

Oregon Joint Use Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2023 – EWEB Roosevelt Operations Center
and Via Zoom

President Terry Blanc called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. A quorum was present:

Board Members Present:

Terry Blanc, President
Sam Ackley, Vice President*
Tom McGowan, Treasurer
Pam Vaughan, Secretary*
Jaime Breckenridge
James Casson*
Josh Crain*
Eric Griffeth*
Gary Lee*

Guests:

Chris Barley, P & E Committee Chair
Tom Jorgenson, ICE Committee Chair*
Pete Kalnins, Standards Committee Chair*
Heide Caswell, OPUC*
Brandon Hutchinson*

Staff:

Genoa Ingram
Laureal Williams
Mandy Grauerholz

Board Members Absent:

Brant Wolf, Immediate Past President
Adam Deshon
Jeff Kent

**via Zoom*

President's Comments

President Terry Blanc welcomed Board members and noted that there was a Special Order of Business at the top of the agenda to act on the replacement of former Board member Jennifer Butler (representing Cable).

Special Order of Business

President Blanc thanked James Casson of Comcast for his letter of interest and invited him to introduce himself. James provided a brief overview of his responsibilities with Comcast. It was noted that Jennifer's term is scheduled to end in 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Sam Ackley and seconded by Jaime Breckenridge to appoint James Casson to represent cable on the OJUA Board to fill out the remainder of Jennifer Butler's term ending in 2024. **Motion passed.**

Approval of Minutes

The Board Members reviewed the minutes of December 14, 2022, meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Tom McGowan and seconded by Sam Ackley to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2022, meeting as amended to correct the spelling of Jaime Breckenridge's name, specify "cash" refunds under Treasurer's Report, and replace wildfire "mitigates" with mitigation. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer's Report

Year-to-Date Financials Treasurer Tom McGowan reviewed the year-to-date financial reports as of February 28. The Board discussed conducting an internal audit of the OJUA books and questioned whether there are existing guidelines and parameters for conducting such an audit. Laureal Williams responded that there are and she offered to provide additional information. Tom indicated that he and staff would continue to contact local firms to determine interest in conducting an internal control review for the Association. The Board also discussed the possibility of a Refund/Credit policy that would prevent the Association from carrying a credit for an extended period of time.

MOTION: Moved by Eric Griffeth and seconded by Pam Vaughan to accept the financial report as presented. **Motion passed.**

Committee Reports

- Executive Committee – Sam Ackley reviewed recent activity by the Committee including review of the following legislation:
 - HB 3201 – Requires Oregon Business Development Department to provide financial assistance to support broadband access, affordability and adoption.
 - HB 3249 – Repeals sunset of Broadband Fund and related programs.
 - HB 2766 – Requires Oregon Broadband Office to study barriers to, and opportunities for, investment and deployment of wireline and wireless broadband access points.
 - SB 635 – Authorizes county governing bodies to require and charge fee for permit to construct or alter line, fixture or facility within right of way of public road under jurisdiction of county.

The Committee also discussed the 2023 Annual Meeting, scheduled for September 28 and 29 in Newport and reviewed attendee feedback from the previous meeting. The Committee had also discussed future Board meetings and recommended that the June 15 meeting would be held in The Dalles, hosted by Northern Wasco County PUD. The September Board meeting will be held in Newport in conjunction with the Annual meeting and the December meeting will be held in Salem. There had also been discussion regarding activities of the Conflict Resolution Committee to broaden the scope to act as a resource for collaboration.

- Conflict Resolution Committee – Eric Griffeth reported that there were no conflicts reported. There has been interest in rebranding the committee to provide for more collaboration among members.
- Publicity & Education Committee – Chair Chris Barley reported that the NESC trivia game was ready for roll-out. He noted that the number of registrations is slightly less than this time in 2019. Board members were encouraged to contact their colleagues and contacts to promote the Spring Training.
- Inspection/Correction Committee/Mapping Subcommittee – Chair Tom Jorgenson reviewed the committee's recent meeting. He noted that there had not been a quorum but that those attending had been briefed on PGE's second pilot program on the west side of Portland. Tim Khouri had provided a Mapping subcommittee demo in January but there had not been much activity since. The next meeting is scheduled for April 18.

- Standards Committee – Chair Kalnins reported that the Committee had completed the Best Practices Manual with the exception of replacing several photographs. Chapters have been assigned to committee members who would review and submit updated photographs and illustrations. Pole treatment had been a topic of discussion for newly drilled holes to assess practice. Vegetation management was reviewed and it was noted that the administrative rules were more comprehensive than the NESC so the manual will reference the rules. Anchor placement was discussed as a new topic. Jaime Breckenridge had offered to draft language for the Manual relating to anchors. Wireless rooftop macro sites and related signage had been a new topic of discussion. The Committee’s next meeting is scheduled for May 11.

Industry Updates

OPUC Update – Heide Caswell, OPUC Compliance Manager, presented a slide presentation and reported on the complaint process under UM 653 relating to noticing and correction of wildfire risks. She also provided a status report of the current five-year check-in, noting that the PUC is looking for more in-depth information on inspections on facilities across the state. President Blanc asked for clarification regarding the process, particularly with regard to time frames, including time for response. Jaime Breckinridge also asked for clarification regarding the process, particularly with confidentiality. Ms. Caswell responded that there is currently a process to request confidentiality for each submittal.

With regard to the 2023 NESC, the PUC staff held an informal workshop regarding changes in the code in anticipation of formal rulemaking and adoption of those changes. Notice will be included in the April 1 *State Bulletin* and the comment period will end on April 24. The target adoption date is May 16.

The Board discussed updates as a result of the 638 docket and how the new Division 24 rules were working, particularly with prioritization of repairs as it relates to extending repairs and the vegetation management rules. Terry Blanc noted that PGE had implemented a new process for notification to attaching entities in light of the new rules and that the scope encompasses 26,000 of PGE’s poles per year. He also reported that corrections are currently being conducted.

New Business

- Annual Meeting There was no additional information to report beyond the Executive Committee update.
- Next Board Meeting The next meeting will be held on June 15 at Northern Wasco County PUD in The Dalles.
- Chris Barley described his positive experience with a new ticket type available through NJUNS called Common Crew (CC) which became available earlier in March. The new process can be used to coordinate multiple attachers in the use of a single crew to complete pole transfers.

Adjourn

There was no further business to conduct, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.