

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

Friday, March 4, 2022

8:30 a.m.

Virtual Public Meeting

1) Call to Order: (Laura Maffei, Board Chair)

Vice-Chair Katie Jeremiah called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Vice-Chair Jeremiah stated DOGAMI has been very fortunate for the interim guidance of Sarah Lewis, and beginning on April 1, 2022, the Agency will transition the Director role to Dr. Ruarri Day-Stirrat, and invited him to say a few words.

Day-Stirrat thanked Vice-Chair Jeremiah for the opportunity to introduce himself. He introduced his educational and professional background. He recognized and acknowledged the work that the Board and the agency staff had done over the last months in helping to guide the Agency through a transition and interim phase.

Vice-Chair Jeremiah said the Board looks forward to Day-Stirrat's leadership of the Agency.

2) Introductions: (Laura Maffei, Board Chair and Staff)

Vice-Chair Katie Jeremiah, and Board Members Scott Ashford, Diane Teeman, and Linda Kozlowski were all in attendance via Zoom video/phone. Chair Laura Maffei was not in attendance.

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

Sarah Lewis, Interim Director/State Geologist and MLRR Program Manager

Lori Calarruda, Recording Secretary/Executive Assistant

Steve Dahlberg, Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

Jason McClaughry, Interim GS&S Program Manager

Cari Buchner, Mining Compliance Specialist

Others in attendance:

Diane Lloyd, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Morgan Gratz-Weiser, Policy Advisor Governor's Office

Ruarri Day-Stirrat, Incoming DOGAMI State Geologist and Executive Director

Kelly Wood, Safety and Land Manager for Wildish Sand and Gravel

Debbie Struhsacker, Environmental & Government Relations Consultant from Reno, NV

Dorian Kuper – Kuper Consulting

1 3) Review Minutes of December 10, 2021 Board Meeting:

2 Vice-Chair Jeremiah asked if there were any changes to the minutes as presented. No changes.

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4 Board Action: **Ashford moved to approve the minutes of December 10, 2021 as submitted.**

5 **Kozlowski seconded. Motion carried.**

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4) Board Appointment Updates:

Sarah Lewis, Interim Director & State Geologist, provided an update on Board Appointments for the Agency.

Lewis stated the appointments discussion was to be the prep for the election of new officers, which is being deferred until June. Lewis said currently Vice-Chair Jeremiah will continue in service, but there is a vacancy for that position; additionally Chair Maffei will be terming out, by completing her second term with the Board in September of this year. The Agency is recruiting to fill both of those seats. She stated both Kozlowski and Teeman have completed their first term and have agreed to apply for reappointment to the Board. Lewis added Board Member Ashford is continuing, as his term is not yet up.

Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

5) Election of Chair and Vice-Chair:

Vice-Chair Jeremiah stated the election of Chair and Vice-Chair was being deferred due to Chair Maffei not being in attendance.

6) Financial Report:

Steve Dahlberg, Chief Financial Officer, presented the DOGAMI FY2021 Budget Status Report, as of December 31, 2021, for the Geological Survey and Services (GS&S) and Mineral Land Regulation & Reclamation (MLRR) programs.

Dahlberg said DOGAMI’s financial projections for the 2021-23 biennium include the actual results as of December 31, 2021 and the forecast for the rest of the biennium through the end of June 2023.

The GS&S General Fund was provided a budget of \$6,339,401 and is projected to spend \$5,700,188, resulting in being under-budget by \$639,000 which is 10% underbudget. Dahlberg discussed discretionary spending items incorporated in this scenario.

Dahlberg discussed GS&S Other Funds. New Other Funds grants are decreasing, but this is likely to change later in the biennium when working with other partner state agencies. Projected revenues are expected to be almost \$1.2 million.

The Strong Motion Instrument Fund (SMIF) is a subset of Other Funds. The beginning balance was \$260,000, with four new deposits of about \$71,000, and the commitment for \$200,000 with the University of Oregon. The agreement is for 24 new seismic instruments at 18 different locations. The ending balance is expected to be \$131,000.

Ashford asked where the 50% underbudget in Other Funds is coming from. Lewis explained with respect to Other Funds, the Agency is not given a budget, it is given a limitation amount up to which it can spend up to during the biennium, then DOGAMI applies for grants or receives deposits of Other Funds that it can spend, which is the number Dahlberg reported. Were the Agency to receive funds greater than that budget, it would need to go back to the Legislature and request additional limitation.

52
53 For clarification, Ashford asked if the revenue of \$2.1 million is what the Agency anticipates and that
54 is the maximum it can spend without going back to the Legislature is correct. Dahlberg answered
55 yes, and explained this fund, like Federal Fund, has to be earned before it can be spent.

56
57 Ashford commented on budget limitation versus budget that is available to spend. Dahlberg agreed
58 to clarify that the General Fund is a provided budget the Agency cannot exceed. Whereas Other
59 Funds and Federal Funds limitations are the anticipated spend on successful grant applications.

60
61 Ashford asked if the actual revenues and projections were inline. Dahlberg explained his
62 methodology.

63
64 Vice-Chair Jeremiah suggested a definitions page would be helpful for new Board Members.
65 Dahlberg said that is a great suggestion.

66
67 Dahlberg said recent GS&S work has moved towards federal grants. These grants tend to be larger
68 and nearly all have no General Fund match requirements and provide full indirects. Dahlberg
69 discussed the breakdown funding from FEMA, NOAA, USGS. He noted several new grants waiting for
70 federal approval and federal grants DOGAMI will be submitting in the near future.

71
72 MLRR started with a beginning balance of almost \$402,000 and is expected to end the biennium with
73 nearly \$968,000. MLRR is on target for building to the 6-month operating reserve by the end of the
74 biennium, reaching 93% of the target by the end of FY23 and is projecting to exceed the target by the
75 end of FY25. Dahlberg discussed the positive factors driving this projection.

76
77 The Reclamation Guarantee Fund began the biennium with 58 cash securities, it added 5 new ones
78 and released 2 for a total of 61 cash securities and a current balance of \$738,000.

79
80 Vice-Chair Jeremiah thanked Dahlberg for all his work.

81
82 Ashford thanked Dahlberg for the report and requested to see the projections and the actuals and
83 the history of projections through the biennium. Ashford expressed a desire for the Board to assess
84 the accuracy of the projections during the biennium. Dahlberg showed Ashford the underlying
85 spreadsheet for projections. Ashford said he really likes the information he is tracking and would like
86 to see this information going forward. Ashford wants to make sure the Agency keeps up the great
87 project management work and spends the approximately \$600,000 uncommitted/available funds
88 wisely and with intent.

89
90 Board Action: **Teeman moved to accept the Budget Status Report as presented. Kozlowski**
91 **seconded. Motion carried.**

92
93 7) **MLRR Key Performance Measure Discussion:**

94 Sarah Lewis, Interim Director and MLRR Program Manager, discussed the MLRR Key Performance
95 Measure.

96
97 Lewis stated the Board requested MLRR review KPM #4 and explore possible alternate KPMs for
98 DOGAMI's regulatory program.

99

100 DOGAMI's current set of KPMs was established in 2016, and measurements began with the 2018
101 fiscal year. DOGAMI reports on 6 KPMs: KPM #4 is related to MLRR and evaluates the Program's site
102 inspections. Since it was first measured in 2018, KPM #4 has come in considerably below the target
103 of 100% of permitted sites inspected each biennium.

104

105 Lewis discussed the history of prior KPMs for MLRR. She stated MLRR previously had two KPMs, the
106 one for site inspection that was revised, and one for reclamation that was approved for retirement.

107

108 Lewis presented several options for MLRR KPMs and responded to Board Member questions around
109 concepts related to:

110

- Reclamation
- Processing of Applications
- Monitoring Compliance
- Customer Service
- Site Inspections

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115

116 Ashford asked if it is up to the permittees to submit their annual reports and to be in compliance. If
117 so, he recognized how this would be a long-term project for the Program and for compliance
118 reporting.

119

120 Vice-Chair Jeremiah wanted to emphasize the Agency is one with limited resources that may not
121 change and wants to keep the Agency's mission in mind. She cautioned the Agency to balance
122 compliance enforcement with developing relationships with permittees, and being a resource for
123 permittees. She clarified that for resource independence, critical to national security, an agency
124 focusing only on compliance and enforcement cannot help Oregon incentivize investment.

125

126 Lewis stated that MLRR seeks to find this balance and she noted being a resource is part of providing
127 good customer service. Lewis noted the need for continued conversation with stakeholders around
128 how to prioritize limited MLRR resources.

129

130 Teeman said she appreciated what the MLRR team is trying to develop and Vice-Chair Jeremiah's
131 comments. The portions of DOGAMI's mission she keyed in on were responsibly developing and
132 ensuring the safety of Oregonians. Teeman focused her discussion on the importance of
133 documentation in a permit as a way of assuring the safety of Oregonians.

134

135 Kozlowski said she believes these Key Performance Measures are critical and what DOGAMI
136 measures is what the staff will do, so taking the time to find that balance is going to be really
137 important.

138

139 Ashford said he was part of the 2016 discussion for the KPMs. He thinks the Agency, under Lewis'
140 leadership at MLRR has transformed it into that customer service program and thinks evidence of
141 that was the support the Agency received for increasing the fees. He said the permits were just
142 languishing and are in a much better place now and wanted to echo some of Vice-Chair Jeremiah's
143 comments about the challenges with focusing on compliance. He asked the timeline for updating for
144 KPMs.

145

146 Lewis said KPMs are based on the legislative cycle. DOGAMI is looking to revise, present, or retire
147 with that budget proposal, and the Agency does need to have preliminary concepts in, in the next
148 few months that are reviewed for appropriateness, revised, then submit them with the budget
149 package this summer.

150
151 Lewis said she advocates keeping a site inspection focused metric. For a regulatory program, there is
152 no substitute for boots on the ground inspections of operations. She reviewed site inspection metric
153 table comparing past, current and proposed KPM. The current KPM is for percent of permitted mine
154 sites inspected biennially and is only being met 15%-16% with a zero (0) percent success rate. She
155 went through a concept version and discussed the difference in permitted and active sites. She said
156 the target would be to inspect all the sites every 2-3 biennium, which is in line with other agencies
157 that inspect a site once every 5 years over the life of a mine.

158
159 Lewis said she would advise revising the existing KPM #4, and if there is interest in developing a new
160 concept she would propose either the permit application receiving an initial review or the annual
161 reporting requirement for the Board's consideration. These options for revised KPMs can be brought
162 back to the Board as part of the Agency Request Budget.

163
164 Vice-Chair Jeremiah wanted to clarify if Lewis would be asking for a vote on this at the next meeting
165 to finalize the KPMs. Lewis said she was unclear of the actual procedure to change a KPM.

166
167 Vice-Chair Jeremiah clarified that today's presentation was for discussion purposes only. Interim
168 Director/Program Manager Lewis will take comments between now and the next Board Meeting,
169 with the expectation these would be in the budget packet and subject to approval.

170
171 Ashford said he felt the Agency was too ambitious, which is why it should be updated. He feels it is
172 important have a KPM around visiting sites that includes aerial photography, to be on the ground,
173 and meeting with operators to develop relationships. Ashford suggested he does not support a
174 compliance KPM, and likes the concept around active mine sites being inspected, and does think
175 visiting a site for complaints should be included in the numbers. He feels it is important to have a
176 target within the resources to get out in the field, but not necessarily hitting all the sites, and likes the
177 direction the KPM is going.

178
179 Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

180
181 **8) Overview of Voluntary Reclamation Program:**

182 Sarah Lewis, Interim Director and MLRR Program Manager, and Cari Buchner, Mining Compliance
183 Specialist, provided an overview and presentation on the Voluntary Reclamation Program.
184 Performance Measure.

185
186 Lewis stated that at the December Meeting, the Board requested more information about how the
187 department might encourage a higher level of reclamation at mine sites where it is appropriate. She
188 said Buchner will provide an overview of the Voluntary Reclamation Program, as described in the
189 DOGAMI's Division 38 Rules. A copy of the rules has been included in the Board packet.

190
191 Lewis said, the Board's request came up in the context of the implementation of Civil Penalties,
192 specifically the settlement agreement for Morgan Creek, and how those fees are used. She reviewed

193 the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) providing some context for the connection between Civil Penalties
194 and Reclamation. Lewis stated Civil Penalty fees collected are first used to offset the costs of
195 administering the Civil Penalty Program, which is staff time, Department of Justice (DOJ) time, etc.,
196 then the left over/any remaining funds would be used to fund the Voluntary Reclamation Program.
197

198 Lewis reviewed the details with respect to how MLRR is doing with the program. She reviewed the
199 calendar years 2020, 2021 and 2022 so far. The large expense in 2021 (\$50,502) is related to the
200 effort to bring the first Mining Without a Permit (MWOP) to successful settlement in December of
201 2021. If the Board approves the assessment of Civil Penalties on new MWOP cases in 2022, the
202 Agency will see a similar financial impact to the Program. Lewis does not anticipate that there will be
203 leftover money to allocate to the reclamation fund quite yet. Ashford asked if the money received
204 pays the Agency's costs first and then DOJ. Lewis explained the Agency covers all the costs through
205 the Program's other operational fund.
206

207 Vice-Chair Jeremiah asked if the overarching goal of the Civil Penalties Program is to become a profit
208 center. Lewis affirmed that this was absolutely not the goal, and the goal of the Civil Penalties
209 Program is to provide the Department with additional tools to bring non-compliance sites into
210 compliance. She provided the example that before they could use Civil Penalties, the Program's only
211 choice was to pull a reclamation security or shut down a site, even if they paid late for their fee. Civil
212 Penalties allow them more flexibility with smaller violations, and also allows the Program to go after
213 sites that are not permitted, where before they had no tools, other than criminal action. Jeremiah
214 thanked Lewis for the clarification.
215

216 Buchner said there is more to compliance than just enforcement and discussed the incentives. She
217 said during the 1993 Legislative Session, Oregon Revised Statute 517.840 was amended adding a
218 provision that the Governing Board shall establish by rule a program to encourage voluntary
219 reclamation practices that exceed the normal reclamation standards to provide maximum
220 enhancement and benefits from mined lands.
221

222 As a result, the Governing Board approved rules in 1995 establishing OAR Chapter 632 Division 38
223 and the Voluntary Reclamation Program. There are 15 qualifying reclamation practices outlined in
224 rule that are eligible for incentives, they include: habitat enhancement for threatened or endangered
225 species; establishing and maintaining riparian buffers; voluntary reclamation of abandoned or except
226 mine sites; participation in educational programs. Incentives the Department may provide are: press
227 releases; award nominations; temporary reclamation security reduction; outstanding operator list;
228 and grant awards.
229

230 Buchner stated the MLRR program has previously implemented some of these incentives. The MLRR
231 Awards Program ran from 1981 to 2020. She said there are opportunities available to grow an
232 incentive-based compliance program in the future, such as: resuming MLRR Awards Program;
233 developing a formal program for reduction in reclamation securities; establishing a grant program;
234 and cooperating with other entities with awards or incentive programs.
235

236 In 2019 "the Good Neighbor" award was presented to a permittee that promptly responded to a
237 complaint regarding significant muddy track out on the road adjacent to their site. The permittee
238 investigated the complaint and discovered that the source of the track out was a neighboring
239 construction site, then worked with the site managers of the construction site to install functional
240 Best Management Practices (BMP's) and called the street sweeping company they contract with to

241 come out and clean up the mess that they were not responsible for. The neighbors that originally
242 called the complaint in to DOGAMI were very pleased with how quickly the issue was resolved and
243 they have not had any similar complaints since.

244
245 Buchner ended by saying they are excited about the future implementation and realization of the Division
246 38 Voluntary Reclamation Program.

247
248 Vice-Chair Jeremiah asked Buchner if she could identify the operator who she provided an example
249 of. She thinks it is great to share operators who are doing great things and supports incentive-based
250 compliance programs. Jeremiah said there is a program in Washington, Institute for Responsible
251 Mining (IRMA), who has a certification program that looks at all the holistic factors of how mining
252 impacts communities. She believes the Program can model what they are doing and is willing to help
253 and participate in developing this program. Buchner provided the name of the outstanding operator
254 example as Riverbend Materials a CRH Company.

255
256 Teeman attested support for incentives and thinks outreach, education, and incentive-based efforts
257 towards compliance all work hand-in-hand

258
259 Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

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261 **9) MLRR Update:**

262 Sarah Lewis, Interim Director and MLRR Program Manager, provided an update on MLRR.

263
264 Permit Status Summary

265 Lewis stated general activity and permit numbers are stable, and the influx of exploration
266 applications received in the fall has been successfully processed. The Surface Mining active
267 applications have ticked upward. The number and complexity of applications received is not
268 decreasing, and the influx from the last year has doubled the Program's workload from 30 in 2020 to
269 over 60 now, which continues to lengthen permitting timelines; applications are being processed first
270 in first out. The Program is also operating with one of the four reclamationist positions vacant,
271 although she hopes to announce a new hire soon. It is most helpful is if they receive the complete
272 information required for the application; any concerns or questions why the information is required
273 makes the process take longer.

274
275 Ashford asked when a permit comes in and additional information is asked for, do staff ask for
276 everything one-time up front or do they ask for information, review it, and then ask again for more
277 information that may have been missed the first time around. Lewis explained the application form
278 has a checklist that is required before it can be reviewed. Once all the information is received, they
279 review each piece submitted to see if it includes enough information for them to draft a permit, if
280 not, the reclamationist will contact the permittee and let them know it has been reviewed but there
281 is information that is still needed. When the new materials are submitted, if it is exactly what is
282 requested it moves forward, if not or if the applicant wants to make a change staff may need to
283 review all the original materials to make sure the changes are in line with what they were originally
284 proposing. Lewis said staff do sometimes need to ask for new information if the additional
285 information provided changes the scope of work. Staff usually make the communications in writing
286 and then follow-up with phone calls to ensure they are answering questions.

287

288 Ashford said it sounds like the Program’s approach is trying to be as responsive as it can and he
289 appreciates that.

290
291 For the compliance update, Lewis shared that in the last two weeks, MLRR has approved issuance of
292 two new permits that were originally identified as Mining Without a Permit. It has gone from the
293 identification of a violation all the way to permit issuance to bring this operation into compliance.
294 Lewis said while almost every staff member plays a role in the successful processing of an application,
295 she wanted to particularly recognize Nick Tatalovich, Aggregate Permitting Reclamationist, and Cari
296 Buchner, Mining Compliance Specialist, for their collaborative and efficient work on bring these sites
297 into compliance that took almost a year of effort to complete it.

298
299 Grassy Mountain Project Update

300 Lewis said on December 21, 2021, the Applicant submitted a revised Consolidated Permit
301 Application; this submission is in response to the State's 2020 request for additional information.
302 Unlike the initial application submission in 2019, there is not a statutory timeline for this review.
303 MLRR is working with its partner agencies to facilitate a timely review and response to the applicant.

304
305 Lewis said MLRR had previously received two revised Baseline Data Reports and anticipates this
306 spring there will be a series of Technical Review Team and subcommittee meetings to be held to
307 discuss the revised Baseline Data Reports, followed by meetings to address the consolidated permit
308 application.

309
310 DOGAMI continues to coordinate with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as its federal partner in
311 permitting the project, to ensure that communications are clear, and she remains in regular contact
312 with the applicant keeping expectations transparent. The next Quarterly Budget meeting with Calico
313 Leadership is March 9, 2022. Information will be posted on the website and made available for
314 public comment, as this a public process.

315
316 ePermitting Update

317 Lewis stated DOGAMI, led by Ed Buchner, MLRR’s GIS/IT specialist continues to work closely with
318 DEQ and their vendor enfoTech to refine the requirements and cost estimates for an online
319 permitting system. There will be information brought back to the Board as a proposal for a Policy
320 Option Package or Legislative Concept as part of the Agency Request Budget for the 2023-25
321 biennium.

322
323 Lewis stated one last item to cover for MLRR is a potential Federal Grant Opportunity through the
324 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The Department of Interior is providing resources to states to address
325 the Reclamation of Orphaned or Abandoned Wells. DOGAMI has identified 2 potential Geothermal
326 Wells that may qualify for this opportunity and will be developing a proposal to meet a May deadline.
327 This grant application would need legislative approval for submission, similar to the GS&S grant
328 proposals. She wanted to bring it to the Board’s attention as they are the authority for the oil and
329 gas geothermal program for the State.

330
331 Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

332
333 **10) GS&S Update:**

334 Jason McClaughry, Interim GS&S Program Manager, provided an update on the GS&S program.

335

336 Current Work

337 McClaughry said GS&S staff are currently engaged in several projects related to geologic mapping,
338 landslide mapping, coastal analysis, and hazard mapping. Their current active grant load is 20 non-
339 lidar grants and 7 lidar grants partially supporting 13 GSS staff; Two additional lidar grants are
340 awaiting approval.

341

342 Publications

343 The GS&S Program ended December 2021 by releasing 2 new publications. These publications
344 examined flood depth and channel migration zone maps and landslide, coseismic liquefaction
345 susceptibility, and coseismic soil amplification class mapping in Benton, Marion, Morrow, and
346 Washington Counties. The Program's total publications released in 2021 was 21, which exceeded the
347 previous 5-year average of 14 publications per year. McClaughry said several current projects are
348 now coming to conclusion and those related publications are entering the final pipeline for
349 completion and release.

350

351 Grants

352 McClaughry stated DOGAMI is currently pursuing the development of four federal grants and moving
353 to request legislative authorization to apply.

354

355 Federal grant opportunities being worked on include:

- 356 • BLM Landslide Grant (\$75,000 Federal Funds: This supports landslide inventory mapping on the
357 BLM's Coos Bay District.
- 358 • Countywide Multi-Hazard Risk Assessment for Clackamas County (\$42,000 Federal Funds): A
359 federal grant application to FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.
- 360 • Proposal to the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP) (\$425,060 Federal Funds:
361 A federal grant application to the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP) will
362 support a number of tasks including conducting tsunami outreach related activities.
- 363 • FEMA Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) proposals: (\$857,000 - \$3,000,000; \$183,000 -
364 \$340,000 for lidar collection Federal Funds): A federal grant application to FEMA Cooperating
365 Technical Partners (CTP) for projects including multi-hazard risk assessments in Yamhill, Klamath,
366 and Crook Counties, Landslide inventory in Hood River and Coos Counties, Lidar collection in
367 Jackson County, Geohazard mapping in Jackson and Lane Counties, and updates to the Oregon
368 Statewide Flood Hazard Database.

369

370 Some additional funding opportunities are also being developed or pending approval.

- 371 • This week the Agency learned that a DOGAMI/DLCD project of special merit to study beach and
372 dune morphology for the coast will be fully funded by NOAA, via DLCDs coastal management
373 program. Federal Funds will be approximately \$140,000.00.
- 374 • Working on a scope of work and budget estimates to complete an IAA with DLCD for \$200,000 to
375 \$300,000 to do coastal geologic assessments relating to siting and assessment of undersea cables
376 as part of study research required in HB 2603. This would bring new Other Funds to the Agency,
377 with work being completed over the next year by April 2023.

- 378 • This month we also anticipate receiving our final funding results for our geologic mapping
379 proposal submitted to the USGS STATEMEP Program in December. Expected funding will be
380 approximately \$160,000 Federal Funds.

381
382 McClaughry concluded the GS&S summary by highlighting ongoing excellent work DOGAMI's
383 landslide mapping program. The landslide program is continuing to work on mapping, monitoring,
384 and making assessments of post-fire debris flows and landslides in western Oregon in the wake of
385 major fires over the past several years. Following major storms in burned areas DOGAMI geologists
386 are making regular site visits to these areas to document how large storm events are changing the
387 burned landscapes, in a long-term effort to understand the post-fire debris flow hazard in western
388 Oregon.

389
390 Vice-Chair Jeremiah said the GS&S group continues to impress her with all the important research
391 and science in their contributions to keeping our State and country safer.

392
393 Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

394

395 **11 Director's Report:**

396 Interim Director Lewis touched briefly on three items.

397

398 Recruitment Update

399 Lewis noted the hiring of Alex Lopez for the Publications Affairs Coordinator. Lopez introduced
400 himself to the Board and shared his educational and professional background.

401

402 Lewis shared that Jason McClaughry has agreed to serve as Interim GS&S Program Manager for the
403 remainder of the biennium, and his project work will be covered appropriately, including potential
404 hiring to backfill his position as the Eastern Oregon Regional Geologist.

405

406 Lewis stated the Agency is currently in the process of hiring two NRS 4 positions, a Reclamationist
407 and Mining Geologist for MLRR and a Lidar Coordinator and Remote Sensing Geologist for GS&S.

408

409 Lewis said GS&S has a newly vacant NRS 4 position, as Ian Madin retired at the end of January. She
410 recognized his 34 years of dedication and outstanding contributions to DOGAMI. His roles across the
411 years ranged from Earthquake Hazards Geologist to Interim Director to Senior Scientist

412

413 Legislative Update

414 Lewis said the 2022 Legislative Session ends Monday. DOGAMI had no active bills or requests to the
415 Legislature. McClaughry provided testimony to the Ways & Means Subcommittee to request
416 approval for submission of a grant proposal to BLM.

417

418 Lewis informed the Board of the timing of the 2023-25 Agency Request Budget.

419

420 Ashford asked for the timing on the new KPM. Lewis said a Special Board meeting may be needed
421 prior to the June meeting.

422

423 Agency Update

424 Lewis reiterated her plan as Interim Director to monitor the budget, meet key legislative
425 requirements, implement necessary state initiatives, and keep lines of communication open with the
426 Agency.

427
428 Lewis updated the Board on office reopening. The Governor has announced the State offices will be
429 open to the public on May 1st. Lewis commented on DOGAMI plans to reopen offices publicly for in-
430 person meetings in the Portland and Albany offices with stakeholders, permittees, applicants and
431 their consultants, and members of the public as needed. The Agency will still allow staff to work
432 remotely as appropriately for meeting the business needs.

433
434 Ashford raised awareness around the difficulties of reopening and the transition back to office for
435 staff. Lewis stated the final focus area was on communications and rebuilding the Agency
436 connections and trust. Lewis updated the Board on the continued internal efforts.
437

438 Vice-Chair Jeremiah, on behalf of the Board, said they really appreciate her organization, thought,
439 and crisp communication with the Board meetings. She thanked Lewis for her service, and wanted to
440 echo the thanks to Ian Madin for all of his years of service.

441

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

443

444 **12) Confirm Time and Date for Next Meeting:**

445 Lori Calarruda stated the next DOGAMI Board is currently scheduled for Thursday, June 16, 2022 at
446 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in Portland and/or via Zoom. She confirmed this date is still acceptable for the
447 Board.

448

449 Ashford said DOGAMI should always have a Zoom option and that hybrid meetings do take extra
450 effort to make them work well and added COVID around the country has taken different forms and
451 there are different cultures that have developed, which can be challenging to understand where
452 Oregon is and where a lot of the people are coming from.

453

454 **13) Public Comment:**

455 Only written comments received prior to or by 11:45 a.m. on the day of the meeting were to be
456 accepted. Vice-Chair Jeremiah asked for any written public comments. No public comments.

457

458 Comment of Kelly Wood: Wood thanked the Board for letting her listen in.

459

460 **14) Board Adjourn:**

461 Vice-Chair Jeremiah adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

462

463 APPROVED

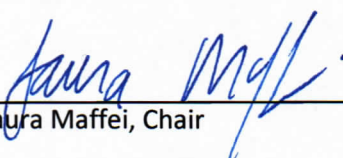
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Laura Maffei, Chair