GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

Thursday, September 19, 2024 8:30 a.m. Virtual Public Meeting

1) Call to Order: (Linda Kozlowski, Board Chair)

Chair Kozlowski called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.

2) Introductions: (Linda Kozlowski, Board Chair, and Staff)

Chair Linda Kozlowski, Vice-Chair Anne MacDonald, Board Members Diane Teeman, and Tiffany Thomas were in attendance via Zoom video/phone. Board Member Ruth Dittrich was not in attendance.

Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) Staff in attendance:

Ruarri Day-Stirrat – Director/State Geologist

Sarah Lewis, MLRR Program Manager

Lori Calarruda, Recording Secretary/Executive Assistant

Alex Lopez, Public Affairs Coordinator

Steve Dahlberg, Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

Laura Gabel, KPM Coordinator and Coastal Field Geologist

Nicole Ledbetter, MLRR Permit Specialist

Clayton Bowden, MLRR Permit Specialist

Others in attendance:

Diane Lloyd, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Katie Bannikov, Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO)

Kendra Beck, DAS Office of the Chief Financial Officer

1 3) Review Minutes of June 25, 2024, and July 22, 2024 Special Board Meeting:

2 Chair Kozlowski asked if there were any changes to the minutes as presented. No changes.

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Board Action: MacDonald moved to approve the minutes of June 25, 2024, and July 22, 2024

Special Board Meeting as submitted. Teeman seconded. Yes Votes: Kozlowski; MacDonald;

Teeman and Thomas. Motion carried.

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4) Financial Report:

- 9 Steve Dahlberg, Chief Financial Officer, presented the DOGAMI FY2021 Budget Status Report, as of
- July 31, 2024, for the Geological Survey and Services (GS&S) and Mineral Land Regulation &
- 11 Reclamation (MLRR) programs. The Board Packet contained the financial actuals, graphs, and
- 12 projections.

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Dahlberg said DOGAMI's General Fund expenditure budget is \$7.8M with projected expenditures to be \$7.5M, resulting in the Agency being \$300,000 underbudget. Other Funds Expenditure Limitation is \$2.6M with projected expenditures to be \$2.2M resulting in the Agency being \$400,000 under the Expenditure Limitation. Federal Funds Expenditure Limitation is close to \$5.7M with project expenditures of \$3.5M resulting in the Agency being under \$2.2M under the Expenditure Limitation. Dahlberg explained that the Expenditure Limitation is not money DOGAMI has to give back, but is actually an amount it can spend up to as long as the Agency has the revenues to cover the expenses. The Federal Funds for this biennium were planned 2-3 years ago, but the federal funders did not come through with the anticipated Lidar projects, so the actual amount is less than expected. There are fourteen active federal grants, and several others that are closing out.

The MLRR Expenditure Limitation is \$5.2M with projected biennium expenditures of \$5.7M. The Agency will ask for an increase in the Expenditure Limitation at the December Emergency Board (E-Board) to get the Program back in balance. The 6-month operating reserve is almost on target.

Chair Kozlowski asked if there is any concern over the Federal Funds given the changes going on. Dahlberg said from a financial perspective the Agency had had staff resource projects and Lidar projects, but in the most recent round of grant proposals the Lidar projects are not there, but the staff resource projects as doing well. Day-Stirrat added that Lidar is a little soft, but the Agency continues to look for opportunities, and the other areas of the federal grants are up so there are no concerns.

Dahlberg briefly discussed a graph showing the 2023-25 General Fund Utilized Budget, and reviewed the GS&S General Fund, Other Funds, and Federal Funds Summaries that reflect the high level numbers for the budget, actuals and projections. He stated as long as it stays green, everything is good.

Dahlberg briefly reviewed the MLRR Other Funds and MLRR ePermitting General Fund Summaries. He stated for the ePermitting Project, the Agency is working with DAS to go through a special procurement process and is currently following steps to keep it on track since DOGAMI is wanting/planning to use the DEQ platform.

Dahlberg reviewed and explained graph details for the GS&S Grants 2019-28, stating the Agency is doing well and has a healthy outlook. The Agency works closely with the LFO and CFO Analysts on a monthly basis to keep everyone in tuned with what is happening with the Agency, where the State is looking, and any concerns.

Chair Kozlowski said she remembered the financial reports from 3-4 years ago. The details of the reports now are impressive and the relationship with LFO and CFO has strengthened. This is a major step forward. She commended Dahlberg and the staff for an excellent job and thanked him and Day-Stirrat for providing the data to the Board.

Vice-Chair MacDonald asked if there is any talk about having more higher resolution Lidar in the areas not currently covered on the map in the Board Packet, and if there are any potential staff limitations on the upcoming grants that may require different strategies to implement them. Day-Stirrat said the Lidar is a little soft because DOGAMI is the Lidar Consortium for the State, which requires putting together multiple funding and interest groups to come up with a collective, and USGS has stopped funding Lidar and doing the acquisitions themselves, but he does not know why.

This is a challenge long term for the Agency. Staff capacity right now is a challenge, as part of federal grants the Agency has to fill in current and pending staff, and senior staff are fully committed the next 1-3 years. The Agency must be creative in handling them by looking at interns, partnering with universities, or the need for limited duration (LD) staff to help complete the grants. There may also be the need to leave some opportunities on the table due to capacity.

Teeman echoed Chair Kozlowski's comments on the improved budget reporting and stated she uses the Agency as an example of how things can really turn around. With regards to repeat Lidar, a good portion of the State does not have high resolution Lidar, she thinks this is a good argument to go back and offer the State that higher resolution that is available now.

Board Action: <u>Teeman moved to accept the Budget Status Report as presented. Thomas seconded.</u>
<u>Yes Votes: Kozlowski; MacDonald; Teeman and Thomas. Motion carried.</u>

5) Agency Key Performance Measures (KPMs) Annual Update:

Laura Gabel, Coastal Field Geologist and KPM Coordinator, reviewed the Agency's Annual Key Performance Measures (KPMs), including the Annual Assessment by the Board. Day-Stirrat also provided a brief background on the KPMs and what they are for. He noted that KPM 2, Geologic Map Completion, was originally drafted to focus on mapping close to Urban Growth Boundaries (UGBs) and populations, but due to interest around critical minerals, it has changed, and the Agency is now mapping in areas where no one is living. Both metrics are valid, as the total for the State is tracked, not just the relation to population.

Chair Kozlowski stated the KPMs are critical and watched closely, and sometimes need to be changed occasionally to match the current focus of the Agency. It is important to measure what the Agency's performance is, and the KPMs do a good job reflecting that.

Thomas asked clarifying questions regarding the Executive Director's performance expectations, and if they are based on the same performance criteria discussed during the review process. Day-Stirrat replied he thought the question is has the Board followed the State 360 Review Process to assess the Director's performance, and the answer is yes because it was completed in June. Thomas stated the questions must not be forward looking but all retrospective. Day-Stirrat agreed.

Thomas asked clarifying questions regarding the meanings of terms for the Board Questions, particularly "others", and if it refers to internally within the Board, Department, or externally to other Departments. Day-Stirrat answered historically the Board has taken it to mean everything internally and externally to the Board, Agency, and other State agencies.

Thomas asked if the Board had reviewed its management practices as part of the recent cycle or if it is something that is a periodic structured review. Chair Kozlowski stated her opinion is the Board is already doing that by watching the finances and working together to make sure best practices are followed. She added Thomas was asking great clarifying questions and it is important Board Members understand what they are agreeing with. A brief discussion took place, and clarifying the terminology for KPM 6, the Board's Annual Assessment, will be done at a later meeting.

Thomas asked if the gap areas not covered for risk assessments is driven in part by the population needs (KPM 1: Hazard and Risk Assessment Completion). Day-Stirrat said one part is due to where

the Urban Growth Boundaries are located, and the second part is the Agency's ability to secure external funding. However, hazard assessments have been done in all Oregon counties. Gabel added that county wide risk assessments do not always overlap an Urban Growth Boundary, but are included in the KPM calculation.

Chair Kozlowski asked how the Program came up with 20% of mine sites (KPM 4: Mine Site Inspections). Lewis said it was determined that all active sites could be inspected over a 5-year cycle, given the current staffing level and activity. If activity were to increase, they would not be able to meet the 20% target. Vice-Chair MacDonald added that water quality permits typically have a 5-year renewal period, so this is a good benchmark for other related permitted activities.

Chair Kozlowski asked why the survey responses were up for MLRR (KPM 5: Customer Service). Lewis said the Board had previously asked that the surveys go out more frequently and in different ways, which has been done.

The Board completed their Annual Assessment by answering the required 15 questions, which included review of the Annual Performance Progress Report, also known as the KPMs that will be submitted to DAS.

Board Action: MacDonald moved approve the revisions to the 2024 Annual Progress Performance Report as presented. Teeman seconded. Yes Votes: Kozlowski; MacDonald; Teeman and Thomas. Motion carried.

6) Presentation(s): Vertical Evacuation Structures and Customizing Evacuation Maps:

Laura Gabel, Coastal Field Geologist and KPM Coordinator, presented on Vertical Evacuation Structures and Customizing Evacuation Maps.

Gabel has been looking at tsunami evacuation and increasing survivability through vertical evacuation structures (VES) in Seaside and Cannon Beach, this specific presentation was focused on Seaside. The project is funded by the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP) and the focus is to improve life safety, and the number of people that can successfully evacuate from a tsunami for communities where high ground is difficult to reach. It is being done by identifying and prioritizing mitigation ideas focused on vertical evacuation, bridges and large-scale infrastructure. She explained the pilot program in detail.

In communities where high ground is difficult to attain for many people, an alternative solution is to bring high ground to the people, but it must be a structure engineered to withstand the shaking of a Cascadia earthquake, survive the forces of tsunami waves, and people on the building surviving the event in that location. These are challenging buildings to commit to, and agree to construct and fund. She showed several examples of evacuation structures and said Washington State is leading the way on this, but they have a much different coastline that Oregon. They have developed a manual for how to build one, that includes how to move through all the steps. Oregon is currently developing a similar manual through NTHMP funding, which will be published before the end of the year.

Gabel said they worked with Seaside throughout the process to ensure the city understood what was being done, and their concerns and issues were heard. The city has been reviewing the report to ensure they can use what is in it for their future asks to FEMA for vertical evacuation structures.

Gabel walked the Board through the detailed report results presentation, which focused specifically on the 20 minutes after the event, and showed the flow of the tsunami into the city. Gabel reviewed and discussed several scenarios and outcomes for different number of vertical evacuation sites and people who may be in Seaside on a given day. This also include the impact of the bridges surviving the earthquake. She stated this is a hypothetical exercise, and the proposed VES sites are not vetted beyond conversations with Seaside.

Gabel added that in addition to having conversations with Seaside staff, Emergency Manager, City Planner, and City Manager, she has presented this information to their City Council. The City Manager asked the City Council to restructure their 5 year Public Safety Plan because they had listed retrofitting all the bridges as their number one priority, and the identified vertical evacuation structure with the parking garage was number four. They are now thinking of swapping them because they recognize that their dollars could be better spent elsewhere. Gabel added that Director Day-Stirrat and Jon Allan had recently presented this information to Representative Suzanne Bonamici, and they are starting to showcase this work on a broader scale to provide assistance to other coastal communities.

Chair Kozlowski said the data provided is so amazing, and has had a huge impact on Seaside since the focus has been on investing on the bridges, which is a stark difference in terms of where the best investment would be in VES. The access to get out of the inundation zone is really challenging.

Vice-Chair MacDonald said this a great first start, but should also include the day visitors and the capacity of the structures. This information is good for prioritizing which is the best bang for the buck, but not good for setting community expectations, as people tend to latch on to numbers and not context. It is important to set some expectations for survivability and the inverse casualties, and if it is a parking structure, what is the realistic capacity for additional people and what would the cost be to design it. Gabel said the capacity of existing structures is 1,000 people, and they are talking a minimum of 4,000 people, which does not include the potential 10,000 to 20,000 day visitors that will predominantly be clustered in that area. There are companies designing the structures that are thinking about those challenges.

Thomas asked if there are any existing structures in the model that are tall enough, that could be retrofitted for stability to survive a tsunami. Gabel said just a few hotels that might, but they have not been assessed for their ability to withstand a tsunami or what it would cost to do so. Thomas asked if the parking structure is still preliminary or currently being planned. Gabel said she had distinct impression they are not moving forward with the parking garage at this time, but may in the future. Thomas added this is really cool work. Gabel replied she loves the work she does and is extremely rewarding to work closely with the users of the data.

In Gabel's next presentation, she reviewed evacuation maps. DOGAMI has been making different evacuations maps for a long time, and believe that visitors/tourists are at a disadvantage over locals at the Oregon coast, but recognize the need to meet people where they are in order to have them willing to get the information they need. There is an online viewer that can be accessed by phone, with routes that show the way to safety. There are evacuation maps, but they are meant for a single

location or section of town. The Coastal Team has been working with hotels to assist guests get to safety quicker, and have now developed an automated way to generate evacuation maps for any location/specific point of interest, not just a specific area, that provides the route to the nearest high ground from that location. It includes how far the walk is and how many minutes you have to walk it. She showed an example for the La Quinta Inn, stating the hotel plans to print these on hard plastic and place them on the back of every hotel room door like a fire escape map. The new automated ability makes it really quick to make and share them, and they have been creating them for several hotels. Gabel has been handing them out to people at City Hall as outreach material. The ultimate goal is to make the tool available online for people to use for themselves and take DOGAMI out of the equation of generating the maps. The Coastal Team is excited about this new ability and she gave kudos to Fletch O'Brien for the work he has done to make it an efficient and doable process.

Chair Kozlowski asked when this would be available to use on cell phones. Gabel said technically there is an online viewer on Oregontsunami.org that you can use now, but the routing information does not get included in the final PDF it generates. There is also a phone app for the online tsunami zone viewer, but it does not have the capacity to do routing and is hosted on an outside platform so it is limited. DOGAMI has been having conversations on how to bring some of it in house and make it available on its own servers.

Vice-Chair MacDonald thought McMenamins and other brew pubs would be great partners on this. Gabel stated they are doing their best to get out there to reach out to hotels, in addition to their other work. MacDonald suggested contacting the GIS Program at Portland Community College to have them produce some of these maps, as the Capstone class does public interest projects.

Teeman said there has been a lot of work done archaeologically and with the indigenous communities on the coast around tsunamis and their behavior that is reoccurring. She asked if there has been any work done to incorporate the additional oral history and utilized in the modeling. Gabel answered yes, that has been incorporated into the modeling along with modeling DOGAMI did in 2009-2013, which ultimately led to all the maps they work with today. She said they do reach out to the Tribes in the areas they are working in and invite them to come to the table to discuss tsunami evacuation. Some have joined to specifically discuss evacuation of Tribal lands and what is important to them in the context of tsunami preparedness and evacuation.

Chair Kozlowski said OEM had a program to reach out to the hospitality industry and asked if they have reached out to Althea about any partnership. Gabel said OEM has not been doing outreach since the pandemic but they are starting to reach out to County Emergency Managers to rebuild connections. They came up with a 15 minute online training in English and Spanish, called the Tsunami Safe Module, to help staff know what they should do in the event of a tsunami. The Coastal Team would really love to share with businesses the customizable maps and encourage them to have staff take the training.

Vice-Chair MacDonald said it sounds like a project for the Scouts, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Chair Kozlowski stated it was a great presentation and she loved the graphics. She thinks since it is post COVID and people are starting to re-engage, this is a good time to have this information out there. Kozlowski said she would like to work with Gabel for hospitality outreach in her area.

Briefing: No Board Action Required.

7) MLRR Update:

Sarah Lewis, MLRR Program Manager, provided an update on MLRR.

Lewis stated the Board Packet contained a wealth of information about the MLRR Update. The map in the packet is the same one that appeared for the MLRR KPM. It shows all the mine sites across the State, blue means current permitting activity, yellow are sites that have submitted their renewal reports in the last 3 months, and green are site visits done in the last 6 months.

Permit Status Summary

Lewis stated permit numbers are stable, there are 84 applications, which is two more than last quarter. These numbers are point in time metrics when the report was pulled, and could be different now. She reviewed the overview of the last 3 years of applications received and permits issued. The average processing time for an applications last year was around 12 months. There are two applications that took over 2 years to permit, which can skew the numbers. Since the last Board meeting, MLRR received eleven new applications and issued four permits. The packet included the DOGAMI Mining Permit Application Process and Workload that shows where the applications are in the process. At some point some applications will be removed due to information not being provided or the applicant is not moving forward with due to permit requirements.

Vice-Chair MacDonald asked if there will be tracking of the applications being withdrawn, as she thinks it will be helpful on ePermitting. Lewis said she has grand plans for the chart and explained her future vision.

Lewis introduced two new Permit Specialists, Nicole Ledbetter and Clayton Rowden, who were hired in early summer and on today's call. In addition to the staff hired in early 2024, they are all making a difference in site inspections, application reviews, and general support of the Program. She is hopeful that site inspections will increase over next 12 to 18 months.

Lewis added the Summer Newsletter, which was not ready at the time of the June meeting, was in the packet and the Fall Newsletter will be going out next month. This issue reminds people about the permitting timeline, announced new staff members, provided an overview of the Program's procedures around protecting cultural resources, and discussed inspections and offered some tips.

Grassy Mountain

The Project Coordinating Committee met on September 12, 2024 and heard a presentation from MLRR's contractor on the Environmental Evaluation, the land use findings, and the coordination with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on their parallel process. As part of that, the Environmental Evaluation has been put out on the Agency website for the 14 day public comment period. The comment period closes September 22, 2024. The comments will go to the Technical Review Team (TRT) and DOGAMI, with a planned meeting on October 3, 2024. The TRT will consider accepting the Environmental Evaluation as complete, which would start the 225 day clock to write draft permits for the project. Lewis will report back on the decision at the next Board Meeting. She added that MLRR has a web page dedicated to the Grassy Mountain Project where all the materials, comments and meetings are posted.

Chair Kozlowski asked if they are getting a lot of questions/comments. Lewis said they have received one public comment so far.

297298 Briefing: No Board Action Required.

8) GS&S Update:

Ruarri Day-Stirrat, Director & State Geologist, provided the GS&S program update. The Board Packet contained the extensive report on all the activities for GS&S.

Publications: There are 11 publications so far this year, with another 17 publications on deck but expecting it to be closer to 20 by the end of the year.

Grants:

Day-Stirrat highlighted a new program called the US Geological Survey (USGS) National Landslide Hazard Program. It has a small amount of funding nationally at the moment, but DOGAMI was successful in receiving a first grant, which is a new landslide funding mechanism into the Agency. Part of the project requires offering training opportunities for young scientists, DOGAMI will be hiring two interns from Portland State University (PSU) to work on this grant. This is part of Agency's Strategic Plan, and this action advances it.

Day-Stirrat did not go through all the grants, but stated there are a lot of awards pending. He said the US Dept of Energy is extremely backlogged with their awards decisions and it is taking a long for the review process. One award recently announced is called *CaRBTAP*, which is a large project with a total funding of \$6.25M. It is led by a company called Carbon Solutions LLC out of Michigan, and DOGAMI is partners with the Washington Geological Survey, Idaho National Lab, Pacific Northwest National Lab (PNNL), and several other entities. This project will be discussed with the Board at a later date.

Regarding staffing, GS&S successfully hired a permanent NRS 2 Landslide Mapping Geologist – Jessi Wilder. Wilder has a M.S. degree in Geology from the University of Iceland.

For the Geological Society of America (GSA) Annual Meeting, there are 12 abstracts from Agency staff in the meeting, typically it is 3 to 5 abstracts, which is showing long-term productivity of the GS&S staff.

Day-Stirrat finished by saying the Program is in good health. It is also matched by productivity on delivering on promises made to funding entities.

Vice-Chair MacDonald stated she is happy to see all the GSA presentations and that staff are attending.

Briefing: No Board Action Required.

9) Director's Report:

Ruarri Day-Stirrat, Director & State Geologist, provided a brief update on the Agency.

341 Agency Update

Day-Stirrat said quite a few number of staff are going to GSA, the Agency will have a booth in the exhibit hall, and updated outreach materials have been completed. There will also be a video promoting the work the Agency does as well. It was filmed on the Coast and in eastern Oregon to reflect the vastness of the State of Oregon in terms of its geology, and several staff members were interviewed. A preview will happen at the next Board Meeting.

Day-Stirrat said the Agency is busy partnership building. Some of the project now being proposed are large in nature and cannot be achieved solely by DOGAMI, the Agency is actively partnering with national labs and universities to advance its work. The U.S. Department of Energy has effectively mandated that successful grants must be part of an integrated team. This is part of the Strategic Plan as a way the Agency will operate in the next few years.

The Agency is going into the regular grant writing phase. These are the more normal proposals that are very difficult to write, but more common for the Agency to do. As part of this, the Oregon Geologic Mapping Advisory Committee (OGMAC) will be meeting on September 30, 2024 to decide the mapping direction for the next year to write the STATEMAP proposal to USGS.

There has been no changes since DOGAMI submitted its Budget, and the Agency is waiting for the Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB) to see the to see what Policy Option Packages (POPs) are moved forward.

Lopez showed the updated postcards and provided more details on the process of creating them, and gave kudos to Jon Franczyk for all his work on them. Most of the photos came from the Oregon Scenic Images Archives, which is the Oregon Repository for scenic images of the State.

Briefing: No Board Action Required.

10) Confirm Time and Date for Next Quarterly Meeting and Board Retreat/Special Meeting (October 15, 2024:

Chair Kozlowski stated the next DOGAMI Board is currently scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in Portland or via Zoom. She confirmed this date is still acceptable for the Board.

The Board Retreat and Special Meeting are currently scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2024.

Vice-Chair Macdonald stated she was signed up for the Symposium on Critical Mineral Resources, she wanted to make sure there would not be a quorum if other Board Members attended and have it construed as a meeting. Lloyd said as long as Board Members do not discuss Board business, there should be no concerns.

11) Public Comment:

Only <u>written comments</u> received prior to or by 12:15 p.m. on the day of the meeting were to be accepted. Chair Kozlowski asked for any written public comments. No public comments.

12) Board Adjourn:

Chair Kozlowski adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

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