Oregon Joint Use Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

December 11, 2025
Salem Public Library – Salem, Oregon

Vice President Terry Blanc called the meeting to order at 10:05a.m. A quorum was present:

Board Members Present:
Sam Ackley, Hunter Communications, President
Terry Blanc, PGE, Immediate Past President
Carson Horton, Clatskanie PUD, Secretary*
Eric Griffeth, Lumen, Director at Large
Gary Lee, Charter Communications, Director at Large
Josh Crain, City of Portland, Treasurer
Jason Berning, Canby Utility, Director
Brian Richardson, Pioneer Connect, Director
Lisa Walker, PacificCorp, Director
Pete Kalnins, Astound, Co-chair*

Board Members Absent:
Adam Deshon, Salem Electric, Director
Samantha Ridderbusch, Comcast, Director
Carrie Graham, Comcast, Director
Tom Jorgenson, ICE Committee Co-Chair

Guests:
Leon Grumbo, OPUC
Chris Barley, P & E Committee Chair*
Heide Caswell, OPUC*
Dustin Bohlman, Charter Communications
Michael Bagby, Ziply fiber, Supervisor*
Brandon Runyon, NESC, Supervisor*
Scott Allen, City of Monmouth

Staff:
Laureal Williams
Abbie Jordan
Genoa Ingram

**Attended via Zoom*

Special Order of Business – Cable Representative Appointment

The Board noted vacancy for a small municipal representative position with a three-year term. Scott Allen, representing the City of Monmouth, submitted his resume for consideration. After review and discussion, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Scott Allen to fill the vacancy.

> **MOTION**: Moved by Gary Lee and seconded by Eric Griffeth to approve Scott to fill the small municipal representative position on the Board. **Motion passed**.

Approval of Minutes

The Board Members reviewed the minutes of October 1, 2025, meeting.

> **MOTION**: Moved by Gary Lee and seconded by Eric Griffeth to approve the October 1, 2025, minutes as corrected. **Motion passed**.

President's Comments

"President Sam Ackley has announced that he will conclude his service as President of the OJUA Board at the end of this year.

OJUA Contract Renewal: Sam Ackley presented a brief summary of the current contract with Court Street Consulting, noting its expiration at the end of December. He outlined the firm's role in staffing the ICE committee, which has increased to eight meetings annually. The proposed renewal provides for a new three-year term with a 3% increase. After review and discussion, the Board voted to approve the renewal of the contract.

> **MOTION:** Moved by Josh Crain and seconded by Terrence Blanc to approve the renewal of the contract with Court Street Consulting. **Motion passed.**

Treasurer's Report

Year-to-Date Financials Josh Crain reviewed the year-to-date financial statements and bank statements through November 2025.

> **MOTION**: Moved by Eric Griffeth and seconded by Gary Lee to approve the financial report as presented. **Motion passed**.

Dues Increase Josh Crain reported that operational costs have continued to rise; he presented a draft 2026 budget, highlighting how member dues have impacted finances over past years, and providing three approaches to increasing membership dues for 2026. After discussion, the Board agreed to proceed with a flat 6% dues increase.

> **MOTION:** Moved by Terry Blanc and seconded by Lisa Walker to approve a flat 6% dues increase for 2026. **Motion passed.**

> **MOTION:** Moved by Gary Lee and seconded by Brian Richardson to approve the draft 2026 budget version B. **Motion passed.**

Committee Reports

Executive Committee Terry Blanc provided an overview Executive Committee's activities, including oversight of the budget. He noted that the annual meeting received very positive feedback overall, with the program and presentations rated highly, though the venue received lower ratings. Board members concurred that they considered the annual meeting to be a successful event.

Inspection/Correction Committee/Mapping Subcommittee Eric Griffeth reported that the best practices manual has been completed and is undergoing final review, with plans to present it to the Executive Committee at its January meeting. He also mentioned that the team is considering allocating time during spring training and possibly at the annual meeting for further discussion and presentation.

Member Services and Resolution Committee Dustin Bohlman provided an overview of the committee's activities, emphasizing the importance of building the right contacts for working in the industry rather than focusing on disputes. While options are limited, he noted that members can support one another locally by making introductions to the appropriate people. The Board discussed possible ways to assist, and Lisa suggested creating a survey to gather and share relevant contact information.

Publicity & Education Committee Chris Barley reported that the date and venue for 2026 Spring Training are confirmed and the program agenda is nearly complete. The only remaining item is finalizing the trivia game, which will be ready by the January meeting. This year's game will follow the sequence of the book, with questions announced alongside their section to improve engagement and help the audience locate answers more easily. Planning for the event remains on track.

<u>Standards Committee</u> Peter Kalnins reported that last month the committee's subgroup continued work on Chapter 11 of the Standards Manual, focusing on emerging technologies such as drone applications and new car charging stations, with an update planned for January. They also discussed best practices for diagrams on wire and riser locations to be added to Chapter 5, and updates to Chapter 4 regarding ductile iron and fiberglass poles, including ongoing research with pole owners on safety considerations. Anchor placements were reviewed, with further expansion in January to address case-by-case scenarios with pole owners. Chapter 10 was enhanced with an additional picture, and feedback on the joint arms presentation at the annual meeting was well received. The group is also working on circuits around safety zones, including antennas, decorative lights, and related installations.

<u>Industry Updates</u>

<u>OPUC Update</u>- Heidi Caswell and Leon Grumbo reported on the continued development of the audit program, highlighting increased focus on records management, new inspection types such as ignition prevention, and a December tabletop exercise on power conservation messaging and Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS). Caswell noted heightened expectations from policymakers regarding wildfire mitigation plans and expanded reporting requirements from the Public Utilities Commission, including statewide status reports, PSPS events, IOU expenditures, and related legislative actions. She also provided updates on energy transition legislation covering microgrids, interconnection modernization, and grid enhancing technologies. Leon added that, beginning in 2025, photographic evidence is required for all repairs, though recent submissions have not consistently aligned with reported issues. He emphasized adherence to photo guidelines and timely submission of reports to allow for proper review. Heide reinforced the importance of accurate documentation and feedback to ensure corrective actions are completed.

<u>Other Updates</u>

Sam Ackley reported that Oregon Broadband has submitted its final proposal, with the expectation that the Assistant Secretary of the NTIA will review it soon.

Dustin Bohlman announced that Character Communications will now operate under the name Spectrum.

<u>Other Issues</u> – Leon Grumbo raised concerns regarding multiple instances of non-compliance with established regulations and safety protocols. He noted that such occurrences have become increasingly frequent. In addition to discrepancies in photographic evidence, Leon highlighted reports of unethical working conditions and serious safety violations, including the improper and hazardous installation of ground anchors.

<u>New Business</u>

<u>Board Elections</u> At the previous meeting, Sam Ackley reported that several board positions were due for election, each carrying a three-year term. At this meeting, the board addressed the vacancies, nominated candidates, and approved the change in positions by motion.

Terry Blanc – President
Josh Crain – Vice President
Eric Griffeth – Treasurer

Carson Horton – Secretary
Gary Lee – At-Large
Lisa Walker – At-Large
Scott Allen – At -Large

MOTION: Moved by Eric Griffeth and seconded by Josh Crain to approve en bloc the slate of executive committee members as presented. **Motion Passed.**

Adjournment
With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 12:18 p.m.