

Prince William Sound Oil Spill Recovery Institute Advisory Board *Draft* Spring 2008 Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2008

The Egan Center, Anchorage, Alaska

Roll Call	<p>No new members for orientation.</p> <p>OSRI Board present: John Calder, Douglas Mutter, Leslie Pearson, Carol Fries, Mark Fink, Bill Lindow, George Levasseur, Doug Lentsch, Joe Banta, John Goering, Glenn Ujioka and Chuck Meacham</p> <p>Participation via teleconference: Sue Saupe (beginning 10:40 am)</p> <p>Absent: Capt. Steve Hudson, Pete Kompkoff (arrived at 3:30pm).</p> <p>Staff present: Nancy Bird, Penny Oswalt, and Scott Pegau.</p> <p>Recorder: Penny Oswalt Transcript: N. DiNapoli</p>
Agenda Approval	The meeting agenda was accepted without modification.
Public Comments	There were no public comments.
Approval of 2007 Minutes	Approval of February 16, 2007 and September 24, 2007 Minutes: No modifications were suggested.
Motion to Approve 2007 Minutes	MOTION to Approve both February 2007 and September 2007 Minutes: Motion by Lindow, seconded by Fink to approve the minutes of Feb. 16, 2007 and Sept. 24, 2007. The motion passed unanimously.
Chair's Report	<p>Calder talked about efforts to organize the federal focal point for Ocean Observations. There are three entities sharing a floor of offices: IOOS (Interagency Ocean Observation System), the Climate Observations Division office and Oceans.US. He recommended board members visit the Arctic Marine Assessment Project website at www.amap.no and review Chapters 3 and 7 of the latest assessment. Henry Huntington authored Chapter 3 on socio-economic issues.</p> <p>Calder noted that neither he nor Huntington will be able to attend the April 14 Strategic Planning workshop for OSRI and encourages board members to focus more on the Arctic region.</p>
Executive Director's Report	<p>Bird highlighted issues discussed in her written report. The October visit to the CRRC in New Hampshire revealed the apparent end of congressional appropriations support which could see the close of their programs budget in 2009. A visit with US Congressional staffers was made to discuss oil pollution issues related to R&D. The outlook is fairly favorable for the passage of the US Coast Guard bill and the increase in OSRI'S interest earning trust fund from its current \$22.5M. EVOS 20th anniversary planning committee has formed. Bird, Pegau</p>

<p>Re-appointments to the OSRI Board</p>	<p>and Mutter are participating. Discussion covered the scheduling of the recognition event to coincide with the Alaska Forum on the Environment and recognition that the event will make of changes in response readiness over the 20 years.</p> <p>The Governor's office announced re-appointments to the OSRI Board in December. Reappointed until May 2009 are: Ujioka, Kompkoff, Levasseur, Lindow and Lentsch. State representatives Pearson, Fries and Fink will also continue to serve. One more oil and gas industry representative is still needed.</p> <p>An Investment Policy Statement Task Force was appointed by the PWSSC Board at their meeting yesterday. They would like to invite one or two OSRI Board members to participate. Bird suggested Fries (Treasurer) and Finance Committee member Levasseur. They both agreed to participate in this task force.</p>
<p>Research Program Manager's Report</p> <p>Understand Goal</p>	<p>The 2007 OSRI Annual Report is ready for distribution. Overall programs are proceeding as scheduled in the Workplan. The Observational Oceanography program is now under the leadership of Jennifer Ewald. The deep water mooring design and deployment schedule have both undergone revision. Hinchinbrook and Montague moorings were taken out of the water for servicing and data download in the fall. Redeployment is scheduled for March along with a new mooring placed at Lone Island. A new mooring is in place at Chenega Bay communicating in real-time through the nearby SnoTel station. The Chenega mooring could be capable of carrying nutrient sensors. An instrument for hydrocarbon sensing may become available for testing in Cordova Harbor.</p> <p>Dr. Steve Okkonen is currently analyzing hydrographic survey data collected in January 2008 as part of the PWSSC continuing description of the seasonal climatology of the Sound.</p> <p>An additional SnoTel meteorological station was installed near Valdez in 2007. The permits for two more high-altitude, helicopter access stations were received in January 2008. The more expensive access stations will balance out the temporary budget surpluses.</p> <p>Final ROMS modeling report from UCLA, Jim McWilliams is due soon. OSRI funding has ended; AOOS continues to fund the project. Dr. Peter Olsson continues atmospheric modeling with RAMS model, he should be presenting to this meeting later today. Pegau has a goal of doing an overall review of OSRI funded PWS models past and present. Have they continued, can they be restarted easily?</p> <p>The field drifter experiment - model validation exercise is planned for 2009. A meeting was held in January during the Alaska Marine Symposium. Power Point presentations from the meeting are available</p>

<p>Respond Goal</p>	<p>on the AOOS web site. Wave data is important to the exercise a source for wave information is being sought. The CODAR stations will be expensive to restart.</p> <p>Joint Industry Program Steering Committee is expecting to do some experiments in summer 2008 as well as 2009. Work plan includes CRRC funding partnership for a review of the state of knowledge on biodegradation of oil in ice. Pegau has distributed a paper in the topic. STC will be asked for its recommendations. The paper includes input from Norwegian biologists who are at the leading edge of the oil in ice research.</p> <p>On a related note, Pegau mentioned that Shell will be holding a March meeting in Anchorage on dispersants in the Arctic.</p> <p>Pegau proposed to move funds to the JIP program for the shipping of boom required for JIP exercises. Discussion took place on the use of Respond money for minor parts of JIP in order to stay involved. Consensus on Respond Goal spending has proved difficult; weighing OSRI directed research versus minor contributions in partnership. Decision on all budget decisions will take place in the afternoon.</p> <p>Joint Partnership Opportunities arising this year 1) Shell proposes an update to the oil spill calculator tools. STC has differing opinions on the effectiveness of the tool. 2) RCAC proposes to update their dispersant bibliography.</p> <p>Pegau has two RFPs to be released if partnership opportunities do not develop. One would be for a demonstration project showing how radar systems on smaller vessels may be used for detecting and mapping oil at night and should allow shipboard radar to map oil. The second opportunity is for a feasibility study for optically measuring oil fluorescence through snow and ice. Both of these RFPs are being developed to be similar to a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) RFP used by many federal agencies.</p> <p>OSRI has completed a full cycle in the InnoCentive process. We submitted three theoretical challenges to InnoCentive. The first to be completed was for means to break the viscous shear of oil at very low temperatures. We received 28 solutions, many of which used a common approach. A prize was awarded for a solution that uses a concrete vibrator mounted on a pole to break up the oil, thus allowing it to flow to the pump. Pegau will consult with Lee Majors and ACS to develop a field test.</p> <p>The second challenge was to develop a technique for remediating lingering oil in Prince William Sound. We received 6</p>
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<p>Inform Goal Education</p>	<p>solutions to that challenge. No prize was awarded, proposers showed little practical understanding of the costs of Alaska logistics.</p> <p>The third challenge was for containment and recovery of submerged oil. There were no solutions that adequately addressed both aspects of the challenge, technology experts we consulted thought that one of the solutions for recovery had enough merit to award a prize. The solution outlined use a type of rope-mop skimmer mated to a remotely operated vehicle. The solution may have application for oil under ice.</p> <p>We need to develop new challenges for release. And we should follow through on the prizes we have awarded. We are signed up to participate for one more year. Potential projects are demonstration of a means to prevent ice formation on recovery equipment, a theoretical project on oil spill simulants for response training, and a theoretical challenge for allowing vessel night time response.</p> <p>An undergraduate scholarship offered through the Kenai Peninsula College. After restructuring to better suit a 2 year college, one scholarship was awarded.</p> <p>International Oil and Ice Workshop, Anchorage, October 2007 was a productive meeting.</p> <p>The workshop Detecting Hydrocarbons in the Marine Environment, with Alliance for Coastal Technology, is being planned for April 14,15 2008. Pegau proposes moving \$10k from Graduate Fellowships to Workshops to help cover costs. All budget moves will be discussed during the afternoon session.</p> <p>PWSSC education programs have survived a partnership/budget turnover this year and will be able to continue as planned. NOSB regional as well as national competitions are in Seward. Oceanographers are welcome to participate as judges.</p>
<p>Break</p>	<p>A break was taken from 10:40 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. Sue Saupe joined on teleconference.</p>
<p>Partnering Organizations ▶ North Slope Science Initiative</p> <p>▶ Alaska Ocean Observing System</p>	<p>Pegau has offered to join the Science Advisory Panel of North Slope Science Initiative (NSSI).</p> <p>Dennis Lassuy, Special Assistant to John Payne, Executive Director of the NSSI, presented on behalf of Payne who had been called to meetings outside Alaska. The institution was formalized by federal legislation in 2005 and has an excellent website at www.northslope.org NSSI is an inter-agency effort designed to provide a consistent approach to coordinated high-caliber science across the North Slope. It is not a funding agency.</p>

	<p>Molly McCammon, Executive Director of AOOS, updated the OSRI Board on developments of the ocean observing system nationwide and described the longer-term plans for the Alaska system. She thanked OSRI for its support of the Prince William Sound Observing System and noted AOOS' commitment to a field experiment in 2009 to demonstrate the models developed since 2004 when OSRI and the PWSSC did a similar drifter experiment. AOOS is seeking to develop Alaska based modeling capability. Their emphasis to date has been on nearshore issues rather than the Arctic. Arctic sea ice will be a focus of future efforts. The AOOS web site will continue to be a place for sharing research data and public user tools.</p>
Lunch	Meeting is recessed for lunch, Terry Whitledge, chair of OSRI STC arrived at the meeting.
Amendments to the Bylaws	Specific amendments to the bylaws are presented here.

Article I. Definitions

Director is the Oil Spill Recovery Institute's Executive Director, appointed by the Advisory Board. The Scientific and Technical Committee and the Prince William Sound Science and Technology Institute (dba Prince William Sound Science Center) may each submit independent recommendations for the Advisory Board's consideration for appointment as Director. The Director may hire such staff and incur such expenses on behalf of the Institute as are authorized by the Advisory Board.

Article III. Purposes

The Prince William Sound Oil Spill Recovery Institute was authorized by Section 5001 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, approved by the United States Congress in August 1990 and subsequent amendments¹ ~~amended by Public Law 101-380 in the Coast Guard Reauthorization Act of 1996.~~ The authorizing legislation as amended states that "The Secretary of Commerce shall provide for the establishment of a Prince William Sound Oil Spill Recovery Institute (hereinafter in this section referred to as the "Institute") through the Prince William Sound Science and Technology Institute located in Cordova, Alaska."

¹ Amendments include: Public Law 101-380 in the Coast Guard Reauthorization Act of 1996; H.R. 2443, Section 704 (108th Congress, 2004); and H.R. 6, Section 389 (109th Congress, 2005).

Section 3. Termination. The Institute shall terminate ~~in one year after the date on which the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, determines that oil and gas exploration, development, and production in the State of Alaska have ceased, September 30, 2012 as stipulated by amendments to the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, or at any other date as determined by Congress.~~

Article IV. Advisory Board

Section 4. Composition of the Board. Appointments to the Board are made as follows:

- (B) One representative appointed by each of the Secretaries of Commerce, the Interior, and Transportation² who shall be Federal employees.

² The U.S. Coast Guard has held this position since OSRI's establishment, although it was moved from the Department of Transportation to the new Department of Homeland Security in 2002.

Section 6. Alternates. Appointed members may send an alternate to meetings they are unable to attend, but the alternate will not have full voting privileges. Alternates designated in writing (either via letter or e-mail) by the appointed member for a specific meeting will be seated

and may fully participate in discussions but votes may only be cast by the officially appointed representative. This applies to all ~~voting~~ members.

Section 7. Resignations and Vacancies. Resignations of any Board members shall be made in writing to the Board Chairperson and their agency or appointing organization. OSRI shall seek nominations, as appropriate, to fill vacancies; these appointments will be made to complete the unexpired term of the vacated Board seat. Vacancies of Board members representing the fishing and oil and gas industries, and Alaska Natives will be made by the Governor of Alaska. Vacancies of Board members representing state and federal government agencies, the Institute of Marine Science and the Prince William Sound Science Center will be appointed by the agency or organization.

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:

- (A) Oversight and review ~~of the audit and~~ financial recordkeeping functions of the Institute ~~including the annual audit;~~

<p>Motion to approve Amendments to the Bylaws</p>	<p>Bird reviewed the proposed amendments and footnotes and stated that they were to update the bylaws in light of congressional amendments regarding OSRI and to clarify a few processes (related to resignations). MOTION by Lentsch, seconded by Pearson To approve the bylaw amendments as proposed/presented. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p>Scientific and Technical Committee Report</p>	<p>Dr. Terry Whitledge, Director of the Institute of Marine Science at University of Alaska Fairbanks, was welcomed as the new chair of the STC. Board members introduced themselves to Whitledge as this was his first meeting with the Board. Whitledge stated his support for more interaction between UAF faculty and both the OSRI and PWSSC. He favors emphasis on the area having the most impact from oil; the nearshore zone. NPRB/OSRI partnership proposals – agreement that nearshore is the most important area to focus on for Prince William Sound systems. Shallow coastal areas of the Arctic are to be considered as well. These zones are difficult area to fully access by boat or by beach wading. We need to pose topics appropriate to OSRI and focused within the vast area of coastal Alaska.</p> <p>The STC is recognizes the importance of the model validation exercise and recognizes timing is not ideal. Carl Schoch is coordinating the excercise planning until a leadership turnover to Jennifer Ewald.</p> <p>STC supports OSRI collaborating with PWS Regional Citizens’ Advisory Council for the compilation of an updated bibliography on dispersants.</p> <p>STC is willing to list projects of interest which they will prioritize. The Workplan committee will work them into the RFPs and budget. At the top of the current list: night time detection of oil in ice and sensing oil in snow and ice.</p>

	<p>Potential Budget movements and RFPs: \$10k is to be moved from partnership projects to the RCAC bibliography project. The Innocentive prize has \$125k unencumbered. \$75k is as yet uncommitted.</p>
<p>Strategic Planning</p>	<p>Pegau briefed the Board on the proposed strategic planning process while Bird left to make copies of the handout. Board members agreed on the outline proposed and most indicated they can attend half day sessions in Anchorage on April 14 and 15, location to be determined. We will be reviewing the mission statement, the values, the goals, and the strategy statements that are contained in the overview document (http://www.pws-osri.org/about_osri/OSRI_Overview.pdf). We will also examine the environmental scan and strengths-weaknesses-opportunities-threats analyses done in 2002 to ensure they are still up to date. We will review the connection between the strategic plan and the science plan. It is expected that the Goals section will require the most time during the review, particularly the balance of programs in the Understand and Respond goals.</p> <p>The OSRI Board, the STC, the Executive Committee of the Prince William Sound Science Center Board, the OSRI Executive Director and Research Program Manager should attend.</p> <p>We will provide the 2002 work plan and strategic plan, the 2005 science plan, an updated chronology of key events, short descriptions of the focus of possible partner organizations in the region, summary of achievements by goal.</p>
<p>OSRI Funding Past, Present and Future</p>	<p>Bird and Oswalt presented the FY07 4th quarter report and the FY08 1st Quarter report. Staff and Treasurer Carol Fries noted the modifications between those reports as to where graduate fellowships are reported. They will now be reported in goal 3. The primary highlight of the FY08 report is the increased deposit received in mid-November to \$1.095 million rather than the expected \$840k. This unexpected increase is due to Treasury Department's investment of OSRI's \$22.5 million fund in a short-term CD which earned higher than expected interest. This temporary windfall will not occur next year as the investment is back in a 5 year note paying an annual estimate of around \$700k.</p> <p>FY07 Audit – The Mikunda Cottrell auditor was unable to attend. He called this a “clean” audit with no findings and not even a management report. Bird stated that the PWSSC's Audit Committee will be scheduling a meeting in the coming 4-6 weeks with the auditors and invited any OSRI Board members interested to sit in on that meeting. In answer to a question regarding how often PWSSC changes its audit firm, Bird said PWSSC's Board had discussed that issue at their meeting the day before and are confident Mikunda Cottrell is performing an excellent job and at a reasonable cost. While members of</p>

<p>Analysis of spending and funding</p> <p>Administrative Overhead Policy</p> <p>Motion to Amend Policy Statement</p>	<p>their audit team change year-to-year – and thereby offer new eyes reviewing our records – it is helpful to have a firm familiar with PWSSC and OSRI.</p> <p>Analysis of past spending and Projected funding and spending – Pegau summarized two reports which he prepared in light of the upcoming strategic planning meeting. Graphics portray overall funding, total program commitments and dollars committed by goal category according to the current science plan. This analysis will be very useful during the strategic planning discussions. It was suggested that the graphs presented in these reports be revised as bar graphs.</p> <p>Recommended changes to policy statement on administrative overhead Funds: Bird and Pegau reviewed the development of this policy and asked the Board to amend it as proposed for clarity’s sake. PWSSC will be due a 20% administrative fee on funds spent from <u>interest appreciation</u> as well as funds from principal. Discussion clarified that this in not a change in spending plans, rather a written clarification of current policy.</p> <p>MOTION to approve the amendments proposed to the Policy Statement regarding administrative funds. Motion by Meacham, seconded by Ujioka. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p>Break</p>	<p>Afternoon break, 15 minutes</p>
<p>Budget discussions</p> <p>Atmospheric Modeling update</p> <p>Budget discussions</p>	<p>Budget discussions cover proposed movement of \$50k program funds as contribution to SINTEF Svalbard testing and OSRI’s level of access to the study. Comment was entirely opposed to the \$50k allocation. Final discussion was held until after Peter Olsson’s presentation.</p> <p>Update on the Atmospheric Modeling of PWS – Olsson is director of Alaska experimental forecast facility and state climatologist. Focus on PWS and Cook Inlet, allowing use of a smaller (4km grid) scale than the National Weather Service statewide. Models predict surface wind, pressure, temperature, precipitation and cloudiness and 50 other variables. Model is run daily at the UAF super computer and at the EFF Anchorage. A subset is forwarded on for AOOS distribution. A damaging barrier wind event was reported by PWS tanker in fall 2007. The models were able to forecast a high wind occurrence, but not of the speed witnessed. Only overall speeds are predictable, not gusts. Forecasting over 23 hours is possible with current data. Refinement in terrain modeling will be the next important component.</p> <p>Can \$10k be moved from fellowship to workshops? There were no opposing comments or objections to reassigning the funds.</p>
<p>Election of officers</p>	<p>Election of officers <u>Secretary</u> – Bird explained that Fries is currently serving in two officer</p>

<p>Motion to seat the Executive Committee</p>	<p>positions, as both Treasurer and Secretary. After discussion, it was determined that since there is not a prohibition in the bylaws, Board members are comfortable with her continuing to serve in both positions until the annual meeting in the fall.</p> <p><u>Executive Committee</u> – MOTION to continue the current officer and at-large memberships on the Executive Committee until the fall 2008 Board meeting. Motion by Fink, seconded by Fries. Current committee members include Calder, Chair; Mutter, Vice-Chair; Fries, Secretary and Treasurer; and at-large members Fink, Lentsch and Pearson. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p><u>Finance Committee</u> – Board consensus to continue the Finance Committee as currently composed of Fries, Fink and Levasseur.</p> <p><u>FY09 Work Plan Committee</u> – Board consensus to continue the appointments of Pearson, Lentsch, Saupe, Mutter, and Banta to this committee. Fink agreed to serve as an alternate member.</p>
<p>Calendar</p>	<p>Review calendar/schedule for committee and Board meetings: Next item is April 14, 15 strategic planning and STC committee meeting. FY09 Workplan committee will meet in May or June. Copper River Nouveau is June 21. Fall annual Board meeting – Agreement to schedule this meeting on October 21 or 22 in Cordova.</p>
<p>Board Comments</p>	<p>Mutter recommended a workshop project be included in the FY09 work plan, namely to organize a best practices for oiled sea otters workshop. The past oiled birds workshop and its resultant national best practices manual could be a guide.</p> <p>Kompkoff mentioned winter humpback whale activity in Chenega Bay. He notices an increase whale and herring activity in the past 7 years.</p> <p>Calder expressed his appreciation of the efforts made by staff to present a good meeting.</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>The meeting adjourned at 4pm.</p>