

**Oregon Telecommunications Coordinating Council**  
**Minutes**  
**May 22, 2008**

**Attendees:**

Council Members: John Irwin, Pam Berrian, Agnes Box, Rob Myers, Ed Parker, Curt Pederson, Phil Barker representing Marlyn Schafer, Michael Weidman, Paul Zastrow, Doug Cooley.

Staff: Chris Tamarin of the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department

Others: Shelley Jones of the Oregon Public Utility Commission, John Stadter of First Call Resolution, Andrea Fogue of the League of Oregon Cities, Jon Dolan of Oregon State University, Cheri Rhinhart and Tom Hutchinson of Umatilla-Morrow ESD, Tammy Hedrick of the Oregon Government Ethics Commission, and Al Grapoli of the State Data Center.

Remote videoconference sites included Eugene, Klamath Falls, Medford, and Pendleton.

**Old Business:**

Paul Zastrow moved that the April 24, 2008 minutes be approved as distributed. Doug Cooley seconded the motion. The Council approved the minutes.

**New Business:**

New Oregon Enterprise Network

Al Grapoli provided the council with an update on the new State of Oregon Enterprise Network. He noted that new service agreements have been negotiated with telecommunications service providers including Inland (northeast), Qwest, Douglas FastNet, Bend Cable, and LS Networks. Additional service agreements are pending with additional carriers to provide new alternative services. Al said that this will enable the state to work with multiple providers to build out the new network. Al noted another significant development; the negotiation of co-location agreements with Qwest for central offices in Roseburg, Medford, Klamath Falls, and Pendleton and that state equipment will be placed in those locations. This will enable the state to implement a Gigabit Ethernet ring in the western and central parts of the state. The "GigE" backbone ring will include points of presence (PoPs) in Portland, The Dalles, Bend, Klamath Falls, Medford, Roseburg, Eugene, and Salem and should be in service in about ninety days. Spur circuits off the ring will extend to Pendleton, La Grande, Burns and White City. The state is also exploring additional PoPs in Ontario and on the coast (Astoria and Coos Bay have the most requests for high bandwidth service). Al said that DAS is moving to replace all end-of-life equipment and any equipment with chronic problems with the goal of providing greater availability and security / intrusion prevention on the network. The plan is to extend high capacity Ethernet connectivity to the end-users on the network.

This is being done with fiber where available and with bonded T1s. Al said that a voice-over-IP application is also being evaluated.

Curt Pederson asked about the expansion of videoconferencing services given the rapidly rising cost of gasoline and travel. Al agreed that this should be a growing user application that will be more easily cost justified and noted that DHS already has about forty-eight videoconference locations. John Irwin observed that as the cost of fuel is rising, cost per megabit is declining. Curt Pederson asked about the status of the network consolidation project. Al replied that all network management for the agencies located in the State Data Center has now been consolidated.

John Irwin thanked Al for the update and congratulated him on the progress. Curt Pederson offered kudos for the significant work being done and the expected service improvements.

#### Oregon Government Ethics Laws Overview

Tammy Hedrick of the Oregon Government Ethics Commission presented an overview of Oregon government ethics law and the requirements and obligations of members serving on Oregon State appointed boards and councils.

For information on this topic contact the Oregon Government Ethics Commission

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FAX: 503-373-1456  
E-mail: [ogec.mail@state.or.us](mailto:ogec.mail@state.or.us)  
Website: [www.oregon.gov/ogec](http://www.oregon.gov/ogec)

#### Public Safety Communications

John Irwin reported that Edouard Dervichian of Swissphone in Switzerland will be in Oregon next month and asked if the Council would be interested in having Edouard make a thirty-minute presentation in the June meeting. Swissphone's goal is to make efficient and easy-to-use communication tools for emergency responders. Edouard has been studying the way public safety is being transformed into homeland security in the United States and in other industrialized countries. Curt asked John to invite Edouard to attend the June meeting and present his ideas.

#### Framing an Oregon Broadband Policy

John Irwin followed up on the discussion of this topic from last month's meeting to identify next steps. John asked about the option of forming a new committee to work on this initiative or whether the Council should work on the initiative within the existing committee structure. Agnes asked if this might not be an assignment for an ad hoc committee under the Infrastructure Committee. John responded that the Infrastructure Committee should be involved but it has been his observation that broadband policies based solely on infrastructure have largely failed. He would like to see a more balanced approach that includes elements of both supply and demand.

Andrea Fogue suggested that as a policy recommendation the Legislative Committee should be involved.

John asked about holding a statewide roundtable discussion of broadband policy in the June Council meeting. Andrea said that broadband policy issues are very important to the League of Oregon Cities and are currently being discussed within that organization. Pam Berrian suggested that the June meeting is too soon to convene a roundtable. Michael Weidman agreed that the issue of broadband policy is beyond the scope of any individual committee, e.g., infrastructure or legislative. He would support the ad hoc approach and agreed with Pam that a June roundtable would be a very aggressive timeline. Perhaps the roundtable could be scheduled for July. Pam noted that each member of the council represents other groups and organizations and asked that each member contribute any official findings and positions of their respective organizations to the ORTCC for review and discussion. John will continue to be the collecting point for information and materials and the topic will be discussed further in the June meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

John Irwin noted that the Council will need to see drafts of any recommendations or 2009 legislative concepts from the committees in the August timeframe.

#### Education

Curt Pederson reported that a committee has been organized. The committee co-chair is Karen Helland of Workforce Development at Southwest Oregon Community College. Other committee members include Jim Saffeels, Vice Principal of Roberts High School in Salem, Lisa Templeton of Oregon State University Director of E-Campus, Steve Nelson of the Oregon Department of Education, and Paul Zastrow. Curt will report on the committee's progress.

#### Healthcare / Telehealth Reimbursement

Ed Parker reported that an Oregon Health Network 501(c)(3) corporation and organization is being established.

Kim Hoffman and Cathy Britain are attending a telehealth reimbursement meeting that is in session concurrently with this ORTCC meeting.

#### Infrastructure

Ed Parker reported on infrastructure developments related to the Oregon Health Network project. Oregon has an opportunity to bring over \$20 million in Universal Service Funds to the state for the installation and utilization of broadband infrastructure by healthcare service providers and educators. A Request for Proposal should be released soon.

## **Public Input**

Chris Tamarin reported that this year's Oregon Connections Telecommunications Conference [www.oregonconnections.info](http://www.oregonconnections.info) is scheduled for October 16 and 17 in Newport. The keynote speaker will be Vinton Cerf, Vice President and Chief Internet Evangelist – Google. Chris reported that Dr. Cerf's address will be followed by a plenary session panel discussion on broadband public policy. The panel will include Vinton Cerf, David Nelson – Oregon State Senator, Nancy Hamilton – Deputy Chief of Staff Office of the Governor, Ray Baum – Oregon Public Utility Commission, Mary Beth Henry – City of Portland / President, National Association of Telecommunications Officers & Advisors (NATOA), Eric Schmidt – Association of Oregon Counties, Rich Bader – CEO EasyStreet Online Services, Judy Pepler – Oregon President of Qwest, and Craig Watson - Vice President Charter Communications. Senator Ron Wyden has also been invited, but is not confirmed. Chris indicated that a press release on the conference is scheduled for the first week in June.

Pam Berrian asked about the status of the Oregon SB13 Broadband Report. Chris said that the report is due every two years and that the first report was issued in January 2007. He expected that the next report would be issued before the 2009 Legislative Assembly, probably in January 2009. Chris suggested that the Broadband Report would be an excellent opportunity to collect any data that people might be interested in that were not included in the first report. Pam said that she would like to see a different methodology used for data collection this time around. Pam will contact the PUC for their plans and to ask how to proceed and support the effort.

## **Other Reports**

*Century Tel:* Doug Cooley reported that DSL deployment continues in rural areas of the state. He also reported that a microwave tower in Pilot Rock was knocked down by wind and will be rebuilt. Doug noted that the Oregon Telecommunications Association will be holding its annual meeting next week in conjunction with telephone companies from Washington State.

*LS Networks:* Michael Weidman reported that network service to Astoria will be established in the coming weeks and will have diverse routing in ninety days. This will provide connectivity from Astoria down to Bandon with multiple redundant network routes to the valley. Michael reported that it is a matter of public record that LS Networks will be building a seventy-one-location network for the Oregon Justice Department. This will further improve the state's telecommunications infrastructure and increase service availability to locations throughout the state.

*Internet2:* Curt Pederson reported that the University of Oregon and Oregon State University GigaPoP has been moved from Eugene to Portland and is being upgraded from 1 Gbps to 2 Gbps. Curt noted that discussions are underway with Portland State University and Oregon Health and Science University about connecting to Internet2 in Portland rather than Seattle, and subsequent plans to go to 10 Gbps in the future.

*Legislative Fiscal Office Information Technology Principal Analyst:* Curt Pederson reported that a new permanent position, authorized during the 2007 legislative session, provides LFO with enhanced ability to: monitor and review statewide & agency-specific information management, technology projects, and issues. Bob Cummings, formerly from California Legislative Assembly, has been appointed to the position and will be responsible for assisting the office in developing and presenting policy & budget recommendations on IT-related projects and issues. Curt suggested that Bob Cummings be invited to the next ORTCC meeting.

**Meeting Schedule:**

The council will meet next on Thursday, June 26, 2008 in the Mt. Neahkahnie Conference Room, 1225 Ferry Street SE, Salem, Oregon 97301. Meeting information including the 2008 Schedule will be updated and posted on the Council website at [www.ortcc.org](http://www.ortcc.org).

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