

Oregon Joint Use Association Standards Committee

Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. A quorum was present:

Members Present

Gary Lee (Chair), Charter Communications
Stan Cowles, Qwest
Jim Flu, PacifiCorp
Scott Jennings, Verizon
Michelle Ness, Central Lincoln PUD
Gary Payne, Qwest
Gary Putnam, PUC Staff
John Wallace, PUC Staff
Scott Wheeler, Comcast
Bill Woods, PacifiCorp

Members Not Present

David Asgharian, PacifiCorp
Dave Chaney, Accent Inc.
Jim Corwin, Verizon
Tamara Johnson, Springfield Utility Board
Rob Kolosvary, UAM
Jeff Liberty, Bend Broadband
Mary Mason, Central Lincoln PUD

OJUA Staff

Genoa Ingram

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 10, 2008 meeting were approved as amended.

PDA Software Evaluation

The Committee reviewed Dave Chaney's revisions to the PDA software evaluation form (EXHIBIT A) and made the following suggestions:

1. Remove the score column in last sheet and title it "Software Provider Questionnaire";
2. For the vendor version, modify the first line by replacing "Evaluator" with "Vendor Feedback";
3. Rename vendor version "Product Information Request"
4. Staff was instructed to speak with the Executive Committee about copyrighting Committee work products.

Chair Lee will make the modifications. Entities which have responded so far would be provided a copy of the form.

Construction Practices

Michelle Ness reported that Group A was had nearly completed the Construction Practices chapter. There was discussion as to whether all subjects had been addressed or

if there were additional topics to be added. Chair Lee suggested that the groups cross evaluate each others' products before making the presentation to the Board. Group B is working on Arms and Risers. Chair Lee will review the subject lists for completeness with both groups following the meeting.

Mapping

Chair Lee reported that the OJUA Board had discussed at its June meeting whether the maps should be accessible to all visitors or to OJUA members only. It had been determined that the mapping project has the ability to fulfill inspection notification requirements and should be accessible to all. OJUA staff had been asked to place a counter on the web page, to determine the amount of usage.

Chair Lee asked if Rob Kolosvary could be invited to provide a demonstration of the mapping project at the next meeting. Staff was asked to have a projector available. Additionally, he asked that the list of phone and power providers be extracted.

Pole Identification Matrix

The Committee reviewed the revised matrix, which was revised to include companies which have not responded. PUC staff offered to assist in identifying those companies that have not responded.

Standardization of Pole Attachment Application Form

Committee members were asked to bring in their company forms for the next meeting. Staff will request PGE's form.

Loose Wires

PUC Staff Putnam distributed copies of the 1993 and 1997 codes (EXHIBIT A) and reported that the biggest changes occurred between the 1993 and the 1997 codes. Nowhere is there a definition as to what "securely attached" means. He noted that what the PUC staff has always enforced as an interpretation is that at minimum, securely attached means "affixed to the pole, top and bottom". However, they have been unable to locate the specific language. Scott Jennings noted that the current code contained the requirement to "avoid abrasion".

Chair Lee distributed PGE's "Loose Wire Discussion" document (EXHIBIT B). Committee members agreed that attached at the top and bottom was not sufficient if the wire was "flopping". Gary Payne emphasized that the conversation should be expanded beyond the communications industry to include power entities also. PUC staff offered to draft a definition of "loose wire" for review at the next meeting. Chair Lee discussed with PUC staff loose wire conditions as a climbing space issue. Scott Wheeler noted that street lights and other conditions also presented loose wire issues. PUC staff expressed reluctance to expand the discussion to that degree, but agreed to attempt to craft a definition.

Error Rate

Chair Lee recalled that error rates are discussed in the Administrative Rules (Division 028.230) under Pattern of Noncompliance and questioned if a better standard could be crafted. He provided examples and questioned if the rate should capture the number of poles with errors or the number of errors. Scott Wheeler added that the problem is having to roll crews when no violation exists. Chair Lee asked at what point the error rate is too high and data is rejected. He recalled that a threshold of 10 error rate percent had been discussed. Others recalled that an 85 percent accuracy rate had been discussed. Bill Woods discussed the inclusion of information on poles that are compliant. It is also important to look at what is causing the inaccuracies.

Chair Lee emphasized that there should be a method to insure that data is accurate. He noted that the Administrative Law Judge had included language that the pole owner “must insure accuracy”. Jim Flu noted that there are different standards based on urban and rural conditions. Michelle Ness noted that if Central Lincoln gets a report of a violation from another utility, they inspect and verify first rather than send a crew out. Jim Flu emphasized the importance of joint inspections in addressing those issues. Scott Wheeler noted that it is not just a matter of whether there is a problem, but who actually caused it. Committee members questioned what authority the OJUA Standards Committee had to suggest an acceptable rate. PUC staff confirmed that the Commission would give weight to any industry recommendations.

Chair Lee offered to draft language for consideration at the next meeting that would result either in moving forward or tabling the issues.

Climbing Space Clarification

Chair Lee asked that Grandfathering be added to the next agenda.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the OJUA Standards Committee was scheduled for Thursday, August 14, 10:00 a.m., OJUA Conference Room.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.