

Oregon Joint Use Association Standards Committee

Minutes—September 11, 2025

Via Zoom and in-person

Chair Pete Kalnins called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m.

Present:

Chair Kalnins, Co-Chair
Craig Commerford, PGE, Co-Chair
Chad Altherr, PGE
Jeff Carlson, CPI
Adam Deshon, Salem Electric
Joshua Lightner, Central Lincoln PUD
Stacey McIntire, Ziply
Sarah Monroe, Central Lincoln PUD
Jerry Pomeroy, Ziply
Paul Townsend, Ziply
Robb Robison, OPUC
David Wood, Ziply

Not Present/Excused:

Chad Beam, LS Networks
Chris Barley, Oregon Aerial
Alex Chaney, OPUC
Leon Grumbo, OPUC
Cody Mabee, PacifiCorp (calling in as 6058)
Wayne Ronke, K&B Tech Solutions
Jesse Keyes, Gary Lee & Assoc.

Staff:

Mandy Ficker

Approval of Minutes The Committee reviewed the minutes of the May 8, 2025, meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Rob Robison, OPUC and seconded by Jerry Pomeroy to approved the May 8, 2025, minutes as presented. **Motion passed.**

Review of Agenda Items

Chair Kalnins reviewed the agenda topics as follows:

- Request from Terry Blanc regarding Imminent Hazards (as defined by [OAR 860-024-0012](#)) and timelines
- NESC 2028 NESC Pre-print proposals: IEEE SA - The National Electrical Safety Code® (NESC®)
- Ductile Iron pole standards to Chapter 4 poles
- Ziply Inquiry- Use and Placement of Anchor and Down Guys on Power Owned Poles
- Work Group Discussion – Chapter 11 (Emerging Technologies)
- Communication Worker Safety Zones and Antenna Attached to Street Light Mast
- Service Fiber Storage Loop Clarification
- OJUA Presentation at Annual Meeting RE: PUPI Arms

New Business

OJUA Guidance on Conditions that Pose a Hazard: Chair Kalnins did not recall that the OJUA had offered such guidance, with the exception of construction standards. He clarified that these are hazards defined in OAR 860-024-0012 and the 30-day hazards referenced in OPUC staff reports. Robb Robinson agreed. It was agreed that the issue might better align with the Inspection/Correction Committee rather than a best practices standard.

NESC 2028 NESC Pre-print proposals: IEEE SA - The National Electrical Safety Code® (NESC®)

Chair Kalnins asked that he has been unable to access the related materials and questioned if any of the Committee members have a current subscription Robb suggested talking with Terry Blanc.

Iron Ductile (and Fiberglass) Pole Standards Chair Kalnins suggested that, upon review, it might be applicable for inclusion in Chapter 4. He suggested touching base with as many pole owners as possible such as Ziply, Lumen, PGE, PacifiCorp and others. He noted that attachées are required to adhere to pole owner jurisdictions, which can vary. Stacey McIntire responded that Ziply was placing it in the conduits. Pete acknowledged that there is confusion over whether drops can be mounted directly to poles or must be placed in conduit. Robb shared insights about ongoing pole transition projects in Southern Oregon, where wooden poles are being replaced with fiberglass and iron poles, creating complex transfer situations. The group agreed to collect and share standards from different power companies to establish best practices, with Pete and Robb committing to reach out to their respective contacts for information. Stacey emphasized that drops are the primary issue in question. Information will be gathered and brought back for discussion at the next meeting.

Use and Placement of Anchor and Down Guys on Power Owned Poles (Ziply Inquiry) Jerry Pomeroy indicated that he understands that pole transfers and placing new poles requires the use of the attachées' own anchor. Chair Kalnins responded that he had asked power companies about attaching to the old anchor in the process of a transfer. However, there have been conflicting reports regarding violations. Jerry explained that Ziply is getting violations for moving down guy to the new pole and to the existing anchor. He is looking for consistency. Part of the problem is that verbal approval does not offer that level of consistency, yet no one is willing to put the approval in writing. Stacie added that there is a lot of discretion and a lot of gray area. Ziply is seeking standardization. Chair Kalnins asked Chad Alther for assistance with guidance and protocol from PGE. Chad offered to take the question back to the PGE field team since that is where the decisions are made. He added that he was not aware of any specific rules specific to transfers. Pete offered to provide any additional clarification if needed. Sarah Monroe committed to including those permissions on the transfer ticket going forward, when applicable.

Old Business

Work Group Discussion: Chapter 11 – Emerging Technologies Chair Kalnins asked that this item be deferred until Adam Deshon can be present, as he is chairing that work group. Sarah confirmed that the group had not yet met.

Communications Worker Safety Zones and Antenna Attached to Street Light Mast Chair Kalnins recapped the last discussion which concluded that if they're mounted to the streetlight, that extends the power space because they are not one of the exceptions to the communication worker safety zone. He asked for additional feedback or questions. Sarah Monroe relayed that Central Lincoln is adding new routers and the antenna design, as opposed to being shortened, increases the length from 18 inches to 28 inches. If it can be three inches from the street light at the lower voltage, then the router is powered by the same service as the street light—is there a way to challenge the encroachment? Pete referenced NESC Rule 238(F)(2)(a) and indicated it is applicable. She suggested that a requested rule change might be submitted to the NESC in the future.

The Committee agreed to seek clarification from IEEE on the 40-inch clearance requirement for antennas, with Sarah volunteering to draft the request. They also discussed the need to stop writing violations on a case-by-case basis until they can agree on a forward path. Additionally, there was a question about the correct clearance requirement for queen's arms over pedestrian surfaces, which Sam clarified should be 9.5 feet based on NESC standards. Additionally, there was a question about

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Service Fiber Storage Loop Clarification Chair Kalnins recalled that the OPUC was going to supply a replacement photo for the Standards Manual depicting an acceptable storage loop. Robb Robison responded that he is looking for the original photo, but can crop the lower half of the photo that could work if necessary. Robb explained that properly secured fiber coils 3 feet from the pole with UV-rated or metal straps are acceptable, as long as they don't contact other cables or create hazards. Committee members also discussed handling abandoned or unused fiber drops, noting that if a drop is not being used, it should likely be removed to avoid future issues.

OJUA Presentation at Annual Meeting RE: PUPI Arms Adam Deshon shared his presentation slides on the proper use and application of fiberglass cross arms, which will be part of a joint presentation at the upcoming annual meeting. He plans to reach out to volunteers Chad Altherr, Cody Mabee, and Sarah Monroe to help with the work group focused on emerging technologies in Chapter 11. The presentation will include insights from Geotech representatives Mark Fleagle, West Region Sales Director, and Issac Bussan, Engineer, highlighting the advantages of fiberglass over wood cross arms, such as strength, ease of installation, and resilience. Participants discussed some unconventional uses of cross arms and shared concerns about non-standard installations, with Robb noting that such practices often stem from limited knowledge or creative interpretations of standards.

Other Business

Sarah Monroe raised concerns about the issue of broken and falling lashing wires during the overlashing process, questioning whether there are existing standards or requirements to address this problem. Chair Kalnins explained that while there is no specific rule mandating a de-lashing before relashing, inspections are conducted before overlaps, and broken wires should be fixed prior to the process. Robb Robison suggested that pull agreements could include standards for addressing such issues, but noted that in the past, such repairs were often overlooked. The group agreed to discuss this topic further at the next meeting, considering its relevance to wildfire mitigation efforts and plant integrity.

Recap of Action Items

- Pete: Follow up with Terry regarding access to IEEE preprint proposals for 2028.
- Standards Committee (All): Reach out to pole owners to gather their ductile iron and fiberglass poles standards for potential inclusion in Chapter 4 of the manual.
- Pete: Communicate to Terry that the Inspection and Correction Committee would be better suited to address the question about imminent hazards defined by OARs 860-024-0012 rather than the Standards Committee.

Future Meeting Schedule

The final meeting of 2025 is scheduled for November 13, 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m.