

Oregon Joint Use Association Standards Committee

Minutes—November 14, 2024

Via Zoom

Chair Peter Kalnins called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Present:

Peter Kalnins, Chair
Craig Commerford, PGE
Chad Altherr, PGE
Chad Beam, LS Networks
Alex Chaney, OPUC
Cody Mabee, PacifiCorp
Wayne Ronke, K&B Tech Solutions
Sarah Monroe, Central Lincoln PUD

Not Present:

Justin Reynolds, Comcast, Co-Chair
Chris Barley, Oregon Aerial
Adam Deshon, Salem Electric
Leon Grumbo, OPUC
Jesse Keyes, Gary Lee & Assoc.
Robb Robison, OPUC

Staff:

Genoa Ingram

Approval of Minutes The Committee reviewed the minutes of the September 26, 2024, meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Wayne Ronke and seconded by Cody Mabee to approve the September 26, 2024, minutes as corrected to remove a duplicate word. **Motion passed.**

Best Practices Manual Chair Kalnins noted that Chapter 10 had not yet been renamed to “*Temporary storage of arial communication facilities*”. Staff responded that the revision would be made by end of week.

Old Business

Grandfathering: The Committee had previously discussed the use of the term “grandfathering” and whether it was an industry-recognized term or if there was a better term. It was confirmed that the Committee did not wish to change the terminology at this time.

Depiction of Guy Wires on Tri-Fold: The Committee had also discussed how the Tri-fold depicts down guys. Chair Kalnins reported that he had researched the NESC code, specifically Table 232-1, as referenced by Leon Grumbo. Based on that research, he suggested that the words “and guys” below the word “Communications”. ***By consensus***, the Committee members agreed to add “and guys” below “Communications”.

Clearances Above Streetlights: The Committee had previously discussed adding additional clarification to minimum vertical clearances above streetlights as referenced in NESC 239(G)(1) relating to electrical plug-ins on poles. Chair Kalnins noted an exception for plug-ins in the comm space that is covered and grounded. He questioned if, in those instances, should that equipment be considered a power source that requires additional safety space below it. Cody Mabee offered that most of those are temporary attachments, although he has seen power cords. He has not seen any extend below the comm space. No action was taken.

Vehicle Charging Stations: Staff has requested an update on the progress of the vehicle charging stations.

New Business

Anchor Identification: Chair Kalnins recalled that the discussion had centered around options for tagging to indicate strength and holding capacities. Wayne Ronke suggested that listing the size, screw type and soil class would be the three main indicators. He offered to bring back a concept for the next meeting. Cody Mabee added that, upon inspection, if an anchor appears to be overloaded, that information is reported to the comm company. Chair Kalnins has seen instances where a pole owner has no real estate to anchor due to sidewalks and private property behind it, yet there is an attachment to a post and then back to the base of the pole, giving the appearance that it is guyed. Committee members agreed that such a configuration accomplishes nothing. It was suggested that manufacturers stamp the heads. Wayne agreed to discuss it with his colleagues and also approach manufacturers.

Error in NESC Manual: Cody Mabee confirmed that he had contacted Grant Glaus regarding the misnumbering in the NESC manual on page 212.

Clearance Discrepancy: Chair Kalnins reported that he had received a call regarding a clearance discrepancy regarding NESC Table 232 relating to railroad clearances. Pete had explained that the NESC represents the minimum standard and the owners will provide additional specifics beyond the NESC. The caller was satisfied with that response.

Locate Wires: Chair Kalnins noted that Chad Beam had provided photographs of locate wires coming out of risers and taped off and secured. (SEE EXHIBIT A) The question is, should there be a standard for where the locate wire exits the conduit so that it maintains NESC compliance and safety standards. Pete had not been able to find any information pertaining to locate wires. Cody Mabee responded that, in his experience, so long as its coiled or secured through a bracket, there is no issue. There was consensus with Cody's assessment.

Use of Drones Standard: Chad Altherr noted that a number of companies are using drones for inspections and other applications and questioned whether it would be beneficial for the Committee to develop a standard for drone flight for the purpose of reducing liability and increasing safety. Committee members agreed that this would be a worthwhile undertaking and Chair Kalnins agreed to add it to the next agenda. Cody Mabee agreed to contact OSMOSE as a resource.

GO 95: Cody Mabee noted that GO 95 requires bolt covers on steel transformers but questioned whether steel covers are required on steel poles. He believes the answer is yes and PacifiCorp will continue their current practice. There was no discussion to the contrary.

Meeting Schedule for 2025

The following meeting schedule for 2025 was adopted and Outlook invitations will be forwarded to Committee members:

- January 9
- March 13
- May 8
- July 10
- September 11
- November 13

The time of the committee meetings was changed to 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Adjournment

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

EXHIBIT A
Submitted by Chad Beam

