

**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES**

Monday, June 22, 2026

8:30 a.m.

Teleconference Public Meeting

1) Call to Order: (Anne MacDonald, Board Chair)

Chair MacDonald called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

2) Introductions: (Linda Kozlowski, Board Chair, and Staff)

Chair Anne MacDonald, Vice-Chair Tiffany Thomas, Board Members Ruth Dittrich, Mary Faith Bell, and Paul Edison-Lahm were all in attendance via Zoom video/phone.

Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) Staff in attendance:

Ruarri Day-Stirrat – Director/State Geologist

Lori Calarruda, Recording Secretary/Executive Assistant

Alex Lopez, Public Affairs Coordinator

Sarah Lewis, MLRR Program Manager

Steve Dahlberg, Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

Jason McClaughry, GS&S Program Manager

Christina Appleby, Legislative Coordinator and Geologist

Mike Kennedy, MLRR Reclamationist Geologist

Katie Fry, MLRR Energy Resource Geologist

Others in attendance:

Diane Lloyd, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Ali Webb Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO)

Adison Rowe, DAS Office of the Chief Financial Officer

New DOGAMI Board Members:

Mary Faith Bell is a Tillamook County Commissioner and the liaison for emergency management for the county. She has worked on tsunami preparedness and resilience for the community with previous Board Member Linda Kozlowski. She is working to build the culture of preparedness in the coastal communities in Tillamook County.

Paul Edison-Lahm is a retired attorney and educator. He is the Communications Director with the Geological Society of the Oregon Country (GSOC), and was on the Oregon State Board of Geological Examiners (OSBGE) for 6 years. He has a love of geology, and is also involved with earthquake resilience and preparedness.

1 4) Review Minutes of March 10, 2026 Board Meeting:

2 Chair MacDonald asked if there were any changes to the minutes as presented. No changes.

3

Board Action: **Edison-Lahm moved to approve the minutes of March 10, 2026 Board Meeting as submitted. Thomas seconded. Yes Votes: MacDonald; Thomas; Dittrich. Abstained: Bell; Edison-Lahm. Motion carried.**

5) Financial Report:

Steve Dahlberg, Chief Financial Officer, presented the DOGAMI FY2025 Budget Status Report, as of April 30, 2026, end of the 2023-25 Biennium results for the Geological Survey and Services (GS&S) and Mineral Land Regulation & Reclamation (MLRR) programs. The Board Packet contained the financial actuals, graphs, and projections.

Dahlberg explained, for the new Board Members, that projections are the sum of actuals currently through April and the forecast through the remainder of the biennium. He briefly reviewed the Biennium Comparison – Actual results from 2015-2025 with the 2025-27 LAB Budget chart, which is a high level agencywide overview. The current biennium reflects the original budget that had a number of POPs that had impacts on the General Fund and MLRR program. The next slide broke the comparison down by program and funding source. The MLRR program is fee-based and shown as Other Funds, and the GS&S program has General Fund, Other Funds, and Federal Funds. The current biennium reflects General Fund for the MLRR ePermitting project and a large spike for GS&S related to the Subsurface Geology and Mapping program.

The General Fund expenditure budget is \$8.9M, which includes the updated biennium salary adjustment (SALPOT) for staff's Steps and COLAs. The actual expenditures through April 2026 is \$3.5M, with the expected projection to be \$8.8M, resulting in being \$60,000 underbudget. The GS&S Other Funds Expenditure Limitation is \$12.8M, \$10.2M more than last biennium due to the Subsurface and Geology and Mapping POP. The actual expenditures through April 2026 is \$345,000, with the expected projection to be \$10M, resulting in being \$2.85M under the Expenditure Limitation. MLRR is an Other Funds fee-based program, the Expenditure Limitation is \$7.65M, \$1.5M more than last biennium. The actual expenditures through April 2026 is \$2.4M, with the expected projection to be \$6.8M, resulting in being \$825,000 under the Expenditure Limitation, which is good because the Program needs an operating balance with a target of \$1M. Dahlberg explained that General Fund is an allotment allocated quarterly for the Agency to spend but not go over the biennium's budgeted amount, where Federal Funds and Other Funds are an Expenditure Limitation that permits the Agency capacity to spend up to that amount, but does not mean it actually has that amount.

Day-Stirrat explained the information on the 2019-2029 GS&S Grants – Revenue, Awards, Balance – Actuals + Forecast graph. He stated this graph is keeping track of the Federal Funds the Agency is bringing in. It checks the financial health of DOGAMI, and it shows that without raising any more Federal Funds there is about 2 years before the Agency runs out of money. He told the Board to look in the packet at the GS&S Update to see what is on deck for grants the Agency is either going for or are in award negotiations. There is another system used that tracks staff time against grants and awards, which is another tool the Agency uses to keep track of where it is financially. The Expenditure Limitation is not a barrier, if the Agency projects it will spend over that it will go back to the legislature and ask for approval on a higher amount. Dahlberg added the Agency is only using the known grants it has repeatedly applied for and consistently received to calculate the projections, as he wants to present the best possible projection of what is coming.

Dahlberg briefly discussed the 2025-27 General Fund – Utilized Budget graph, explaining it reflects the burn rate of General Fund through the biennium. He explained the fund summary recap slides from the packet that reflect the breakdown of each funding type that includes the difference between the projection and the budget, and the information he provided at the last Board Meeting.

Edison-Lahm asked what the levers and ways are, that had been mentioned several times with regards to when adjustments needs to be made. Dahlberg explained by shuffling what people are working on, for MLRR staff working on project work can be charged back to operations, and for GS&S staff can be moved around from working on one grant to another grant. As for General Fund, it could mean postponing technology replacement until the next biennium. Day-Stirrat added that federal grants require a range of matching dollars from 0 to 50% of the grant, which is where a majority of the General Fund that is allocated towards technical staff is used.

Dahlberg wrapped up by saying the Agency has a good handle on where it is going and how much it costs, and Leadership works closely with the LFO and CFO Analysts, Governor's Office and DAS to create a positive working relationship.

Edison-Lahm asked with the differences are between the LFO, CFO and Governor's Office, and what sort of advice does each give. Day-Stirrat explained it is a mechanism in which the Agency's cards are put on the table, creating a two-way street of information sharing and problem solving, such as with grants being applied for that may need to go in front of the legislature for approval.

Edison-Lahm asked how the prospective grants figure into the budget calculations. Day-Stirrat explained that grants received consistently or the probability of receiving is very high are factored in, but newer grants are not projected in until they are under contract. The information in the GS&S Update reflects a very healthy amount of funding the Agency is going after. The entire focus of GS&S is to keep that federal fund stream alive that is aligned with the Agency mission. Dahlberg added he also looks at staff resources, their capacity, and what grants they typically work on. It is a blend of resources, what they are working on, and what is coming in the future, so grants may be for 2 or 3 years instead of 1 year to help smooth out the staffing resource while still getting the work done.

Bell said the budget looks healthy but had a question about what happened to the Lidar contract. Dahlberg explained that the Lidar Consortium pulled resources together with multiple people, agencies and entities to make it more cost-effective. FEMA does not have a need for it now and the USGS went out and collected their own Lidar based on their needs. McClaughry added DOGAMI has accomplished its job of collecting 100% coverage in Lidar statewide at the highest quality it wanted. The Agency is still looking at additional collections to fill in gaps or projects to look at landscape change over time.

Chair MacDonald asked why the \$100,000 Capital Outlay has been zeroed out, and if it is related to the scientific equipment and technology upgrade discussed earlier. Dahlberg said that is what primarily drove the adjustment, but also the State has changed what is considered a capital asset from \$5,000 or more with a useful life of more than 2 years to \$10,000, which has changed how some of the equipment is considered.

Board Action: **Bell moved to accept the Budget Status Report as presented. Thomas seconded. Yes Votes: MacDonald; Thomas; Dittrich; Bell; Edison-Lahm. Motion carried.**

6) Governor's Natural Resources Team Update:

Geoff Huntington, Senior Natural Resources Policy Advisor; Chandra Ferrari, Natural Resources Advisor; and Amy Schlusser, Climate and Energy Policy Advisor.

Huntington stated the stage was set 2 years ago to bring together the 14 Natural Resource agencies to create a cohesive focus to meet the Governor's priorities. They have worked with the Governor and cultivating materials from different agencies to center around the theme of resilience and resiliency being a cornerstone for natural resource management. What will count in the next 10 years regarding the challenges facing the working and natural landscapes and the energy demands of the state. This includes rethinking what has been done in the past may not be as important going forward. The Executive Orders (EOs) create a framework that allows agencies to do what their core mission is about but look at how to do it better and maybe a little differently going forward by looking at the statutes and regulations that are implemented and agencies discretionary authority to determine the best way to contribute. Today's presentation is to bring clarity and purpose around the pathway for implementation. This is now in the implementation stage.

Chair MacDonald asked Huntington to name the 14 agencies in the Natural Resource Cabinet for the new Board Members. Huntington stated that the 14 agencies together take 2.8% of the General Fund budget for the State of Oregon, and occupy a good chunk of the heart and soul and spirit of Oregon. The following Natural Resource agencies were listed in no particular order:

- Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Department of State Lands (DSL)
- Department of Forestry (ODF)
- Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)
- Department of Energy (ODOE)
- Public Utility Commission (PUC)
- Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)
- Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD)
- Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA)
- Marine Board (OSMB)
- Department of Agriculture (ODA)
- Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)
- Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)

The Natural Resource Commissions mentioned are:

- Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC)
- Columbia River Gorge Commission (CRGC)
- Northwest Power and Conservation Council (formerly Northwest Power Planning Council)

Schlusser said Executive Order 25-29 (EO 25-29), generally referred to as the Climate and Clean Energy Executive Order, sets out the Governor's vision and direction for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and for advancing the transition to an affordable clean energy future. There are three broad categories of actions: 1) directs agencies to prioritize implementation of the Oregon Energy Strategy Least Cost Pathways; 2) directs agencies to help get clean energy projects built; and 3) directs agencies to help build a resilient clean energy economy for Oregon.

There are five Least Cost Pathways: 1) advance cost-effective energy efficiency in new and existing buildings; 2) support investment in and deployment of clean electricity infrastructure; 3) increase cost-effective strategic electrification of vehicles and building technologies without sacrificing affordability and reliability; 4) increase the supply and use of low-carbon fuels; and 5) strengthen resilience across all levels of the energy system. These directives specifically apply to a group of agencies named in the Executive Order, of which DOGAMI is not one of them, but the overarching intent is that the Agency would be supporting those actions as well.

The second category is focused on getting clean energy projects built and is intended to support deployment by calling on agencies to develop and implement coordinated approaches to streamline land use and environmental reviews, siting and permitting requirements, and interconnection processes. There are several directives within this category that do not apply to DOGAMI, but there is one for DOGAMI to work with the Oregon Department of Energy, DEQ, the Public Utility Commission, and the Climate Action Commission to evaluate and recommend actions to streamline clean energy siting for projects that benefit Oregon ratepayers or support deployment of clean energy resources or transmission infrastructure in existing rights-of-way. The agencies are directed to identify opportunities for siting and permitting reviews to occur simultaneously to increase efficiency and reduce permitting timelines.

The third category is centered around building a resilient clean energy economy. DOGAMI is required to work with Department of Energy, DEQ, the Public Utility Commission, and Business Oregon to align programs, investments, and decisions to advance the State's interest in growing a resilient clean energy economy through the development of public-private partnerships and by evaluating opportunities to support emerging clean energy technologies. This is the primary directive that applies to DOGAMI and the Board's work, as there are several clean energy technologies and resources that have been identified to advance the State of Oregon that require DOGAMI permits. DOGAMI must work with other agencies to explore those opportunities and identify ways to advance the development of those technologies in Oregon. DOGAMI must develop implementation work plans and deliver transparent and accurate reporting to the public to maintain accountability. The EO also directs DOGAMI to bring their work plans before the Board to get input and ensure the Board is very aware of the work the Agency is doing to implement these directives.

Ferrari said Executive Order 25-26 (EO 25-26) is about taking action to promote the resilience of Oregon's natural lands and waters, and working lands and waters of its communities. It is a valuable vehicle to prioritize and coordinate the 14 Natural Resources agencies and 30+ boards and commissions on a very small slice of the budget to do the work in the natural resource arena. The Governor acknowledges the fact that natural and working lands are immensely valuable for many reasons and their being resilient is a component of resilient communities. Oregon is experiencing immense change with reduced snowpack, water availability, precipitation patterns, and air and water temperatures. There is an urgent need to protect the State's highest functioning areas by prioritizing and leveraging limited resources.

First, it was determined that the agencies needed to have a common understanding of what was trying to be achieved before implementation began. The agencies were asked to work with content experts to define key resilience attributes and put the information together to allow everyone to understand and get on the same page.

Second, use the defined resilience attributes to guide the agencies' work going forward to help secure and protect the highest resiliency natural working lands and waters. This will be performed through four ways of actions.

1. Focusing on working lands and waters and looking at ways for improvement of promoting stewardship of them.
2. Building resiliency by having agencies support and further actions that will protect, connect, restore, or conserve 10% of the lands and waters within 10 years. It is called the 10 by 10 Goal, which is focused on areas that are most likely to withstand climate-related impacts going forward, and also includes innovative mitigation solutions.
3. Leading by example, for state agencies that own or manage lands and waters and how they can implement and execute climate resilience strategies in addition to their current management objectives.
4. A broad category directing agencies to build community and wildfire resiliency. The defined actions include focusing on the State's 20-year Resiliency Strategy led by the Oregon Department of Forestry for scaling up the restoration treatments on lands, and the Plan for Resilient Oregon which is an effort led by the Resilience Officer to work with community partners to help communities adapt to changing climate conditions and the increased risks of natural disasters.

Ferrari said the Executive Order also provides directions about how the agencies are going to do the work, and there will be the establishment of an interagency leadership team to lead the execution of the work to make sure all the agencies are in one place and coordinated around the different deliverables. They have been asked to put together work plans on how their agency is going to execute the different deliverables that will be shared with their boards and commissions. It also asks that a technical team be put together to look at resilience attributes to help guide implementation of the EO, and having continuing conversations with boards around the execution of the Executive Order. There are also accountability pieces for the agencies to look at their key performance indicators and metrics to consider adjustments to better track progress of the EO implementation.

Ferrari stated the Executive Order was issued in December of 2025, and a lot of progress has been made in implementing it. The Interagency Leadership Team meets monthly and DOGAMI is included in that team. Draft work plans have already been put together and are on track to be shared with boards and commission in the fall. A technical team has been put together, the attributes report has been completed and is available on the OWEB website. The Natural Resource Advisors have met with all the boards and commission and will continue having a dialogue going forward.

Huntington said Day-Stirrat is putting together DOGAMI's Workplan of how the Agency fits into the architecture. There are a lot of areas not applicable to DOGAMI, but there are a number of pivot points and opportunities for the Agency to lean into. He told the Board he hopes there is a collaboration between them and agency leadership, and they put their fingerprints all over the Agency's Workplan.

Chair MacDonald stated she is looking forward to seeing where this goes and the whole scheme working. The Natural Resource Advisors have highlighted areas where the Board is going to need to take action related to the Workplan and the Key Performance Measures (KPMs).

Vice-Chair Thomas asked what the initial target deadlines are for implementation and rollout of the Executive Orders. Ferrari said for EO 25-26 the only timeline is around the 10 by 10 Goal, and the

Technical Team is working on the exact baseline for achieving the deliverable to be executed completely 10 years from now. The Workplans are biennial and the initial one is expected to be completed by this fall/end of year, and then updated to show how the agency is progressing in 2-year intervals. The resilience attributes were the first things asked to be completed within 3-4 months, which were recently completed to serve as the benchmark for the rest of the work.

Vice-Chair Thomas asked if the Workplans include individual target dates for their specific action items. Ferrari replied yes that agencies are being asked to paint a bigger picture of what they are trying to achieve with the actions. Schlusser said EO 25-29 identifies several agencies with deadlines this year to do some analysis to identify implementation strategies moving forward. DOGAMI is contributing to an evaluation of emerging technologies that will be incorporated into the Oregon Department of Energy's Biennial Energy Report due out by November 1, 2026. The EO intends that agencies will develop Workplans with their own implementation timelines based on available resources and existing authorities. Huntington added the EOs are not directing what has to be in the Workplans, but it is an exercise about agencies prioritizing areas that would make the most difference and what the agency wants to get done on a biennial basis.

Dittrich asked how priorities have shifted related to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Huntington said on the resiliency side for him is cold water refugia for fisheries is important for salmon populations and the health of watersheds, which can be an anchor point for building out from. Ferrari said by taking more focused action in certain areas where benefits can be maximized by investing in areas to get co-benefits; investments that make sense for the long haul. As for mitigation, having conversations on whether the systems created make sense for the current needs and trajectories, that may make some people uncomfortable. Huntington added the Oregon will never have a Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which is an umbrella single agency that every agency then becomes a department of. He believes what is being asked of by the Governor is for a more cohesive systemic approach to natural resource management, so the agencies work more as a cabinet and as a DNR in disguise. The goals of both EOs is to have the agencies thinking in a more interdepartmental integrated systemic approach than as 14 agencies, to the larger question of how to address the pace and scale of change being seen on landscapes and the demands on the energy infrastructure.

Ferrari said Day-Stirrat and DOGAMI have been really leaning into this effort, and have been amazing and creative thought partners on how DOGAMI supports the science-based decision-making and where the potential is to go from here. Day-Stirrat said DOGAMI is leaning into the EOs, and the Board has seen the Agency's connection to EO 25-29 in the last three meetings with the geologic carbon sequestration discussions, the external speaker on geologic hydrogen, and today's external speaker on geothermal. Christina Appleby has been doing most of the work on EO 25-26.

Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

7) Presentation on Geothermal:

Dr. James E. Faulds, Professor of Geosciences, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology (NBMG), University of Nevada, Reno.

Day-Stirrat teed up the presentation by stating DOGAMI issued two geothermal drilling permits on Friday around the Newberry area.

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287 Dr. Faulds gave a presentation on “Geothermal Energy: Promising Renewable Energy Resource and
288 Key to the Energy Transition”.

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290 Vice-Chair Thomas asked what sort of private-public partnerships does he foresee being necessary to
291 extend the grid to some of the more remote areas and have they been factored into the
292 development models. Dr. Faulds responded for the higher temperatures producing electricity, the
293 main item is the proximity to a transmission corridor, and the lower temperature direct use need to
294 be closer to developed areas. They have developed a lot of private-public partnerships and worked
295 with the geothermal industry. A recent funding opportunity with US DOE led to collaborations
296 between State Geological Surveys and industry, where industry could provide the match and do the
297 drilling and the Surveys could provide the scientific knowledge to complement the industry
298 perspective.

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300 Dittrich asked why is there a need to combine a solar or wind farm and geothermal together, what
301 has been the change to moving to geothermal, and what are the risks from developing geothermal
302 energy. Dr. Faulds explained for geothermal energy is needed to drive the pumps/system called the
303 parasitic load, it allows energy from geothermal, which is 24-7, to go directly to the grid. It also
304 reduces the impact of development by concentrating it in certain areas. With respect to hidden
305 systems, they do not drill in areas with natural hot springs, as there could be flora or fauna that have
306 adapted to those conditions or endangered species that only live in that area. There are still impacts
307 that can happen. The technology associated with finding the hidden systems helps locate them and
308 more efficiently balance the injection and production. He believes geothermal is poised to ramp up
309 rapidly in the next decade.

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311 Edison-Lahm asked what is DOGAMI’s current role in geothermal in both GS&S and MLRR, and also in
312 terms of various funding sources. Day-Stirrat said MLRR handles the regulatory and permitting
313 process for drilling, which is fee based. For GS&S geothermal has been dormant for the last 15 years.
314 More recently, there is a small community outreach engagement study with Idaho National Labs to
315 look at barriers to geothermal uptake in the community, and a new project called WestGIN for all of
316 the Western states to work together under US DOE funds to get all of the data into a consistent
317 format and have a forward-facing viewer. US DOE also put a request for proposals, and Oregon will
318 have several around drilling.

319
320 Edison-Lahm asked if there is a map layer that shows the transmission corridor in relationship to the
321 existing map of wells and potential wells. Day-Stirrat answered yes in part, it is a stranded asset at
322 the moment and goes back to what Schlusser discussed about bringing these stranded assets into the
323 grid. Chair MacDonald stated there is more to come on geothermal.

324
325 Lopez asked about the social considerations of geothermal developments in comparison to other
326 renewable resources in his work. Dr. Faulds said it is very important to consider, and geothermal in
327 Nevada’s rural areas is an important from of economic development and is more favorable due to the
328 smaller footprint on the land. With respect to Native American reservations, it is looked upon
329 favorably with respect to the hidden systems, but do not want them developed on sacred lands.

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331 The Board thanked Dr. Faulds for the presentation.

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333 Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

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335 **8) MLRR Update:**

336 Sarah Lewis, MLRR Program Manager, provided the MLRR program update. The Board Packet
337 contained the standard summary tables and figures.
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339 Lewis explained for the new Board Members that the summary tables and figures in the Board Packet
340 demonstrate the productivity and types of things the Program does. The Mine Site Activity map
341 shows the current surface mining activity, but does not include geothermal or gas wells, or chemical
342 process mine applications. Surface mining is about 90% of MLRR's workload. She stated the Permit
343 Status column titles were incorrect and should be August 2025; October 2025; February 2026 and
344 June 2026, which are snapshots of the active permits at that time.
345

346 Lewis reviewed the different types of surface mining permits, the Operating and Exploration Permit
347 Application Workload graph, and the Application Processing Status flowchart. The time for an
348 application to be reviewed right now is between 18-24 months, and applicants are waiting 8-12
349 months for a technical review once there is a complete application, due to the workload. There are
350 no public comments on DOGAMI's permits, with one exception, but they are circulated to the other
351 natural resource agencies and to the land use authority for comments, this is a mandatory 35 days.
352 DOGAMI does not pick where permitting happens, it just makes sure the permit meets the
353 environmental regulations. MLRR can handle approximately 30-35 applications with current staffing.
354

355 Lewis said the tables for applications received and decisions issued will be provided to the Board
356 every quarter as a way to monitor the work MLRR is doing. Some of the decisions might say denied
357 or withdrawn, she explained that if an application has been with MLRR for more than a year without
358 a response from the applicant showing forward progress, the application is withdrawn and removed
359 from the queue.
360

361 Lewis briefly discussed the compliance activity, stating the Program will come to the Board with
362 requests for Civil Penalties around things like mining without a Permit (MWOP). Non-payment of
363 fees is the largest category for Civil Penalties, which the Board did delegate authority to approve
364 those fees to the State Geologist in June of 2021. A list of Civil Penalties for Late Fees levied in the
365 last quarter was included in the Board Packet for awareness.
366

367 Lewis quickly touched on recruiting, stating six positions were approved by the legislature, five have
368 been filled and the last one will be recruited for this summer. Two of the new employees were on
369 the Zoom meeting, Katie Fry, the Energy Resource Geologist, and Mike Kennedy, who will work in the
370 Surface Mining Program. Two positions that recently finished recruitment are for the field specialists
371 that will start later in the summer.
372

373 Lewis stated during Legislative Days DOGAMI and other agencies gave short presentations on
374 permitting challenges and opportunities to the House Committee on Rules.
375

376 Lewis stated MLRR has been undertaking a long-term IT modernization project for ePermitting, now
377 called DEPS. The project was launched a year ago and is on time and budget to go live in November
378 and complete in spring of 2027. The project received Stage Gate 3 approval and has moved into
379 execution phase where they are doing system configuration and user acceptance testing. This
380 project continues to take a significant amount of staff's time to develop. Lewis thanked the core

project team, steering committee, project champions, the staff doing double duty, and all MLRR staff for their dedication to develop this long-overdue IT modernization.

Lewis briefly touch on Division 37 projects, Consolidated Applications for Chemical Process Mining, which do require public comments. Rules were established by the legislature in the 1990s around environmental protections for chemical process mining, where DOGAMI is the umbrella agency that oversees the consolidated process meant to streamline and have processes across different agencies move forward in parallel, rather than sequential so all approvals are in the place at the end so nothing is held up. MLRR is in the final stages of permit issuance for the Grassy Mountain Project in Malheur County, and the final permit is expected to be issued in late summer early fall.

MLRR received a new Notice of Intent from the Cracker Creek Project in Sumpter. MLRR staff, Lewis and Day-Stirrat, did an onsite visit earlier in the summer to see the operation. The Program is waiting on the applicant to submit a Notice of Readiness to Collect Baseline Data. Lewis will keep the Board updated on any forward movement. There have been additional enquiries around the Division 37 process from potential applicants.

Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

9) **GS&S Update:**

Jason McClaughry, GS&S Program Manager, provided the GS&S program update. The Board Packet contained all of the summarized GS&S activities.

McClaughry stated grants are a major priority for the Program, there are currently 36 active non-Lidar grants. He encouraged the new Board Members to review the list to become familiar with who the Agency receives funding from, the type of work the Program does, and the amounts of dollars being dealt with, as this will help to inform and better understand the financial report. Staff work on multiple projects at a time, and the NRS 4 staff spend a quarter to half their time annually working to keep grants in the pipeline. The longest running grant program the Agency participates in is the USGS STATEMAP Program, since 1992 it has been a main funding source for mapping work. The federal funding disruption in 2024 caused the Program to look for new opportunities for funding. McClaughry discussed the new funding opportunities, saying the Program is adaptable to change and continues to look at new opportunities. There is a constant need to look at priorities and how they change over time.

McClaughry said publications are the outcomes of the grants, and reviewed the publications output chart. The Program produces approximately 15 publications per year, two publications have been released so far this year with 14 more going through external and internal review on their way to release in 2026.

Edison-Lahm asked about the TRC and external reviews. McClaughry explained the TRC is the Program's internal Technical Review Committee composed of all NRS 4 or senior scientists within DOGAMI, and any document that leaves the Agency for public consumption or at scientific meetings has to be reviewed to ensure internal DOGAMI standards and protocols are met.

The staffing report included a brief update on the geologic carbon sequestration project. This is a \$10M joint project with DSL, to look at siting a deep drill hole look at the potential feasibility of

storing carbon dioxide underground. The Program is currently looking at three potential sites. This is part of Oregon's climate change mitigation strategy. He showed a map with potential drilling locations. GS&S is currently recruiting for a Geotechnical Services Leader for the drilling campaign, and drilling could potentially start in October. In advance of that, McClaughry and Lopez are working on public outreach and community engagement, including engaging with the State's Tribal partners.

Day-Stirrat added the RFP for the drilling contract closes in 2 days, and Neyda Maymi presented to the Oregon Water Department Commission at the beginning of June. A number of in-government and external government communications have been done on this project.

Vice-Chair Thomas asked if this drilling project is the same collaboration that was presented to the Board several meetings ago. Day-Stirrat answered yes.

Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

10) Preliminary 27-29 Agency Request Budget (ARB) Discussion:

Ruarri Day-Stirrat, Director & State Geologist, provided an Agency Request Budget (ARB) update.

Day-Stirrat briefly discussed the State Biennial Budget Cycle. This Budget build is Current Service Level (CSL) and must be net neutral, compared to in the past. He discussed the factors the Agency has no control over that move the budget up and down, they include vacancy factor, inflation, technical adjustments, reduction options, and COLAs. The 10% Reduction Option is painful for a small agency like DOGAMI because every dollar counts.

The Current Service Level Budget for 27-29 will be about \$28M, down from \$36M the prior biennium. This is due to the projected spend down of the geologic carbon sequestration project, which was one-time funding. He reviewed the Revenue Neutral Policy Option Packages (POPs):

- POP 101 – Geologic Carbon Sequestration Rollover
- POP 102 – One Landslide Hazards Position from Non-budgeted (limited duration) to permanent
- POP 103 – Reclassification of Positions in response to salary compression (2 Program Managers)
- POP 104 – MLRR Fee Increase for CSL
- POP 105 – Tech Fee limitation increase for ePermitting

The Legislative Concepts (LCs) are pre-step to a bill and will go into the legislature for consideration.

- 63200-01 – Credit Card Payments
- 63200-02 – Current Service Level Fee Increase
- 63200-03 – Regulatory Process Alignment
- 63200-04 – Regulatory Authority of Geologic Hydrogen

Day-Stirrat briefly reviewed the (Yearly) Key Performance Measures (KPMs), stating the proposed changes for KPMs 1, 2, and 3 had been discussed in detail during the March Board Meeting. KPMs 4, 5, and 6 did not change, and KPM 7 is new due to a Budget Note in the 2025 Session. He wrapped up his presentation by stating the CSL Budget is not particularly hard to build, as the Agency does not have much capacity to move things around, so it is very minimal.

Chair MacDonald asked if the KPMs for the Executive Orders will come into the process next year. Day-Stirrat said it could be done through the Governor's Recommended Budget or by the legislature. Edison-Lahm asked how KPMs are used by the Governor and legislature in the budget process. Day-Stirrat answered they are a mechanism to ensure that State agencies are delivering for Oregonians and track progress biennium to biennium, and provided more detail. MacDonald asked if KPMs 4 & 7 needed additional staffing to move forward on them. Day-Stirrat answered yes, that MLRR KPMs have always been extremely challenging because the Program does not control all of the process.

Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

11) Confirm Time and Date for Special Board Meeting (July 22, 2026) and Next Quarterly Meeting (September 16, 2026):

Chair MacDonald stated the DOGAMI Special Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22, 2026, and the next DOGAMI Board is currently scheduled for Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in Portland or via Zoom. She confirmed the dates are still acceptable for the Board.

July 22, 2026 Special Board Meeting will start at 12:00 p.m.

September 16, 2026 to be an in-person/hybrid meeting at the Portland office.

12) Executive Session:

Chair MacDonald announced the start of the Executive Session for the Director's Annual Review.

13) Return to Public Session:

Chair MacDonald reconvened the regular public session at 2:21 p.m. following the Director's evaluation.

14) Annual Director's Evaluation:

Chair MacDonald stated the Board conducted the Annual Director's Performance Evaluation/Review.

The Board recognized that Director Day-Stirrat's leadership is exemplary and he has great staff around him to make him look good. The Board is looking forward to another great year.

Chair MacDonald entertained a motion to approve the Director's Performance Review.

Board Action: **Edison-Lahm moved to approve the Director's Performance Review. Thomas seconded. Yes Votes: MacDonald; Thomas; Dittrich. Abstained: Bell; Edison-Lahm. Motion carried.**

15) Public Comment:

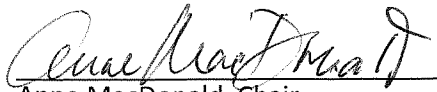
Only written comments received prior to or by 1:20 p.m. on the day of the meeting were to be accepted. Chair Kozlowski asked for any written public comments. No public comments.

16) Board Adjourn:

Anne MacDonald adjourned the meeting at 2:24 p.m.

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APPROVED



Anne MacDonald, Chair