

Oregon Global Warming Commission

Oregon State Library
Rooms 102/103
250 Winter Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301
October 31, 2008
9 AM – 4:00 PM

NOTE: An audio recording of this meeting is available on the web site and is the official record of this meeting.

Present at Meeting:

Commission

Angus Duncan, Chair; Mark Abbott and Jim Rue, vice-Chairs
Peggy Fowler, Katy Coba, Dick Pedersen, Lee Beyer, Secretary of State Bill Bradbury, Bishop David Brauer-Riekie, Phil Ward, Mel Kohn, Andrea Durbin, Matt Donegan, Jill Eiland, Russ Hoeflich, Gregg Kantor, Eric Lemelson, Senator Alan Bates

Via conference call: N/A

Commission Members Alternates

Andrew Yost from the Oregon Department of Forestry, Jerri Bohard from Oregon Department of Transportation, Suzanne Veaudry Casaus for Secretary Bradbury, Annette Price from Port of Portland

Other Attendees

Bill Drumheller, David Van't Hof, Kathy Shinn, Linda Ross, Sven Anderson, Vijay Satyal, Phil Carver, Michael Riley, Peter Murchie, Sara O'Brien, Tom O'Connor, Frank Holmes, Dan James, John Audley, April Snell, Sara O'Brien, Wendy Simons

Agenda item #1 – Approved minutes of 9/16/08 meeting with minor updates – adjusted AM to PM

Started with Informational Agenda Item # 3 - update from Governor's office regarding Governor's Climate Mitigation package. Dave Vanthof provided the update. Details available at:

http://governor.oregon.gov/Gov/pdf/climage_change_agenda_1008.pdf

Input was secured from various working groups (EEWG, REWG, CCIG) & WCI. Assumption by Governor's office that there will be adjustments made to the package. Angus said that the Commission and subcommittees can weigh-in and that can be worked in at the 11/18/08 meeting. Discussion about the need to work on coordinated effort, with other states, on climate change mitigation & adaptation research. Consider options for pursuing funds other than state funds for research. Angus – OGWC still very new and finding its way in terms of working with the Governor's office.

Process items –

Item #2 - continue discussion on OGWC principles – paragraph A – change 'current' to 'best available'; L – perhaps too sweeping; something to continue to consider – change to aspirational goal – “Oregon citizens and business will strive...” Annette, Andrea and Jill will craft language – finalizing principles postponed to 11/18

Item #3 - Resolution 004 - Rapid turn-around responses – discussion, desire by Commission members to be consistent and avoid individuals speaking for themselves while appearing to be speaking for the entire

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Commission, as possible determine Commission stand in-advance, speaking with a uniform voice will be critical in terms of the viability of the Commission. Decision – will re-write and circulate at next meeting.

Item #4 – Resolution 3-001 regarding proposal from Agriculture Sub-Committee; adopted

Item #5 – skipped

Item #6 - Mark Abbott introduced two reports from the Science & Technology Committee

break

Action Items -

Item #1 - Resolution 002 regarding recommendations of the Energy Efficiency Working Group - remove paragraph on 2nd page about Financing and Incentives; substitute new language (handed-out at meeting) for the Standards and Regulations paragraph; insertion in first paragraph after “(EEWG)”, “and adopted by the Governor into his Climate Change Package”; add under Qualifications on 2nd page – Workforce Training - “Workforce development and creation of green jobs should be a key item considered by the 2009 legislature.” - approved unanimously with modifications

Item #2 - Resolution 003 regarding recommendation of the Renewable Energy Working Group – insertion in first paragraph after “(REWG)”, “and adopted by the Governor into his Climate Change Package” and add under Qualifications Workforce Training - “Workforce development and creation of green jobs should be a key item considered by the 2009 legislature.” - approved with amendments

Item #3 - Resolution 005 regarding Governor’s Transportation Vision Committee - insertion in first paragraph after “Committee”, “and adopted by the Governor into his Climate Change Package”; item 15 – insert “and least carbon equivalent” after “cost”; item #9 – delete “in an amount equal to at least 15% of state lottery proceeds.”; add “Support Connect 3 funding for investment in...”; approved with amendments

Item #4 – Resolution 006 regarding recommendation of the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission – deferred action in order to allow Commission members to review letter with intent to take action at 11/18/08 meeting.

Item #5 – Regarding OGWC budget request to the legislature – discussion that funding is needed for economic analysis and is not included in draft proposal; discussion that amount proposed was embarrassingly low for a Commission charged with dealing with climate change; Greg, Matt and Eric formed ad-hoc committee to meet during lunch and come back with recommended modifications to proposed budget.

Lunch

Discussion Item #2 - Draft report from the Sub-committee of the Natural Resources Committee on Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Adaptation - Sarah O’Brien; more information will be provided at 11/18/08 meeting; discussion around monitoring – request to review and comment on draft

Back to Action Item #5 - Budget – ad-hoc committee recommended - \$75K (up from \$50K) for website development for a one-time amount and one-time \$100K for economic modeling & analysis via outside consultants, allocated to year one; and then a new category of Grant Writer – 1 FTE @ \$100K annually –

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with the proviso that the originally proposed FTE would be designated specifically for OGWC support other than grant writing; total \$661K/biennium. OGWC needs to look for opportunities to leverage funds. Discussion regarding using contract for grant writing vs. FTE. Concern expressed regarding the need for web maintenance; beyond initial website development. Ultimately decision to modify budget to \$75K for first year for website development and \$50K for 2nd year for maintenance. New total of \$711K – adopted “for now” with openness to revisit as needed.

Informational Items -

Item #1 – Regarding prioritization of decisions and actions; initial proposal – hand-out given at meeting; bring back to 11/18 meeting for discussion. Comment that “reducing greenhouse gas emissions” includes increasing offsets.

Item #3 – (taken out of order) Mark Abbott provided an update indicating that they were on the verge of selecting a Director for the Climate Change Research Institute.

Item #2 - Dave Vanthof provided an update on the Western Climate Initiative (WCI) process – meeting monthly, initial design is out; effective date of WCI is 2012; working out the details of how each jurisdiction will comply; planning to have procedures document out in December; Governor’s Climate Change package supports movement towards meeting goals of WCI; legislative paths – getting DEQ/EQC authority in the 2009 session to implement a cap and trade program; public process to vet the process; looking to bring specific program back to the legislature in 2011.

Discussion Items -

Item #1 – Communication/Outreach Committee – pursuing opportunities that don’t require any money; working with ODOE staff to provide report to legislature on OGWC status/progress/activities; will be putting out a matrix of planned outreach in the next couple of days; initial report to the legislature will be concise, 2nd report will be in March 2009 and will be more in-depth; Bill Drumheller facilitate a discussion about what should be included in the report – how far has Oregon come in addressing climate change goals? How will OGWC facilitate progress towards those goals? What essential next steps should the legislature focus on in terms of the perspective of the OGWC? Question: Does the OGWC need to argue, to the legislature that climate change is occurring? Response: No. But, it would be good to provide some specific examples of climate change impacts in the report. Recommendation that the reports be concise – put recommendations first; primary audience is the legislature but also reporters. Include economic benefits of acting sooner than later in spite of the economic situation. Angus hoping to incorporate EcoNorthwest report; Concern expressed that OGWC needs to be clear about who the audience is for the outreach – in order to best determine how to reach them. Comment that OGWC Committee structure helps identify what the OGWC goals are – designated committees represent direction/goals of the Commission; revisit as this report is developed.

Item #3 – (Item #2 covered above) - Water Subcommittee work pushed back to Natural Resources Committee in order to get a package put together for the legislature.

Angus had two additional hand-outs – 1) was a matrix to give a report to the Gov’s office indicating what the OGWC ’08 agenda was; 2) first cut at 2009 agenda for commission might look like – invited feedback

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Question asked regarding what the 11/18/08 meeting will cover – recommendations from Natural Resources Committee; EUSS position on WCI resolution; items unfinished from 10/31 meeting

Public comment:

April Snell, Assistant Director of Oregon Water Resources Council – applauded efforts of the OGWC, particularly of the Natural Resource Committee and its subcommittees. In preparation for 11/18 meeting, April expressed a need to consider impacts of budget shortfalls, particularly on water. The natural resources agencies will be fighting to keep their people and they are likely to lose staff. Water supply is critical and we will need to look at different ways of storing and accessing that water; need to continue to support the Agriculture industry; help the natural resource agencies keep their people.

Meeting adjourned.