



OSSPAC MINUTES November 10, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 PST virtually.

OSSPAC Members Present:

Jeffrey Soulages, Chair	Public member
Tiffany Brown, Vice Chair	Stakeholder: local government
Matt Crall	State agency: DLCD
Rep. David Gomberg	Legislative member
Dacia Grayber	Stakeholder: first responder
Bob Houston	State agency: DOGAMI
Joe Karney	Stakeholder: utilities
Christina LeClerc	State agency: ODOT
Ed MacMullan	Stakeholder: banking
Bonnie Magura	Stakeholder: schools
Walter McMonies	Stakeholder: multi-family housing
Trent Nagele	Stakeholder: structural engineer
Adam Pushkas	Stakeholder: building owners
Althea Rizzo	State agency: OEM
Sen. Arnie Roblan	Legislative member
Susan Romanski	Public member
Aeron Teverbaugh	State agency: DCBS

OSSPAC Members Absent:

Katie Young	Public member
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Invited Speakers:

Sarah Absher, CFM	Director of Community Development, Tillamook County
Carole Connell, AICP	Gearhart City Planner

Others in Attendance:

Mike Harryman	State Resilience Officer
Jim Austin	Chief of Staff, Rep. David Gomberg
Chris Goldfinger	Oregon State University
Meg Reed	State agency: DLCD
Jeni Hall	Energy Trust of Oregon

1. Administrative Matters

1a. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Jeff Soulages opened the meeting and led introductions.

1b. Review and Approval of Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes from September 8, 2020 were reviewed with no amendments/changes, seconded, and accepted.

1c. Events Notification

None submitted.

1d. New Business

Mike Harryman reported that the State of Washington Insurance Commissioner has proposed an 18-month study to establish a state resilience officer in Washington. They are waiting for the WA state legislature to fund the effort. He will forward to Althea for the minutes.

Jeff Soulages and Tiffany Brown met with the incoming chair of the California Seismic Safety Commission, Kit Miyamoto and their Executive Director, Dick McCarthy. Meeting was mutually beneficial and discussed impact of COVID on furthering resilience efforts. They agreed to meet again every other month.

2. Reports

2a. OEM

Althea Rizzo reported that ShakeAlert would be going live on March 11 and they are working on outreach. Continued work on Be 2 Weeks Ready campaign. "Great Camp In" will be in 2022. Working on recovery phase of recent wildfire events and have hired a significant number of new personnel at OEM.

2b. DOGAMI

Bob Houston reported significant work on GEAR which is post-event evaluation on landslides and debris flows after wildfires. Deb Schueller is assisting OSSPAC with the production of the Tsunami Resilience report.

2c. DCBS

Aeron Teverbaugh reported that Building Codes is very busy with aftermath from the recent wildfires assisting Oregonians with repairing and replacing their homes, especially residents in mobile homes a great many of which were destroyed in the fires. A second acting administrator has been appointed for Building Codes, Alana Cox, while the search continues for a permanent Director.

2d. DLCD

Matt Crall reported that the statewide National Hazards Reduction Plan was completed in September and submitted to FEMA. DLCD has been involved with wildfire recovery as well and is working on lessons learned that could be used post-earthquake. Meg Reed reported the City of Newport has developed an RFP for assistance with beach access improvements so people can safely evacuate in case of a major tsunami.

2e. ODOT

Christina LeClerc reported that ODOT has been very busy opening up critical roads that were damaged and blocked after the recent wildfires and managing contract process for large-scale wildfire recovery projects.

2f. SRO

Mike Harryman reported that the last briefing of DAS on the Governor's recommended budget is almost complete and the final budget will be presented December 1st. Mike will be the primary contact for after-action reviews both for COVID as well as the recent wildfires throughout the state. He noted that the state statues that govern OSSPAC have not been changed in a long while and it might be time to review them. He added that unless a Commissioner receives a letter from the Governor that he/she is not on OSSPAC, that Commissioner is still active.

Rep. Gomberg added that Oregonians impacted by the wildfires are being hit with increased property taxes. When an existing home is lost to fire and then replaced, the property tax rate goes up substantially, as much as tripling. This needs to be addressed; hopefully in the short special session at the end of November that is targeted specifically for legislation around the wildfires.

3. Review Draft Outline for Single Family Homes Report

Jeff began the discussion with appreciation for the hard work of the Working Group on the Single-Family Homes report. It is very developed at this point in time. Laura Hall will be contracted to write the report. The timeline for the 90% draft is March 8, 2021 with a final vote on May 11, 2021.

Jeff discussed the draft outline that was distributed to the Commission and the overall contents of the 3 chapters. Chapter 1 sets out problem and previous recommendations from other OSSPAC reports. Chapter 2 includes testimony OSSPAC received on new federal and state research and resources. And Chapter 3 includes the final recommendations on how to move forward. The Appendix includes a sample certificate to give to homeowners at the successful completion of their seismic retrofit.

Commissioners with comments, please send them to Jeff who will forward to the Working Group. Question was asked, if we have a retrofit standard adopted by state, what about alternate standards? If an alternate standard other than P1100 is used, a licensed engineer would be needed to provide certification.

4. Review Letter on Earthquake Early Warning

Commission discussed draft letter that was distributed to the Commission and offered feedback and specific edits. Motion made to adopt letter with edits. Vote was unanimous and motion carried.

5. Review LC1512 Bill and Comments

Trent Nagele discussed proposed comments on current LC1512 language that were distributed to the Commission. No additional comments from Commission. Comments will be forwarded to Rep. Gomberg's office for passing on to Legislative Council.

6. Coastal stakeholder testimony: Sarah Absher, CFM – Director of Community Development, Tillamook County

Sarah reported on efforts in Tillamook County to incorporate tsunami resilience into land use planning. They have been working roughly two years on community engagement, partnering with the sheriff and fire department to create series of presentations. The county rented a booth at the Tillamook County fair to better reach the public. They have also formed additional emergency volunteer corps countywide.

The county has had a number of conversations with DOGAMI regarding multi-family housing to decide on best actions for tsunami evacuation - deciding where to allow development and how best to require mitigation. Solutions could include signage, trail maintenance, and lighting. County has also finished tsunami facility improvement plans for about 8 sites and created a list of improvements including: wayfinding signs, blue line, and vertical evacuation structures (Neskowin Village). However, funding these improvements is expensive. County is looking to partner with tourism department (Visit Tillamook Coast) as tourists need this help as well as residents.

The County recently adopted a tsunami overlay and used it in the permitting of a 25-unit apartment in Pacific City. They were able to adjust the plans to better enable tsunami evacuation. With over 1000 short term rentals in the County, they are working to better educate visitors by requiring tsunami evacuation maps on each door that are checked as part of yearly inspections and tied to operating permit.

7. Coastal stakeholder testimony: Carole Connell, AICP – Gearhart City Planner

Carole gave a summary of the tsunami overlay zone adopted 2019 by the City of Gearhart. The process started in 2017 when the City received a small grant from NOAA through DLCD (only 19 funded out of 170+ applications nationwide). The overlay zone covers the entire city as well as the urban growth boundary. Although only 1500 people in community, Gearhart Citizen Involvement Commission decided it was too time consuming to do full public process so instead did an abbreviated process relying heavily on DLCD as well as local engineers GeoSciences and OTAK.

As part of the effort, the previous year, the city evaluated its transportation system including identifying 26 detailed evacuation routes, estimated costs for

improvements and established priorities to carry over to zoning code. They are in process of buying 60 evacuation route signs.

After initial turmoil due to passage of HB3309, the City continued to work on their plans. The adopted tsunami overlay zone prohibits critical services within the L line and housing density 10 units per acre or greater and large congregation areas within the M line. This does impact affordable housing goals as Gearhart does not have a central sewer system and most houses need larger lots for septic fields. The overlay zone provisions allow a flexible developer option that allows more density if evacuation route improvements are built, a tsunami hazard disclosure for every permit granted, and also short-term rentals to have to go bag and evacuation map on premises.

Susan asked if they have taken message to elsewhere in coast; Sarah responded that yes, they have done outreach along the coast.

8. Review 90% Draft for Tsunami Resilience Report

Jeff acknowledged the hard work of the Working Group and especially the assistance of Deb Schueller at DOGAMI for her efficient processing of the draft language into the final format. The final vote on this report will be in 2 months at the January OSSPAC meeting.

A discussion of the 90% draft that was distributed to the Commission was undertaken (both formatted and unformatted versions). Trent made a few recommendations. Susan supported taking a stronger stand on the language and recommended adding information to OSU Hatfield case study to mention the controversy. She will send wording to Jeff. Also discussed need to explain probabilistic versus deterministic and include it in Glossary.

Jeff requests any final comments from the Commission to be forwarded in the next two weeks.

9. Public Comment

Chris Goldfinger – Had significant issues with the Drop Cover Hold (DCH) letter. DCH is good for Japan and California. Statement that people are thrown to the ground is wrong for the subduction zone. Recurrence times for subduction faults are longer and accelerations are much lower, 0.3g at most. Fragile infrastructure in PNW is more collapse prone. There are no published papers with data on DCH and no literature supports DCH in our situation. Messaging is weak. He is not advocating for evacuation but rather for more thought before telling people what to do.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM PST.