

**Oregon Joint Use Association
Standards Committee**
Meeting Minutes—January 26, 2023
Via Zoom

Chair Peter Kalnins called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Present:

Peter Kalnins, Chair
Chad Altherr, PGE
Mike Allen, Comcast
Alex Chaney, OPUC
Chris Barley, Oregon Aerial
Jaime Breckenridge, EWEB
Chad Beam, LS Networks
Zachary Kalnins, Central Lincoln PUC
Marlene Martin, Astound
Justin Reynolds, Comcast

Not Present:

Jesse Keyes, Gary Lee & Assoc.

Staff:

Genoa Ingram
Laureal Williams

Approval of Minutes The Committee reviewed the minutes of the November 10, 2022, 2022, meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Jaime Breckenridge and seconded by Chris Barley to approve the November 10, 2022, meeting as presented. **Motion passed.**

Progress Review: Standards Best Practices Manual The Committee reviewed the Best Practices Manual and approved the following updates to the Wireless chapter.

- Update comm to antennae clearance.
- Rule 238F(2)(b) should reflect a minimum clearance of three inches.
- Beginning on page 130, relating to signage examples, examples should reference the photos.

Entity-specific examples were checked and verified. Staff will delete the numerous blank pages.

Progress Review: Grandfathering Matrix Chair Kalnins noted that the Matrix has been updated with respect to streetlights on the website. He encouraged members to identify any other needed updates.

Old Business

Feedback from Member Companies on NESC 239G Chair Kalnins noted that comments had been received relating NESC 239G relating to power companies' fiber optics that operate in supply space. Comments were included in the November minutes. Chair Kalnins offered that if fiber optic is being operated by the power company and the put it in the supply space, they put it 12 inches below the neutral, then it's in supply space, communications need to stay 40 inches below. Jaime noted that there was an exception that dictated 30 inches below. The Committee discussed the feedback included in the November minutes and agreed with the comments and illustrations. Chair Kalnins praised Chad Altherr of PGE for his submission.

New Business

Trifold Chair Kalnins noted that the Tri-fold appeared to be up to date. Committee members questioned whether the drip loop was still correct at 12 inches. It was determined to be accurate and there was no further feedback.

Vegetation Management Chair Kalnins noted that different companies have varying standards and referenced the OAR which was interpreted to be very power related. He noted that 860-024-0016 defined “climbable space” as follows:

(1) For purposes of this rule:

- (a) “Readily climbable” means vegetation having both of the following characteristics:
(A) Low limbs, accessible from the ground and sufficiently close together so that the vegetation can be climbed by a child or average person without using a ladder or other special equipment; and
(B) A main stem or major branch that would support a child or average person either within arms’ reach of an uninsulated energized electric line or within such proximity to the electric line that the climber could be injured by direct or indirect contact with the line.*
- (b) “Vegetation” means trees, shrubs, and any other woody plants.*
- (c) “Volts” means nominal voltage levels, measured phase-to-phase.*

Chair Kalnins reviewed minimum clearance requirements based on voltages as stated by the rule. Chad Altherr pointed out that some municipalities set their own requirements. For example, the City of Portland recommends a best practices four-inch minimum for comms. Committee members agreed that they had encountered varying requirements based on entity.

The Committee reviewed NESC rules 217 and 218 relating to vegetation. Jaime noted that the NESC standard was much more vague as opposed to Oregon’s Administrative Rules.

Pole Structures Chair Kalnins referenced pole structures and pole structure integrity, noting that most joint use agreements include stipulations to treat or plug a pole following drilling. Jaime responded that it is a best practice for some companies, but there is no regulatory requirement. Chad offered that PGE is involved in that very discussion and is leaning toward not filling. He added that some poles have pre-drilled holes and it wouldn’t make sense to fill pre-drilled holes. Chair Kalnins suggested adding the issue to the next agenda.

Chad asked whether the Committee planned to address 860-024-0016. PUC is pushing vegetation management so call out OARs for Practices.

Photo Updates Jaimie Breckenridge noted that photos in Chapter 2 relating to anchors and guys might also be applicable to Chapter 8. Chris Barley confirmed that he had obtained additional photos relating to anchors which he will forward to Chair Kalnins for posting.

Wildfire Mitigation Jamie Breckenridge had previously recommended a short narrative to recap the history and overview of wildfire mitigation. Chad Altherr offered to assist with the narrative with regard to history. The Committee also discussed a mapping requirement relating to the notice

rule under Rule 638. The new rule relates to notification, including identification of the fire zone and date the violation was observed, within 15 days of the inspection date. Jaime also suggested an overview of Rule 638, how it applies to power and comm, and what the requirements. Jaime noted that EWEB had submitted its wildfire zone data to the PUC. Marlene Martin suggested that the new rule regarding tree attachments also be addressed in the mitigation chapter.

2023 Meeting Dates

The Committee again confirmed the remaining meeting dates for 2023 as follows:

March 9	September 14
May 11	November 9
July 13	

Adjournment

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.