

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

Monday, September 28, 2009
Cannon Beach, Oregon

1) Call to Order:

Chair Donald Haagensen called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

2) Introductions:

Board Chair Donald Haagensen, Vice Chair Steve Macnab, and Board Members Larry Givens, Charles Vars and Lisa Phipps were present.

DOGAMI Staff in attendance:
State Geologist Vicki McConnell
Assistant Director Don Lewis
James Roddey
Ian Madin
Jonathan Allan
Rob Witter
Carol DuVernois

Assistant Director Gary Lynch and Assistant Attorney General Larry Knudsen attended via teleconference

1 **3) Approval of Minutes of June 19, 2009 Portland Meeting and August 6,**
2 **2009 teleconference meeting:** (Board) *Action Item*

3 Steve Macnab moved to approve minutes as written. Larry Givens
4 seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

6 **a. Update on Board recruitment: Update Item**

7 Charles Vars has agreed to a second four-year term, subject to
8 confirmation by the state senate. Chair Haagensen's term expires
9 12/31/2009 and the Board still needs to get some recommendations
10 together. Haagensen submitted the resume of one of his colleagues as a
11 possible candidate.

12 **b. Election of Board Chair and Vice Chair: Action Item**

13 Vars nominated Macnab for Chair. Macnab nominated Givens for
14 Chair. Macnab would prefer to serve as Vice Chair, rather than Chair.
15 Vars withdrew his nomination for Macnab, and seconded the Givens
16 nomination. Motion passed.
17 Vars nominated Macnab for Vice Chair, Givens seconded. Motion
18 passed.

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20 **5) Board Adjourns to Cannon Beach City Hall to attend Tsunami Vertical**
21 **Evacuation Public Forum**

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6) **Board Reconvenes Meeting at Hallmark Resort**

7) **State of the Agency:** (Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist)

a. **Discussion of Executive Order 09-13 – Resetting Government: Information Item**

The Governor believes the main tenets of government are education, public service and health. He would like his task force to prioritize core functions including consolidation and elimination of Boards and Commissions, and improving outcomes, controlling costs and maximizing efficiencies by consolidating service delivery and providing greater flexibility where needed.

There were various recommendations outlined in a subsequent letter on this topic that could possibly impact the agency. However, during follow-up, McConnell discovered that these were merely conceptual and at this point these ideas will not be pursued. Mike Carrier, the head of the Governor's Natural Resource Office will be testifying on October 1st before the House Committee on Environment and Water, to discuss consolidation of the natural resource agencies.

Haagensen noted that this has been discussed numerous times in the past and the legislature has consistently decided that it would make no sense to consolidate natural resource agencies. He said that the agency's general fund has been consistently cut back, but has survived because of innovation and hard work to acquire funding from other sources, and he doesn't believe that a bigger agency would be able to accomplish this.

McConnell recommends that the Chair call Mike Carrier prior to his testimony to ask him what the testimony will be about and to offer assistance with background information.

b. **Agency activities update: Update Item**

McConnell briefed the Board on current projects, proposals, and activities outlined in her memo. She noted the new Oregon Geologic History map slated for release in a week or so. We will be giving a copy to each middle and high school in the state and will present a framed copy to the Governor. The Geologic Society of America conference will be in town in October and DOGAMI has been very involved in the planning for the past year. She also briefed the Board on upcoming statewide furlough days.

c. **End of Biennium Financial Report: Update Item**

Don Lewis gave a brief presentation on the financial status of the agency and said we are in good financial shape in spite of the grim economic outlook. However, with the downturn in regulatory fees and the need to replace general funds with other funds, there is still a possibility of financial risk if the legislature cuts our budget again.

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

67 **a. Status of rulemaking for aggregate, oil and gas, geothermal**
68 **laws: Update Item**

69 The draft Oil & Gas rules will be ready for the rules advisory
70 committee in mid-October. Geothermal rules will be started in January.
71 The rule writing on the aggregate statutes for SB 149 has been
72 completed. Haagensen believes the geothermal rules should be
73 prioritized and written as quickly as possible.

74 The Board requested that Larry Knudsen identify any possible
75 problems that may occur if we don't have rules in effect quickly so the
76 Board can make an informed decision on whether or not to prioritize
77 geothermal rules over oil and gas rules.

78 **b. Status of US Geothermal's request for unitization at Neal Hot**
79 **Springs: Action Item**

80 McConnell attended a meeting with the BLM and US Geothermal in
81 Boise ID. She briefly defined unitization for the Board and US
82 Geothermal's withdrawal from requesting unitization at Neal Hot Springs.
83 She recommends that we adopt the BLM unitization process to fit our
84 needs.

85 **c. Summary of operational and enforcement activities for surface**
86 **mining and oil and gas and geothermal regulatory programs: Update**
87 **Item**

88 The Columbia County transition has gone quite well. There are no
89 high priority enforcement actions at this time.

90 **9) Coastal Field Office Programs and Priorities :** (Don Lewis, Geologic
91 Survey & Services Program and Jonathan Allan, DOGAMI Coastal
92 Geomorphologist) Board considered these agenda items as training.

93 **a. Oregon Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program acceleration is**
94 **now possible with additional NOAA funding: Update Item**

95 Lewis summarized the program and gave a brief presentation
96 outlining our progress towards accelerating the mapping of the entire
97 coast of the state and developing outreach to educate the populace.

98 **b. DOGAMI involvement in the LCDC Climate Change Policy and**
99 **request for Land Use Goal 20 – Sea Level Rise: Information Item**

100 Jonathan Allan gave a presentation to the Board that focused on
101 recent discussions of climate change impact, in particular the impact of
102 sea level rise on coastal infrastructure.

103 **10) Set Date and Time for next meeting:** (Board)

104 The next meeting will be on Friday, January 15, 2010 in Portland.

105 **11) Additional Public Comment:** (three minutes limit per person unless
106 otherwise specified at the meeting by the Chair)

107 There was no public comment.

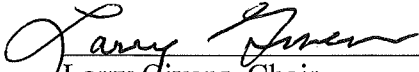
108 **12) Working Lunch**

109 **a.** Rob Witter, Coastal Regional Geologist, gave an overview of the
110 Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program and work he has been doing on the
111 coast in preparation for the afternoon field trip attended by the Board.
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113 **Action List: (in no order of priority)**

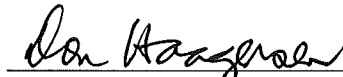
1. McConnell will contact Nancy Goss-Duran to inform her that Vars has agreed to a second term and to inquire about Interest Forms. - Done
2. Larry Knudsen will review the geothermal bill to identify any possible problems that may occur if we don't have rules in effect quickly so the Board can make an informed decision on whether or not to prioritize geothermal rules over oil and gas rules - Done

APPROVED:




Larry Givens, Chair

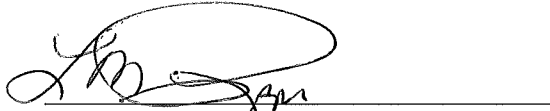
Steve Macnab, Vice Chair



Don Haagensen,



Charles Vars



Lisa Phipps