

**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES**

Thursday, December 12, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Virtual Public Meeting

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

Chair Kozlowski called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

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

Chair Linda Kozlowski, Vice-Chair Anne MacDonald, Board Members Diane Teeman, Tiffany Thomas, and Ruth Dittrich were all in attendance via Zoom video/phone.

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)

Jason McClaughry, GS&S Program Manager

Others in attendance:

Diane Lloyd, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Geoff Huntington, Senior Natural Resources Policy Advisor Governor's Office

Kendra Beck, DAS Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Bob Short, OCAPA

3) Review Minutes of September 19, 2024 Board Meeting:

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

Board Action: **Teeman moved to approve the minutes of September 19, 2024 Board Meeting as submitted. MacDonald seconded. Yes Votes: Kozlowski; MacDonald; Teeman; Thomas; Dittrich. Motion carried.**

4) Confirm 2025 Board Meeting Dates and Board Retreat:

The Board discussed the Proposed 2025 Board Meeting Dates.

The 2025 DOGAMI Board Meeting dates are:

March 25, 2025 (Tuesday)

June 24, 2025 (Tuesday)

September 15, 2025 (Monday)

November 21, 2025 (Friday)

The Board Retreat date will be determined at a later time.

Board Action: **Thomas moved to approve the proposed Board Meeting dates as discussed and amended. Teeman seconded. Yes Votes: Kozlowski; MacDonald; Teeman; Thomas; Dittrich. Motion carried.**

5) Financial Report:

Steve Dahlberg, Chief Financial Officer, presented the DOGAMI FY2021 Budget Status Report, as of September 30, 2024, for the Geological Survey and Services (GS&S) and Mineral Land Regulation & Reclamation (MLRR) programs. The Board Packet contained the financial actuals, graphs, and projections.

Dahlberg said DOGAMI's General Fund expenditure budget is \$7.8M with projected biennium expenditures expected to be \$7.5M, resulting in the Agency being \$300,000 underbudget. Other Funds Expenditure Limitation is \$2.6M with projected biennium expenditures expected to be \$2.2M, resulting in the Agency being \$400,000 under Expenditure Limitation. Most of the money comes through the Lidar Program, but the Agency does have grants with other State agencies, that include DLCD, DEQ, DSL, and Parks. There are currently twelve active Other Funds grants, with some being multi-year projects. The Federal Funds Expenditure Limitation is \$5.7 M with projected biennium expenditures to be \$3.5M, resulting in the Agency being under \$2.2M under the Expenditure Limitation. There are sixteen active Federal grants, and four active Lidar projects, one of which is both Other Funds and Federal Funds; two FEMA grants were recently closed out.

MLRR Other Funds Expenditure Limitation is \$5.2M, with expected projected expenditures to be \$5.7M, resulting in the Program being \$600,000 over the Expenditure Limitation. Dahlberg stated DOGAMI went in front of the Subcommittee yesterday to get an increase in the Expenditure Limitation amount, when asked by Committee Members, he verified it is not General Fund. The increase request was approved to move to the full Joint Emergency Board (E-Board) being held today, and he is waiting for approval. The Operating Reserve is at almost 95% of the target amount. He stated for the ePermitting Project, the Agency is working with DAS to go through a special procurement process and is currently waiting for final approval to begin contract negotiations with the vendor.

Dahlberg reviewed and explained graph details for the GS&S Grants 2019-28, stating DOGAMI is doing well and has a healthy outlook. The Agency is working with Federal and State agencies on future projects and planning on recurring Federal and Other Funds grants. He had McClaughry provide some background on the postcard pictured in the background, which is one of eight showing different geologic features of Oregon's geologic geographic provinces, that were created for outreach materials.

Chair Kozlowski said it was an excellent financial report, stating Dahlberg and DOGAMI have done an excellent job.

Board Action: **MacDonald moved to accept the Budget Status Report as presented. Teeman seconded. Yes Votes: Kozlowski; MacDonald; Teeman; Thomas; Dittrich. Motion carried.**

6) Governor's Budget:

Steve Dahlberg, Chief Financial Officer, and Ruarri Day-Stirrat, Director, reviewed the Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB) for DOGAMI.

Director Day-Stirrat briefly discussed the budget process for the new Board Members. The Agency's Request Budget (ARB) was submitted in the summer, which is not balanced at the State level, and the next step is the Governor's Recommended Budget, which needs to be a balanced budget at the State level based on revenue forecasts. As a result of that, the ARB has been slimmed down. The Agency's budget is the current service level with inflation factors built in and does not change the size of DOGAMI. There are Policy Option Packages (POPs) the Governor and her team have added in.

Day-Stirrat briefly reviewed the POPs in the GRB.

POP 100 – ESRI Cost Increase \$150,000 offset by Pkg 90, which equals no change

POP 101 – MLRR ePermitting – \$1,825,000 General Fund (GF) – 1 FTE

POP 102 - GS&S Subsurface Geology and Mapping Program – \$10,000,000 – 4 FTE

POP 103 – MLRR Fee Increase and Program Right-sizing – \$3,313.507 – 12 FTE

POP 104 – MLRR Program Establishment - \$923,682 – 3 FTE

Day-Stirrat showed graphs for Budget to Actual Performance for both GS&S and MLRR, stating they reflected slight increases in funding and FTE count over several biennia. The next step in the budget process is the long Legislative Session, where DOGAMI will present to the Joint Ways and Means Natural Resources Subcommittee, along with potential legislative hearings around elements within the Agency's Budget, and hopefully the Budget being confirmed by the Legislature. No exact timing is known at this time, as the Legislative Session goes until June 30, 2025, so there is a 6 month window for the budget process.

Chair Kozlowski asked if the difference in MLRR's budget between 2023-25 & 2025-27 is due to ePermitting. Dahlberg said yes and verified the amount, then later corrected that statement by apologizing and saying he did not have the numbers correct in the graph for 2025-27, they should be higher.

Chair Kozlowski asked Day-Stirrat if he expects to see a lot of pushback from the Legislature and what are the biggest issues the Legislature may want more information about. Day-Stirrat answered at the moment he is unable to answer that, as Committee assignments have not been made for the Long Session, but the Agency will begin a legislative outreach campaign to identify and speak to legislators about DOGAMI's Budget.

Vice-Chair MacDonald asked if the Board can assist the Agency in outreach without mucking up the message. Day-Stirrat answered there may be an opportunity as session goes on. Since the Governing Board oversees all Agency budget and function, if there are any questions that come up around the Agency, they will be brought to the Board for a consolidated response if appropriate.

Chair Kozlowski thanked everyone at DOGAMI stating they had done an excellent job to position the Agency in a very positive state to move forward, notably for the good financial reporting.

Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

7) Presentation: GSA Film:

Alex Lopez, Public Affairs Coordinator, presented to the Board the new DOGAMI promotional video documenting the Agency and its work, produced for the Geological Society of America (GSA) meeting held in Anaheim in September. Lopez stated the Agency contracted with a filmmaker to create a video to run at the GSA Annual Meeting that will be used for outreach going forward. This is in addition to the revamp of outreach materials including the new postcards and banners.

Board members gave kudos on the video, saying it was well done, and a really nice, accurate depiction of what DOGAMI does and all the work that goes into these different programs.

Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

8) Presentation: Geologic Carbon Sequestration Discussion:

Ruarri Day-Stirrat, Director & State Geologist, presented on the Geologic Carbon Sequestration Discussion.

Geologic Carbon Sequestration Presentation Director Ruarri Day-Stirrat presented to the State Land Board on October 15, 2024 **Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/live/DWerG8c4cP8>

Day-Stirrat provided a history on how the Agency has made it to this point in time. More than a year ago DOGAMI started looking at carbon sequestration in predominantly northeast Oregon based on a geological perspective of looking at opportunities around the State and having conversations with national labs and universities. The Agency developed a budget item in the ARB and started with the Department of State Lands (DSL) to understand what potential possibility opportunity lies on State land. This culminated in a framing presentation in front of the Land Board in October. In that meeting the Governor directed DOGAMI to go back to the Land Board and present a community and Tribal engagement plan, road map, and layout the connection to existing and other resources the State has.

Day-Stirrat stated DOGAMI is a data-driven scientific organization that is exploring the possibility of an opportunity in a part of the State that aligns with the climate commitments that State has made with regards to emissions reductions and natural climate solutions. This is a tool in the toolbox for the State, and is an opportunity for economic development in a part of the State that could benefit significantly from non-agricultural opportunities. DOGAMI is exploring this opportunity with those two lenses, and the primary goal is to identify the subsurface location where this could possibly occur. It is a long road to turning possibility into potential, into feasibility, into a project, and the Agency is working methodically through that, with the first step being a robust community engagement plan. He opened it up to the Board for questions.

Chair Kozlowski asked why northeast Oregon was chosen as the optimum location and what were the criteria looked at. Day-Stirrat explained that for geologic carbon sequestration, most projects occur in saline aquifers, which mean they are non-potable water zones that tend to be in sandstones.

Oregon has a limited number of Ora sandstones, so the Agency needs to look at what the State has which is basalt. Work done in Wallula, Washington by Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) and work occurring in Iceland point to an opportunity to fix CO₂ in porous basalt at great depths in the subsurface by a mineralization process. This has led to a broad area in this location, but an area has not been directly identified yet, which is one of the immediate steps for the Agency.

Thomas asked how the collaboration and coordination is with the USGS, Oregon DEQ, and any other organizations that would be involved with the permitting and development process. Day-Stirrat said DOGAMI and DEQ have a history of working closely together, and both have a position identified in the Budget to scope out the regulatory path, which is a connection to the US EPA. DOGAMI has not made a decision on whether it wants to take primacy for geologic carbon sequestration, but it is a possibility. The Agency has been working with national labs and US Department of Energy (DOE) as they look towards advancing projects nationally. Federal funding would likely come from US DOE through their standard programs should DOGAMI go in that direction, but no announcements have been made regarding the latest round of funding.

Thomas asked if there has been any discussion or concern regarding co-contaminant type considerations, or changing in the geologic condition or geochemical condition of those aquifers, recognizing they are non-drinking water layers of the aquifer system, and has it posed any technical roadblocks. Day-Stirrat explained that Underground Injection Control Class 6 Wells, which regulates carbon sequestration, are the most stringent nationally. Each project nationally, there are currently around 143 in various stages of permitting, and all are unique. The protection of groundwater is sacrosanct in those rules, and at each location there is a data-driven assessment that occurs at both the Federal and State level in regulatory programs to ensure that project happens safely.

Dittrich asked Day-Stirrat if there are any environmental risks that could be associated with carbon sequestration, if he was concerned about funding given the change in federal government, and if he had considered other ways of receiving funding for this project. Day-Stirrat explained that the permitting requirements is a long-term monitoring of CO₂ in the subsurface, and this is where basalt has a significant opportunity over a classic reservoir or sandstone reservoir, as their monitoring goes on for up to 50 years. In basalt the CO₂ mineralizes into a fixed form, significantly decreasing any risk associated with CO₂ moving away from its area of injection, which is a significant upside to geologic carbon sequestration in basalt, however it is less mature in terms of science and experience than classic reservoirs, which is a trade-off. As for funding the Agency will have to wait and see, but nationally carbon sequestration is a business and DOGAMI will have to see how business reacts to the future.

Chair Kozlowski asked Day-Stirrat to clarify his statement in terms of the reaction of business. Day-Stirrat said he has attended different conferences and there are many projects happening around the country and would be surprised if it suddenly stops because a lot of money has already gone into projects nationally. He stated the Agency, in this conversation, is comingling the long term opportunity with what it is doing immediately and wanted to make sure there is a distinction. DOGAMI wants to talk about what the long term opportunity is, but the intent for the immediate future is to simply drill a well to test whether there is porosity in the subsurface, then discussions around feasibility can happen, which would involve more technical steps to take place to gather required data.

Vice-Chair MacDonald said it sounds like the long term economic benefits are a ways out. Day-Stirrat said yes, and to some extent that depends on how fast accelerators get pushed. MacDonald then asked if anyone has found any micro seismicity issues with this, which is common when injecting non-compressible fluids, but since CO2 is compressible is this something that is being looked at. Day-Stirrat answered that at the moment the Agency is not, but it is part of the CO2 injection regulations, which is a step still to come, but DOGAMI has started to address that on the surface with the mapping that has already been done and will be done with the maps that will be produced through Federal funding. There are many other steps to address it completely and to the level required for permitting.

Chair Kozlowski said Day-Stirrat's presentation mentioned that Oregon does not produce a huge amount of CO2, and asked how to get access to it in order to make it pencil out. Day-Stirrat stated Oregon is not the largest CO2 emitter, but it does have industry that has emissions. He explained there are other technologies being scaled up rapidly, specifically direct air capture, to remove CO2 that is already in the atmosphere. A lot of research is occurring to increase the efficiency of the filters and the energy consumption of the filters internationally and in universities and national labs in the US. He is looking at the research community, that has received a lot of funding, to advance that technology rapidly. DOGAMI is interested in the subsurface location in order to drill a stratigraphic test well to understand the geological characteristics in the subsurface, which has been proposed in the Agency's Budget with a line item of \$10M and an FTE. Some of the upfront expenses are high because most of the money is actually going towards drilling and data acquisition. The Agency needs to determine how deep to drill to gather as much data as it can to understand what the opportunity here is around geologic carbon sequestration.

Chair Kozlowski asked Day-Stirrat if he has had a chance to present this topic to the Legislature. Day-Stirrat said he expects to be called in front of different committees during the Long Session, and it will be discussed during the DOGAMI's Budget Presentation. The Agency will also reach out to individual legislators to meet with them.

Chair Kozlowski asked for a summary on the outreach presentation to the State Land Board. Lopez stated the presentation contained a high level summary of the Agency's community outreach strategy, that included the goals, approaches, who DOGAMI intended to engage with, and laid out a roadmap of how to get to a real solid engagement with communities around geologic carbon sequestration, with the understanding the need to build public support and acceptance of the technology for it to be successful.

Teeman mentioned that for research projects either State or Federal Government managed lands, Tribes do not have the resources to be able to engage in a meaningful way, adding that as the costs are being worked through, consider offering a small amount of money to help support the time and a position at the Tribes to be able to engage in a meaningful way.

Huntington said a different lens is to look at this as an opportunity for Oregon to contribute with the reduction of CO2 than what it emits, along with the technology and development for capture of CO2 from industrial facilities. There is a significant venture capital being invested in the Columbia Basin related to data centers. He discussed in depth about the intersection of DOGAMI investigating the potential use of basalt layers for CO2 sequestration with the State's ownership of Common School Fund Lands, which has led to a partnership with the Department of State Lands. He stated the Governor's Recommended Budget is approving the investment of \$10M from a fund that DSL

manages for this exploratory project. From his office and State Land Board's perspectives, they see potential on a variety of different levels that match up with the climate goals, potential economic development, and Common School Fund benefits.

Chair Kozlowski said DOGAMI has a robust outreach in terms of publication and asked Huntington if he will be part of the outreach piece. Huntington said this would not be pulling it from DOGAMI, but coming in behind to ensure it is seen as a multi-agency and priority of the Administration because it fits in all three of the categories, and also the Governor's investment in creating a robust relationship with the Federally Recognized Tribes.

Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

9) **GNRO Report:**

Geoff Huntington, Senior Natural Resources Policy Advisor, provided an update and took questions from the Board.

Huntington said the Governor has set some really high expectations for the Natural Resource Departments and Commissions to begin to be more integrated and part of a more focused agenda on managing individual portfolios and consolidating and delivering core functions of agencies well, with a lot of transparency with meaningful public engagement, so he has been meeting with each of the Boards and Commissions. The Governor's expectations for him are to interact with agency directors and board chairs where there are significant policy issues of State implication and to help frame the Board's consideration of issues that are coming before them, which may include fee increases or regulatory authorities that are under discussion. This is different than in past Administrations.

Huntington spoke in depth on creating a thematic overlay on how to drive progress forward on natural resource issues and opportunities for the State of Oregon, and how each agency can connect in their own way. There is a pivot towards doing more of what is critically important and what can be done in core programs to deliver them well and with transparency. The pace and scale of climate change, and what the implications are for the resiliency of Oregon communities, Oregon's working landscapes and natural ecosystems is driving these changes. DOGAMI is right in the center of it, transitioning from just providing the science and mapping to what is the role of the Agency in the larger construct of what is being built.

Chair Kozlowski stated she appreciated Huntington's attendance and getting the perspective of how DOGAMI fits in the State agencies and how they are working together. She stated DOGAMI is blessed with its current leadership and staff, and has one of the strongest Boards in a long time that is technically focused, and focused on what is best for the State and how the Agency can contribute. It is exciting to see the coordination and engagement of the agencies together.

Vice-Chair MacDonald said one discussion from the meeting was how to communicate what an agency is doing to communities that may not be as receptive to science. There is very little of what DOGAMI does that is particularly controversial. She loved Huntington's framing of how to make DOGAMI's mission engaging. She believes that the core elements of what DOGAMI does will not get less important over time. It is going to be important to have extra resources to take on these new forward looking, innovative, somewhat riskier in terms of long term payout activities, but still make sure the Agency is keeping its eyes on the core elements of what it does.

299
300 Teeman stated she is excited about the forward looking work, and feels the Agency has stepped up in
301 the last several years since Day-Stirrat has been onboard, along with new members of the staff. The
302 engagement of the Tribes is close to her heart, having descendancy in the State, and she looks
303 forward to the way that Western science engages with traditional, ontological, and epistemological
304 cultural systems in the State, because she thinks they will find cross cultural value in the way we do
305 move forward in this very trying time related to environmental changes going on.

306
307 Chair Kozlowski stated she appreciates Teeman's perspective on the Board and it is extraordinarily
308 helpful.

309
310 Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

311
312 **10) MLRR Update:**

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

314
315 Permit Status Summary

316 Lewis stated the standard summary tables and figures are in the Board Packet. She started with a
317 general update on permit status stating the application load is slightly down from the last quarter
318 with 3 new applications, and staff were able to issue thirteen permit decisions. She is proud of the
319 work staff are doing and it is reflected in the numbers. She shared the Application Process and
320 Workload flowchart. Specifically talking about the applications in review, there are 81 active
321 applications for surface mining, 22 are with DOGAMI for review and 59 have been returned to
322 applicants for revisions, additional information, or to get 3rd party approvals in place. The biggest
323 change to the graph is an increase in the number of pre-applications, which is 59, and includes pre-
324 application meetings with applicants since 2023 and applications considered mandatory for sites that
325 are not in compliance with their permit. She stated she would like to continue using the flowchart
326 graphic as the primary communication about the permit process going forward. Chair Kozlowski said
327 the graph is very helpful.

328
329 Lewis stated related to the fee increase, the positions proposing to be added to the Program will help
330 to get the completeness reviews done within the statutory timelines. They will be focused on the
331 Technical Review portion where there is a bottleneck in the process, as there are not enough staff to
332 address those applications.

333
334 Lewis added the Fall and Winter Engage Newsletter was included in the Board Packet, which includes
335 a notice of the proposed fee increase with information on how to get more information about it. It
336 was sent out before the Governor's Recommended Budget, so the link will be updated on the
337 website to reflect what the current proposals are. The Newsletter also includes guidance to
338 permittees on permit administration best practices.

339
340 Regarding Civil Penalties, there are no new request for non-payment of renewal fees, which has only
341 happened one other quarter since 2019, but it demonstrates these small penalties for routine
342 violations are having an effect on encouraging permittees to pay on time. There are no significant
343 updates on Mining Without a Permit (MWOP) Civil Penalty cases. The Eckroth Contested Case
344 Hearing was completed and the Program is waiting for the Administrative Law Judge decision, it is

expected in January or February. MLRR has begun informal discussions with the respondent in the Bonanza Civil Penalty case that was approved for Civil Penalties last March.

Grassy Mountain

On October 3, 2024 the Technical Review Team (TRT) accepted the Environmental Evaluation as complete, moving the project into the permit drafting phase. This is a milestone for both the project and the chemical process mining regulatory in the State of Oregon, this is the first time it has gotten this far. DOGAMI and partner agencies are now drafting permits or crafting permit conditions for submission to DOGAMI, who will then review the draft permits and permit conditions to verify there are no contradictory conditions and take the lead on drafting an overarching Consolidated Permit. The permit will go out for public hearing. There is a 1 year permit drafting clock that the permit must either be issued or denied. This clock may be interrupted due to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) performing a parallel Environmental Impact Statement required by the NEPA process. The BLM project must be completed before DOGAMI can issue a permit. Lewis is committed to meeting the 225 day clock if at all possible. Dr. Adam Bonin will assist with the Grassy Mountain Project management while Dayne Doucet, the Consolidated Mining Permit Lead, is on extended leave. He has extensive history with the project and worked with Lewis prior to MLRR having a dedicated position.

Chair Kozlowski said it is excellent progress on the Grassy Mountain project.

Dittrich asked Lewis if she knew why there was a decrease in permit applications, if there is a concrete timeline on ePermitting, and what would it mean if BLM comes to a different result with NEPA. Lewis explained DOGAMI has stayed in close contact with BLM and are aware of alternatives being considered that might make changes to the project. At this time they do not see a significant change to the project operations. BLM is considering a change in the road access to the project, which would require the applicant to revise their permit with the State to reflect that change, so there is a risk in the State moving forward without BLM having finished their project. The applicant and all parties are aware and have decided this is the most appropriate way to proceed at this time. As for the decrease in applications received, it does fluctuate month to month and MLRR often sees an increase in the winter months and not the fall, and due to timing of getting permits through, many permittees have several permits and applications waiting to be processed and are not likely to submit new ones. MLRR is seeing an impact to industry due to the Program's small size and inability to process those permits. Regarding ePermitting, Lewis appreciates the coordination the Agency has had with DEQ. They are diligently updating their timing and have identified resources available to the Program, starting as early as March of 2025. DOGAMI has had work to do regarding the special procurement and getting vendor contracts in place. She is hopeful it will be completed in the next biennium, but there are a lot of unknowns.

Briefing: **No Board Action Required.**

11) GS&S Update:

Jason McClaughry, GS&S Program Manager, provided the GS&S program update. The Board Packet contained the extensive report on all the activities for GS&S.

Chair Kozlowski expressed to McClaughry that the write up this time was really excellent, the changes he made were very informative and helpful.

Publications:

The Agency has published 15 reports so far and there are 13 in the queue. They will not all get released by the end of 2024 but will be by the first quarter of 2025. There are a variety of reports reflective of the different types of projects the Program works on. It also shows the amount of grant activity and work that is being done to get this information out. As a result, a contract person is being added to help Lopez get the reports out faster to the public.

Grants:

Out of the robust list of grants, McClaughry focused on the grants from the US Geological Survey (USGS).

The USGS STATEMAP Program is the major funder of DOGAMI's geologic mapping program and has been since 1992. This year's proposal is the largest that will be submitted in the 30+ year history at \$1.6M. It continues looking at geologic mapping in the Harney Basin and it Walla Walla Basin in northeast Oregon. Both are areas of interest for groundwater studies and issues that continue to plague those areas. In northeast Oregon there is a major earthquake potential zone along the Wallula Fault Zone that will be looked at for the hazard potential along those faults. The other project added this year is updating Oregon's Quaternary Fault and full database, this will be a statewide map showing potentially active faults, which has not been updated by the USGS since 2018. It is essential information used in assessments of locating statewide facilities.

The USGS Data Preservation Program helps archive historical data that is important to modern analyses and science the Agency does. The Agency has been updating the mineral information layer for Oregon, which is the locations of the historic mine sites across the state, adding about 25,000 sites last year along with the historic DOGAMI chemical data. From 1937 to 1985, as part of the original legislation, DOGAMI gave two free analyses to folks around the state, generating about 30,000 analyses that were to be released to the public. The most recent version of MILO to be released in early 2025 will contain 15,000 of those analyses as part of the data, and the next proposal will be to add in 10,000. The MILO database reveals that in Oregon's historic past of mineral exploration, the State has at least 24 of the 50 critical minerals that the USGS and US Department of Energy list as important to the nation, and the assays so far suggest that at least another 13 additional minerals may be present that were not listed as commodities in original mining reports put into MILO.

The USGS Landslide Hazards Program is a newly created program in the USGS, and DOGAMI was successful in getting a grant last year, which was the first year to participate. The project being proposed continues with doing critical landslide mapping in the Mount Hood corridor and adding additional points where post fire debris flows have been occurring in select areas in Western Oregon. This program is helping DOGAMI bring in interns to help move that mapping along and also teaching the next generation of hazard mappers. He stated Natalie Culhane, a master's candidate at Portland State University (PSU), has joined the team, and they anticipate adding another one or two interns to the Program in this second round.

These three grants were in Legislative Committee this week and passed Full Committee this morning, the Agency can now proceed to submit them. In addition to these grants, the Program will submit proposals for the annual FEMA Cooperative Technical Partners (CTP) grant and the third round of the USGS Earth MRI Program.

McClaghry wrapped up by talking about the GSA annual meeting held in Anaheim, where 12 DOGAMI staff attended and the GS&S group gave 11 different scientific presentations at the conference. He shared pictures from the GSA event, field work of an investigative trench being dug in Umatilla County, and outreach at a Girl Scout Science , Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) event.

Chair Kozlowski stated it was an amazing report.

Vice-Chair MacDonald said this is great outreach, and was particularly heartened to see DOGAMI at the Girl Scout STEM day because it is a wonderful way to boost the visibility of the Agency to an audience that does not necessarily see it often.

Dittrich asked what getting material out to the public means and what does it entail. McClaghry answered it is based on the projects being completed and what the publication format will be. He explained the process for publications, that once completed the publications are posted to the website and released.

Dittrich asked what the job market is like for geologist and if it is easy to find people. McClaghry said it depends on the type of recruitment. Over the last 2 to 3 years, the Agency has recruited and hired for about eight different positions. The Agency has had high interest and drawn in some exceptional candidates.

Day-Stirrat added that what McClaghry outlined is the Agency's base scientific approach and the detail is put into the public domain. The goal is to be forward thinking about how to communicate with the public better about what DOGAMI does, and make the outreach material more accessible and understandable for non-scientists. The Agency has been increasingly writing outreach and engagement into the Federal grants. Vice-Chair MacDonald asked if identifying audiences and opportunities is something the Board can help with. Day-Stirrat answered yes and having a conversation about methods and modes of communication would be useful.

Briefing: No Board Action Required.

A brief conversation took place regarding the Natural Resources Directors meeting that Vice-Chair MacDonald and McClaghry attended. McClaghry said there was a lot of discussion around how agencies could collaborate together more on common points where natural resource agencies might support each other and move each other's missions forward in a positive direction. As DOGAMI's Tribal Liaison, he found the presentation from the Umatilla Confederated Tribes on their First Foods Program engaging. There are touch points that are common ground between DOGAMI and the Tribal Nations, that the Agency has already connected with them about and are working on. Vice-Chair MacDonald added that DOGAMI does already reach out to other State agencies but on a project by project basis rather than as a collective, and there is an opportunity to raise the visibility of DOGAMI amongst other natural resource agencies to help them understand how the Agency can assist with problems or issues they have. Chair Kozlowski said this was very productive and thanked Huntington for pulling it together.

12) Public Comment:

Only written comments received prior to or by 12:10 p.m. on the day of the meeting were to be accepted. Chair Kozlowski asked for any written public comments. No public comments.

13) Board Adjourn:

Chair Kozlowski adjourned the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

APPROVED


Linda Kozlowski, Chair