entire Board, or to have  
39 the full Board present the results in Executive Session.

40

41 **MOTION: Vars moved to follow Chair Haagensen's suggested process of**  
42 **compiling comments and re-writing the forms, and then in early 2008, to re-**  
43 **evaluate the evaluation. Macnab seconded. Motion carried.**

44

45 **c. Nomination Letter to Jim Azumano – Rural Policy Director:**  
46 *Information Item*

47 Azumano invited the Board to submit names for consideration to serve on his  
48 committee. McConnell briefed the Board on the nomination letter for Ms. Lindsay  
49 Kandra. Azumano expressed his gratitude and informed McConnell that there is  
50 a formal nomination process and that he would get the forms to her. She will  
51 follow-up with Azumano, and will also attend the next committee meeting to see if  
52 we should consider trying to get an appointee from the agency on the committee.

53

54 **(5) Report of the State Geologist:** (Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist)

55

56 **a. Update on the State of the Agency:** *Update Item*

57 McConnell noted some staff changes and new recruitment for a reclamationist.  
58 She explained that the state is no longer an active partner in the FERC process  
59 for siting LNG facilities. We can comment, but the feds don't have to act on our  
60 comments anymore. Furthermore, we are no longer receiving compensation for  
61 any work on FERC projects, which has created a burden on staff. The  
62 Governor's office is aware of the issue, but there is not much they can do.

63

64 McConnell gave some highlights from the GSA conference the week before the  
65 meeting and noted that the agency is ahead of the curve on Geoscience data  
66 delivery.

67

68 **b. First Biennium Ending Balance for MLRR Subaccount:**

69 *Update Item*

70 McConnell and Lynch discussed the MLRR Subaccount ending balance of  
\$178,240 which will be put in a rainy day fund. Lynch noted that the non-mining

71 fees will increase to help reverse the negative numbers there and that  
72 retirements in the next biennium will give more leeway.

73  
74 **c. Agency Strategic Plan Workgroup Retreat: *Update Item***

75 The State Geologist summarized the October 19<sup>th</sup> retreat and discussed the next  
76 steps in the strategic plan revision, noting that we need ideas on how to reach as  
77 many stakeholders as possible. The writing committee will create a document of  
78 6 pages or less by the first week of January. The full workgroup will then  
79 comment on the draft, and then it will be presented to the Board for input.

80  
81 **(6) Break**

82  
83 **(7) Key Performance Measure Report: (Don Lewis, Assistant Director)**

84  
85 Lewis presented the results of the annual performance measures report. He  
86 showed the Board several maps the agency has recently completed that  
87 reflect performance measures.

88  
89 He briefed the Board on the Statewide Landslide Information Database of  
90 Oregon (SLIDO) which is based on existing maps. He explained the LiDAR  
91 tie-in and noted that cities and counties are excited by the landslide maps and  
92 are finding them very useful for planning.

93  
94 He discussed the Oregon Geologic Digital Compilation and explained the  
95 differences between the maps and the database and the different uses for  
96 each of them.

97  
98 Lewis talked about the coastal programs, including tsunami inundation  
99 mapping and brochures, and coastal erosion monitoring. He said the tsunami  
100 inundation mapping for the entire coast should be done by 2011-12.

101  
102 Lewis showed the Board how we gauge public interest by tracking top sales  
103 at the Nature of the Northwest Information Center. He said that the sales  
104 confirm public interest in hazards. He disclosed that there is a need to  
105 determine what to sell and what to give away, since the agency is not  
106 recovering labor costs for any of its publications.

107  
108 **(8) Regulatory Issues: (Gary Lynch, Mineral Lands Regulation and  
109 Reclamation Program)**

110  
111 **a. Status and schedule for necessary rulemaking – *Update***  
112 ***Item***

113 Lynch will give Knudsen the outline of the MLRR rule write for SB 149, HB 2119  
114 and HB 2120 by the end of the week. He should receive it back within 30 days,  
115 and at that point present them to the Technical Advisory Committee. The Board

116 will then review the draft. Chair Haagensen asked Knudsen and Lynch to check  
117 the rules and statutes for consistency and report back to the Board.

118

119 **b. Summary of operational and enforcement activities for**  
120 **surface mining and oil and gas regulatory programs.**

121 *Update Item*

122 Clean up at the Dumas site is nearly complete. They are finishing re-vegetation  
123 and will run a culvert. A tort claim and request for an investigation of why wells  
124 have been impacted near Rogue Aggregate's South Parker Pit was received in  
125 early October. Lynch said they are working with the Department of Water  
126 Resources to carefully analyze the data, and can order a suspension if they find  
127 there is a problem caused by the mining.

128

129 **c. Columbia County Surface Mining Program and DOGAMI –**

130 *Update Item*

131 Knudsen has completed a review of MLRR statute and rule and the Columbia  
132 County Surface Mining Ordinance and the memo will be sent to the County  
133 Commissioners this week. The Commissioners will set up another meeting to  
134 discuss the memo in late November. The Board discussed a possible legislative  
135 fix to ensure that no one will be sued after Knudsen noted that there may be  
136 unintended legal consequences.

137

138 **d. Sundance Rock, Inc. Final Suspension Order update -**

139 *Update Item*

140 Sundance has completed the removal of all the slide material, but the field is not  
141 yet in tillable condition as required in the order. Heavy rains have prevented  
142 work with heavy equipment, so we will grant them an extension until spring.

143

144 **(9) Project Updates:** (Ian Madin, Chief Scientist)

145

146 **a. LiDAR Consortium progress:**

147 Madin presented a primer on LiDAR for the Board and an update of the progress  
148 made on funding support and contracting progress. He detailed the many uses  
149 for LiDAR, including the ability to count individual trees by size and type, which  
150 would be useful for forestry. He explained the difference LiDAR technology can  
151 make in land use planning, mapping landslide hazards, natural resource  
152 mapping. He discussed requests we are receiving regarding the public domain  
153 of the data. Macnab wondered if Google would be interested in the data.  
154 Roddey agreed to give a LiDAR presentation to the Oceanside Community Club  
155 as requested by Board member Barbara Seymour.

156

157 **b. State Debris Flow Warning System: *Information Item***

158 The agency recently hosted a meeting with USGS, NOAA Weather Service,  
159 ODF, and OR Emergency Response System to discuss options for our system.  
160 Oregon's debris flow warning system seems to be woefully inadequate. There  
161 have been perhaps a dozen warnings issued in as many years, and as far as

162 anyone knows, no one has ever acted on any of the warnings. The criteria for  
163 issuing a warning are not clear, nor are instructions for the general public when a  
164 warning is issued. Forestry no longer wants to issue the warnings, and it was  
165 suggested that the Weather Service include debris flow warning language in its  
166 flood warnings when appropriate. Though is not the best solution to the problem,  
167 it is better than nothing.

168  
169 **(10) Setting of time and place of next Board meeting: *Action Item***

170 The next Board meeting will be held in Portland on Friday February 29,  
171 2008.

172 **(11) Additional Public Comment:**

173 There was no additional public comment.

174 **(12) Adjourn:**

175 Meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

176  
177 **Action List: (in no order of priority)**

- 178
- 179 1. McConnell will attend the Governor's Office of Rural Policy Committee  
180 meeting when they next meet.
  - 181
  - 182 2. After the MLRR draft rules have been to the Technical Advisory  
183 Committee, Haagensen will circulate them to the Board for comment.
  - 184
  - 185 3. McConnell will send a memo to the Columbia County Commissioners with  
186 the DOJ memo about the Surface Mining Ordinance attached.
  - 187
  - 188 4. Knudsen and Lynch will check the rules and statutes for consistency and  
189 report back to the Board.

190  
191  
192 APPROVED:

193

194

195

196 \_\_\_\_\_  
Don Haagensen, Chair

197

198

199

200 \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Seymour

201

202

203

204 \_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Vars

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Larry Givens