

Oregon Joint Use Association Standards Committee

Minutes—January 9, 2025

Via Zoom and in-person

Chair Peter Kalnins called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. and welcomed new Committee member Pomeroy of Ziply Communications.

Present:

Peter Kalnins, Chair
Chad Altherr, PGE
Chris Barley, Oregon Aerial
Craig Commerford, PGE
Adam Deshon, Salem Electric
Leon Grumbo, OPUC
Joshua Lightner, Central Coast PUD
Jerry Pomeroy, Ziply
Robb Robison, OPUC

Not Present:

Chad Beam, LS Networks
Alex Chaney, OPUC
Cody Mabee, PacifiCorp
Wayne Ronke, K&B Tech Solutions
Sarah Monroe, Central Lincoln PUD
Justin Reynolds, Comcast, Co-Chair
Jesse Keyes, Gary Lee & Assoc.

Staff:

Genoa Ingram

Approval of Minutes The Committee reviewed the minutes of the November 14, 2024, meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Robb Robison and seconded by Chris Barley to approve the November 13, 2024, minutes as submitted. **Motion passed.**

Old Business

Review of Tri-fold Changes: The Committee reviewed and confirmed the changed made to the OJUA Tri-fold.

Clearance Above Streetlights: Leon Grumbo reported that OPUC staff had been looking in to issue. There are rules relating to power supply passing through communication worker safety zones including 224, 230(F) 239(G)(1). 239 (G)(1) states:

“Vertical supply conductors or cables attached to the structure shall be guarded with suitable duct, conduit, or covering from 40 in (1.0 m) above the higher communication attachment to 6 ft (1.80 m) below the lowest communication attachment...”

Chair Kalnins reiterated that 40 inches of space is needed from a power source and if it extends below communications, it must be guarded six feet below. Leon confirmed that was correct.

There is no new language that addresses decorative plug-ins but Leon believes they would have to meet the 40” above and 6’ below and would need to be covered. Chad asked for clarification on guarding and Leon replied that he’d like more time prior to responding. Chair Kalnins stated that the issue will be revisited at a future meeting following additional research by the OPUC.

Vehicle Recharging Stations: Chair Kalnins directed the Committee’s attention to an update from Terry Blanc. He asked members to review and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting with an

eye on a possible new chapter of the Standards Manual. Leon added that he had met with PGE and it appeared that much thought had been put into compliance.

Drone Standards: Chair Kalnins discussed adding an “Emerging Technology” Chapter to encompass both vehicle recharging stations as well as drone standards. Leon offered to forward contact information for Jeff Carlson with Consumers Power so he could be invited to the March 13 meeting. He reminded the Committee that Jeff had provided a drone demonstration at a recent OJUA Annual Meeting.

Locate Wires: Chair Kalnins shared a diagram depicting “Typical Bonding Detail Transition Aerial to Underground”. He discussed the scenario in which the locate wire is coming out of either the top of a riser or at the base of a riser. The issue is the potential to energize and create a safety hazard if the locate wire is coming out of the top of the riser into comm space. It had been suggested that such wires be bonded. Chair Kalnins pointed out that coiled wire at the base of the pole could present a trip hazard if not properly secured; he asked Committee members if they were in agreement that coiled wires at the top of the risers should be bonded. Leon recalled that the NESC states that the wires are part of the communication system that is not covered by the NESC rule. Chair Kalnins offered to forward the diagram and photographs to the Committee for review and comment, including feedback from OPUC staff. Leon suggested addressing the issue at Spring Training.

Anchor Identification: Deferred until Wayne Ronke, K&B Tech Solutions, is in attendance.

New Business

Service Fiber Storage Loop Clarification: Chair Kalnins invited Jerry Pomeroy to comment on a storage loop photos forwarded to the Committee. (EXHIBIT A) Jerry explained that he was representing NESC side of Ziply and post-inspecting violation repair work in McMinnville. He questioned if there is a way to establish a maximum length of wire that could be stored three feet away from the pole and attached to approved hardware. He added that this is an issue for Ziply and he is working to address it. Ziply is currently placing the wires in snowshoes.

The Committee examined a photo shared by Leon showing a “figure 8” coiling. Leon noted that there really was no standard for a storable amount. Robb noted that coils can create mid-span violation at the pole and conflict with other attachments. He suggested language stating that anything post 90 days should be removed. The Committee continued to discuss at length, including how to determine how long the wire had been left. There was agreement that the Standards Manual should be revised to address these issues once there is agreement for recommendation. Chair Kalnins committed to forward additional photos of service drops to the group.

Communications Worker Safety Zone and Antenna Attached to Street Light Mast: The Committee reviewed a photo of an antenna attached to a street light mast and referencing Rule 238(F)(2)(a) and 238(F)(2)(b). Leon stated that, in his opinion, the photo does not depict an exception and the antenna should not be in that space. One solution suggested was that a remote antenna could be threaded into the router. It was noted that 235(H) also addresses antennas and clearances. Newer antennas are half the length and thicker. Leon recalled that the OPUC had information written up accompanied by clearance diagrams. He offered to locate it and forward to the Committee. It may be included in the Standards Manual in the Wireless chapter.

Future Meeting Schedule

Future meeting dates are as follows:

- March 13
- May 8
- July 10
- September 11
- November 13

The Committee meeting will continue to meet 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. until further notice.

Adjournment

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

EXHIBIT A Coil Examples

