

Prince William Sound Oil Spill Recovery Institute Advisory Board Fall 2008 Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 20, 2008

Cordova Public Library Meeting Room, Cordova, Alaska

	The meeting was called to order about 10:25 a.m.
Roll Call & Welcome	<p>OSRI Board members present: John Calder, Douglas Mutter, Bob Mattson, Carol Fries, Mark Fink, Susan Saupe, Joe Banta, Glenn Ujioka and Chuck Meacham. Alternate member present: Mark Wagner participated for Capt. Michael Inman.</p> <p>Participation via teleconference: Doug Lentsch and John Goering. Absent: Bill Lindow, George Levasseur and Pete Kompkoff. Staff present: Nancy Bird, Penny Oswald, and Scott Pegau. Recorder: Penny Oswald.</p> <p>Calder welcomed new and alternate Board members Mattson and Wagner.</p>
Agenda Approval	The meeting agenda was approved without objection. Motion by Fries , seconded by Mutter.
Public Comments	There were no public comments.
Approval of 2007 Minutes Motion to Approve 2007 Minutes	<p>Approval of February 15, 2008 Minutes: A correction was noted in the section amending the bylaws: Article V, Section 5 of the bylaws should be corrected to read as follows:</p> <p>Article V. Officers of the Advisory Board Section 5. Treasurer. The Board shall elect the Treasurer for a two-year term. The duties of the Treasurer shall include:</p> <p>(A) Oversight and review of the audit and <u>financial</u> recordkeeping functions of the Institute including the annual audit;</p> <p>MOTION to Approve February 15, 2008 minutes as corrected: Motion by Banta, seconded by Saupe. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
Chair's Report	Calder reported that the Arctic Council has now completed the Arctic Marine Assessment Project and the executive summary of this report includes about 60 recommendations. He encouraged the OSRI Board to review these; they are posted at the website at www.amap.no . He also noted that Dennis Thurston (Minerals Management Service/Anchorage) has the full report, and that Anne Heinrich is now the U.S. Representative to the Emergency Preparedness, Prevention and Response (EPPR), a branch of the Arctic Council.

<p>Executive Director's Report</p>	<p>Bird highlighted issues discussed in her written report (Attachment 1).</p> <p><u>Action Item</u> – Bird will send her performance review by the Executive Committee of the Prince William Sound Science Center Board to the OSRI Executive Committee; it is expected to be completed this week. She will also send Board members a form previously used by OSRI's Board for review of her role as OSRI Executive Director. The OSRI Executive Committee may then choose to schedule its own review session with Bird, perhaps in conjunction with the Feb. 6, 2009 Board meeting (in Anchorage), or via teleconference.</p>
<p>Research Program Manager's Report</p>	<p>W. Scott Pegau updated the Board on projects conducted during the 2008 fiscal year which ended Sept. 30, 2008. His written Research Manager's report (Attachment 2) provides highlights of almost all projects OSRI provided contract or other support to during the past year.</p>
<p>Finance Committee Report</p>	<p>Treasurer Carol Fries asked staff to highlight the 4th Quarter report for FY08. Oswalt said the report, in contrast to prior years, is closer to a year-end report because of the later Board meeting date. She noted that the FY08 budget was under-spent by about \$100,000, similar to prior years. Total funds available as of 9/30/08 are \$2.117 million of which \$793,480 are encumbered, leaving approximately \$1.324 million available to spend on projects in future years.</p>
<p>FY09 Work Plan</p>	<p>Scott Pegau provided a brief overview of the proposed work plan. The layout of this year's plan is different from prior years in that new projects are described in Section II and prior year projects which are continuing are described in Section III. A summary table for all projects and the proposed budgets is included on page 24 with comparison to the Five-Year Science Plan's budget figures. The proposed FY09 total program budget is \$920,000 (for comparison, the FY08 total program budget was \$960,800). Detailed discussion of each goal area and projects within those goals will follow a lunch break.</p>
<p>Lunch</p>	<p>Meeting recessed for lunch from about noon to 12:50 p.m.</p>
<p>Proposed FY09 Work Plan Detailed Review by Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Understand 	<p>Pegau reviewed page-by-page the proposed work plan. Questions/discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The SnoTel station data is being used for validation purposes by Dr. Peter Olsson for the RAMS and WRF atmospheric models. ▪ Hydrographic surveys will continue as a component of the oceanography project. A new oceanographic related component supported by the Alaska Ocean Observing System entails

	<p>deployment of nearshore moorings at 4 or 5 locations in Prince William Sound. Fluorescence data collection is now occurring at Port San Juan and will be expanded to Esther Bay and Tatitlek in 2009. This data will be used for validation of the Nutrient-Plankton-Zooplankton model now in development by Dr. Fei Chai the University of Maine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2009 model validation / demonstration project is planned to occur in late July and early August. Website at www.aos.org/fieldexp/index.html includes numerous powerpoint presentations by the principal investigators participating in this project. Dr. Carl Schoch is the project leader and both Scott Pegau and Nancy Bird are members of the planning team.
Lunch	Meeting recessed for lunch from about noon to 12:40 p.m.
Understand - Continuation	<p>Review of the proposed FY09 work plan continued from page 9, Biological Science Programs. Discussion / questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The paragraph describing the research needs for rockfish habitat association (page 10) was discussed. Clarification was suggested regarding the sentence stating “The recovery of rockfish in PWS from the EVOS is considered unknown.” It was suggested that it’s misleading to think this project can/will resolve this issue. ▪ Several Board members expressed strong interest in supporting a NPZ model validation project because of the upcoming 2009 demonstration project. ▪ In discussion of the atmospheric circulation modeling, it was emphasized that the P.I. should be active in evaluation of the model, not just running it. It was also noted that OSRI’s support for these models is complemented by AOOS and Cook Inlet RCAC. There is continuing concern about finding ongoing support for these atmospheric models through an entity like the National Weather Service. Pegau said he will follow up on this.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Respond 	<p>Pegau summarized 10 potential research topics for partnerships with other government, university or private entities (pages 13-14). He commented that this area is exciting and offers a lot of opportunities for great projects.</p> <p>Lentsch said a past OSRI partnership project - the drum skimmer disc with a textured surface - holds a lot of promise and is expected to be tested in ice in 2009.</p> <p>Discussion of the Joint Industry Program (JIP), a largely oil industry funded project to conduct multiple real oil spill experiments in the</p>

	<p>Norwegian Sea in both 2008 and 2009. OSRI is participating as a minor contributor in a joint project with the Coastal Response Research Center (\$18K) and also is budgeting \$27K for unanticipated logistical costs and/or travel for OSRI representatives to observe these experiments.</p> <p>Pegau noted that the 2009 model validation experiment is now planned to be only in the late summer (and not also in the spring as the draft workplan currently states) and he will modify/correct the workplan. \$50K is budgeted in FY09 for vessel charter to deploy and recover the drifter buoys, assist with collection of the hydrographic data and with preliminary evaluation of the models' performance. Discussion ensued as to whether this will be issued as a RFP, as recommended by Pegau; and also, further clarification that AOOS (Carl Schoch) is the experiment's project leader. There was also clarification and discussion as to funds for more detailed analysis of the experiment; Pegau intends to include additional funds for this purpose in the FY10 workplan.</p> <p>Further discussion regarding this project's relationship to the oceanographic project run by PWSSC and whether the PWSSC oceanographer could be deploying the buoys for the experiment. Pegau said that while that could be the case, he tries to write the workplan up as individual projects. Consensus reached to give the staff the flexibility to allocate the \$50K for logistical and other purposes that will benefit the experiment, and to assume that the PWSSC oceanographer will be the person on board vessels during the experiment for deploying drifters, etc.</p> <p>Pegau noted that the FY09 work plan does not include continuing funds for the InnoCentive challenge for solutions. There are several challenges still pending from FY08 funds, and Pegau also wants to take time this winter to evaluate the program and solutions received to date. It may be time to try some actual field test challenges which will be more expensive to offer. Review of this program will likely be an agenda item at the next meeting.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inform 	<p>The FY09 workplan provides continued support for the Discovery Room programs of the PWSSC. Pegau noted that these programs are changing to incorporate more fieldtrips and technology related activities such as a project co-funded by EPA that involves sixth grade students in building a device for oil pollution cleanup in the local harbor. Support for summer camp programs is also included in the FY09 workplan. One product requested in the coming year through community outreach programs is a tri-fold brochure focusing on the 20-year anniversary of the Exxon Valdez oil spill and changes since that event. A second publication will be a "State of the Sound" status report,</p>

	<p>probably in a newspaper or brochure type format. Additional “Inform” programs include support for the National Ocean Sciences Bowl and assistance in coaching of three Cordova High School teams.</p> <p>Scholarships and fellowships included in the FY09 workplan are to continue a technology scholarship and internship at Kenai Peninsula Community College and two graduate level fellowships. One of these fellowships is a continuation for Matthew Druckenmiller’s work through the University of Alaska Fairbanks focused on “Promoting Sustainable Oil and Gas Development on Alaska’s North Slope through Local-Scale Integration of Geophysical and Traditional Knowledge.” The second is to support the conclusion of Kaitlin Ott’s graduate work at the University of Wyoming on the Assessment of River Otter Recovery (in PWS).</p> <p>Workshop support is included in the FY09 work plan for both the Alaska Marine Symposium (in late January) and the Alaska Forum on the Environment (in early February). Pegau noted that special sessions are being organized at the Forum on the Environment related to the EVOS 20-year anniversary. He also described a museum exhibit called “Darkened Waters” which the FY09 work plan includes for revision and updating in light of the 20th anniversary of EVOS. This traveling segment of the exhibit was originally designed by the Pratt Museum (of Homer) with ownership of the traveling segment being given to the Cordova Museum a few years ago. The EVOS Trustee Council is also supporting the retrieval and updating of this exhibit in time for its display at the Alaska Forum on the Environment. Finally, funds are included for website support and publication of an annual report.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Other Programs 	<p>Support is included in the FY09 work plan for the Research Program Manager’s position, travel and some computer software. Additionally, travel funds are included for the Scientific and Technical Committee to meet for development of the next Science Plan and also for other travel to observe JIP or other OSRI-related programs.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prior Year Projects 	<p>Pegau reviewed all projects which were approved for work in the prior year (FY08) and which are continuing into FY09. These are detailed in Section III of the proposed FY09 work plan.</p>
<p>Break</p>	<p>Afternoon break, 15 minutes</p>
<p>Board comments on proposed FY09 work plan</p>	<p>In discussion of the proposed FY09 work plan, there was discussion as to the percentage of projects for which proposal solicitations will be issued. Since this work plan is based on the 5-year Science Plan and includes many continuing projects, there will only be a few RFP’s issued for FY09. It was noted that an overall review of programs may</p>

	<p>be appropriate and timely before adoption of the next five-year science plan. There was also some discussion on the reserve funds with general consensus that the next 5-year science plan focus on a sustainable science program and also assure that the focus of programs remains in alignment with OSRI's mission.</p> <p>Consensus reached to include a segment of time during the February Board meeting for discussion of the new Science Plan. Pegau would like broad guidance first from the Advisory Board to take to the STC, then get the STC to prepare a first draft document which would be brought back to the Advisory Board for further direction.</p>
<p>FY09 Budget</p>	<p>Oswalt and Bird briefly summarized the proposed budget.</p> <p><u>Action item:</u> Several Board members asked to always include the spreadsheet previously prepared which shows the status of individual contracts, balance of payments made and reports received.</p> <p>Motion by Mutter, seconded by Meacham to approve the FY09 Work Plan and the FY09 Budget, as presented with minor modifications to the text describing rockfish habitat association (pg. 10), the model validation experiment description (pg. 17), and a replacement of Dr. John Harper's name with a website (pg. 26). Motion passed without objection.</p>
<p>Strategic Plan</p>	<p>Pegau presented the revised strategic plan through powerpoint slides and discussion ensued on various revisions to the Mission statement and the Understand goal statement. Consensus reached to adopt the revised strategic plan as amended and attached to these minutes (Attachment 3).</p> <p>Motion by Saupe, seconded by Mutter. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p>Grant Policy Manual</p>	<p>Bird and Pegau read the two-page highlights of revisions they recommend be adopted for the Grant Policy Manual. Discussion ensued on the section regarding scientific misconduct.</p> <p>Motion by Meacham, seconded by Banta to approve the revised Grant Policy Manual as presented with two exceptions: (1) that the proposed change to the chapter regarding a formal investigation by OSRI for scientific misconduct (old Chapter 11/new chapter 10) is not accepted/approved, and (2) that the proposed deletion of advertising OSRI grant solicitations in the Commerce Business Daily is also not approved. Motion passed without objection.</p>

Calendar	Review calendar/schedule for committee and Board meetings:
Board Comments	Mutter reported that there may be an opportunity for OSRI to contribute research project results and other materials about our region to a nationwide network of kiosks. He learned about this nationwide project of kiosks that were developed as part of the Smithsonian Ocean Hall that were being brought to Alaska by Coast America. He stated that there would be opportunities to develop short video clips to add to the kiosks to present locally important issues.
Adjournment	Motion by Saupe, seconded by Fries to adjourn the meeting at about 4pm.

These minutes were reviewed and approved by the Advisory Board on
