

October 15, 2002

**TO:** Progress Board Members

**FROM:** Jeffrey Tryens  
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**SUBJECT:** Oregon Progress Board September 17, 2002 Meeting Minutes

Members present were Chair Governor John Kitzhaber, Vice Chair Brett Wilcox, Neil Bryant, Dave Frohnmayer, Michael Greenfield, Michael Jordan, Heather Kaplinger, Duke Shepard, Diane Snyder, and Ed Whitelaw. Staff members present were Rita Conrad, Jeff Tryens and interns Chris Jernstrom and Justen Maron.

**Governor John Kitzhaber called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.**

**1. Approve Minutes**

The minutes from the July meeting were approved.

**2. Future of the Progress Board**

Governor Kitzhaber addressed the concerns over the current special session of the legislature. By rule, he will have to put in place across the Board cuts unless the legislature balances the budget some other way. HB 5100 would essentially wipe out the Progress Board's budget but it would save many other important programs.

Governor Kitzhaber stressed that the current bill remains a work in progress. He stressed the long-term nature of the budget problem and noted that the situation is in the hands of the legislature at this point. The Governor was pessimistic about the possibility of receiving funding from the Legislative Emergency Board at a later date given the unanticipated costs associated with Oregon's wildfires.

**Oregon Hunger Panel**

Jeff noted that the race and ethnicity discussion would be postponed until the next meeting so that all interested parties could be in attendance. Today, there is another panel on hunger: Jim Neely, Patty Whitney-Wise, and Kim Thomas.

Kim Thomas, director of the Oregon Food Bank discussed the current state of hunger in Oregon. She noted that in the late 1980's the legislature created a hunger task force with the goal of food security by 2000. In the year 2000, she added, Oregon ranked number 1 (worst) for hunger. The main challenge she saw for the Oregon Progress Board was the lack of union between its goals and the public policy. A realistic, ambitious goal for Oregon, in her eyes, is 1 percent to 1.5 percent hunger statewide.

Jim Neely, deputy assistant director for the Department of Human Services, cited the dramatic increases in services and dollars spent towards hunger in Oregon, yet noted that in other states the correlation between money spent and hunger reduction is weak. With the national average at 3.27 percent, he thought that 3 percent may be too ambitious.

Patty Whitney-Wise, executive director of the Oregon Hunger Relief Task Force, presented charts on Oregon's hunger problem, including the effects of the recession. A massive hunger outreach paralleled the recession. She showed that the cost of living in Oregon increased faster than the average wage. This is a main contributor to Oregon's hunger epidemic. She stressed the importance of providing food for all the families with children, and recommended that the Board explore other policy issues for ways in helping Oregonians to afford food. These alternate contributors include living-wage jobs, the cost of living in Oregon, and tax burdens on the poor.

Jeff suggested the possibility of linking the hunger benchmark to a national average, in case the problem floats because of external influences. He agreed that the actual national average is probably more than ambitious for Oregon at this time.

BOARD ACTION: Targets set. 150 percent of the national average for hunger in 2005.  
100 percent of the national average for 2010.

### **3. Making Benchmarks Real at the Local Level**

Jeff introduced the panel speaking on behalf of the work the Progress Board has been doing at the local level. This included Peter Thurston, Alex Dorsey, and Greg Wolf. Jeff said that these presentations were especially aimed at the new Board members, with the idea that they may learn more of what the Board actually does to help the local organizations.

Peter Thurston, coordinator for Lane County's Community and Economic Development Department, handed out an outline noting how Jeff helped Lane County apply Oregon Benchmarks to contract proposals from economic developers. Through this process, Peter saw how to make links to the Oregon Benchmarks in his work and set targets for Lane County.

Alex Dorsey, the executive director for the North/Northeast Economic Alliance Group, presented on the specific areas within which she worked with the city of Portland's bureau of planning. The goal, she said, was economic parity. Until she met Jeff, two months ago, most of the focus was on activities. The information learned on establishing outcome and performance measures was invaluable, and she plans on continuing to take it to as many of the local agencies as possible.

Greg Wolf, executive director of the Oregon Solutions Network, spoke on how the Progress Board can work with Oregon Solutions Network and use collaborative processes to solve community problems. The 10 objectives instituted in the network's sustainability project are directly related to the Progress Board's report, *Oregon Shines*. Greg added that the 10 objectives were later adopted

into law. His hope is to integrate the two programs, Oregon Solutions Network and the Progress Board. Incorporation in the early stages is the best way to promote sustainability.

Jeff added that in the area of contracts there is usually greater success in introducing performance measures and outcomes. When integrated into a legal document, with someone monitoring it, the accountability is much higher. He noted one idea in the Board's recently released paper, *Ten Ideas for Improving Oregon State Government Performance and Accountability* is to increase performance benchmarks in contracts.

#### **4. Benchmark Updates**

Jeff presented the remaining benchmarks which needed the Board's decision on whether or not to set targets.

##### **Benchmark #4, Net Job Growth**

The staff proposed the idea of targets for benchmark's recently stratified components, urban and rural categories.

BOARD ACTION: targets requested

##### **Benchmark #9, Business Costs**

The staff, again, recommended targets for the sub-categories of this benchmark

BOARD ACTION: targets not necessary

##### **Benchmark #11, Per-capita Income**

Rita and Jeff suggested that if you break down the target for net job growth, the same should be applied to per-capita income. The targets are recommended for the metropolitan vs. non-metropolitan components (as a percent of the U.S.)

BOARD ACTION: targets requested

##### **Benchmark #13b, Income Gaps**

Proposed new targets for sub-category: national ranking of income gap size.

BOARD ACTION: targets requested

##### **Benchmark #30, Volunteerism**

Commission for Voluntary Action & Service will address targets at the November meeting.

##### **Benchmark #34, State and Local Revenue per \$1,000 of Personal Income**

Proposed targets for tax levels - Jeff noted that the Board has opted not to set tax targets in the past

BOARD ACTION: targets not necessary

##### **Benchmark #64, Adult Recidivism**

Rita informed the Board the Department of Corrections has asked to change the target for 2010. The target was 27 percent, based on national comparators. Because methods of computing that number vary between states, they didn't feel it was valid to use as a target for Oregon. In addition, the current state of the economy leads them to believe that improvement from the 30 percent level is difficult. The agency is arguing to move the 27 percent target for 2010 to a less ambitious 29 percent.

The Board indicated a desire to see some improvement over the 2005 target. Rita agreed with the Board to renegotiate the target in hopes of some improvement in the next five years.

**Benchmark #67, Emergency Preparedness**

Redefined Benchmark and introduced new data series for 67a. Proposed a new target for 67b. Ken Murphy of Oregon Emergency Management provided targets for 67b.

BOARD ACTION: targets approved

**Benchmark #73, Home Ownership**

Jeff stated that the 1980, 1990 and 2000 numbers come from the U.S. Census, while the intermediate numbers come from the population survey. Jeff said that a representative from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Tom Cusak, confirmed that the population survey numbers are inaccurate. Jeff recommended dropping these data points.

BOARD ACTION: approved

**Benchmark #89, Invasive Species**

New target believed to have been approved at July meeting, but reconfirmation needed on record.

BOARD ACTION: targets approved

**5. Improving Performance in State Government**

Rita presented an overview of the staff's work with state agencies on performance measurement. Jeff believed that this project would prove the Progress Board's long-term worth to the legislature, but feels that they are still unaware of this impact. Rita presented several slides detailing their work.

Jeff said the agency staff training had gone quite well and explained the future value in the externally reported measures. Brett noted that he has heard positive remarks from some of those involved in the training. Jeff continued that we still do not have targets from state agencies, or a system of how to deal with changed or missing targets. A lot of work remains to be done.

Jeff presented the final draft of *Ten Ideas for Improving Oregon State Government Performance and Accountability*. He gave a brief overview, and asked the Board's approval.

BOARD ACTION: approved.

**6. Oregon Shines III – Options Discussion**

Jeff asked the members of the Board whether they felt they would benefit from a strategic planning session to clarify their vision for the Board.

Diane stated that, as a new member, it would be helpful but could also accomplish that on an individual level if others did not see the benefit. Neil agreed that he could benefit from a special planning session. Brett supported the idea, as well, though brought up the point that dealing with budget crises must be first priority.

The Board agreed to wait and see what how the new Governor views the Board before organizing any plans.

Heather asked what would need to happen in order for the Progress Board to remain. Jeff explained that if HB 5100 passed, it would mean the end of the Board. This is a list of permanent cuts,

therefore, there would only be enough money for the Board to wrap up. He noted that the minority report will be out after the next meeting, and that both the sustainability and Milbank reports are done and available.

Brett complimented Jeff and Rita on the fantastic job they have been doing.

Meeting adjourned 3:05 p.m.

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