

**Oil Spill Recovery Institute  
Advisory Board Meeting  
February 12, 2004**

**Location:** The Egan Center, Anchorage. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Calder at 8:40 am. A quorum was established.

**Board members present:**

John Calder, RJ Kopchak, Doug Mutter, Carol Fries, Doug Lentsch, Mark Fink, Susan Saupe, Capt. Jack Davin, Marilyn Leland and Glenn Ujioka (arrived about 9:15 am). Non-voting members: Diane Munson (alternate for Leslie Pearson), Walter Parker and John Goering.

**Absent:** Virginia Adams and Gail Evanoff

**Staff present:** Nancy Bird and Carl Schoch

**Others:** No public present for comments.

<b>Agenda</b>	Proposed agenda accepted with no comments.
<b>Minutes Approval</b>	<p>The minutes of the September 11 &amp; 12, 2003 meeting were reviewed.</p> <p><b>Corrections noted</b> by Leland: Page 4, line 3, the word Oils should read “Oil”, Page 7 - Specific bylaw amendment changes should be identified in the minutes, Page 7 - correct the spelling of Gale Vick’s name.</p> <p>It was noted that the Board likes the format and also likes the large text.</p> <p><b>Motion by Kopchak</b> to approve Minutes of 9/11&amp;12/2003, seconded by Mutter</p> <p><b>Motion approved unanimously.</b></p>
<b>Chair’s Report</b>	Calder said he had sent OSRI’s Director an email regarding the opportunity for OSRI to secure space in the new Barrow research facility. Space would be provided at no cost; operations and maintenance would be tenant responsibility.
<b>Director’s Report</b>	<p>Bird reported that OSRI Science Director Carl Schoch joined the staff in late October, first attending meetings at NOAA in Seattle to plan the 2004 field experiment. Immediately following those meetings, he represented OSRI at an oil spill research center meeting at the Univ. of New Hampshire.</p> <p>In early November, the Oil and Ice Workshop sponsored by OSRI and the Arctic Research Commission was held</p>

	<p>in Anchorage and the workshop publication is currently in process.</p> <p>In December, Bird and Schoch attended the PWS Regional Citizens Advisory Council quarterly meeting. Bird also attended an Alaska Regional Response Team meeting in January 2004 and learned that the ARRT is still waiting for their Scientific Advisory Committee report regarding dispersant research recommendations. Also in January, Bird gave a presentation on PWSSC and OSRI programs to the North Pacific Research Board. Other presentations were made by both Bird and Schoch at the annual Marine Science Symposium in January. Bird reported briefly on the PWS/Gulf of Alaska oceanographic planning and data-sharing workshop held in January. This was the second workshop held to build collaborations among PWS RCAC, OSRI, PWSSC, the University of Alaska and the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council</p> <p>The Alaska Ocean Observing System (AOOS) Governance Committee met in late November. A Memorandum of Agreement among AOOS founding members is to be signed by both PWSSC and OSRI. Bird stated that the PWS Ocean Observing System is one of two pilot projects for AOOS.</p> <p>Bird joined several Alaska research center leaders on a visit to Congressional offices in Washington D.C. in late January.</p> <p>Bird stated that the OSRI Scientific and Technical Committee met in late January and noted that Committee Chair Goering and the Science Director will report in more detail on that meeting.</p> <p>Bird ended her report by welcoming Schoch to his first OSRI Board meeting and inviting his report.</p>
<p><b>Science Director's Status Report FY04 Work Plan</b></p>	<p>Schoch presented an overview of the FY 2004 workplan budgets. He identified the disparity between the projected \$1.5M expenditures and receipts of \$900K, creating a need for over \$660K from OSRI budget reserves. Eleven ongoing monitoring and modeling research projects were described. Spill response planning will be directed toward the oil and ice workshop, GIS mapping and the oil</p>

	<p>dispersion impact analysis workshop. Funds for educational development are directed toward K-12 students, graduate fellowships, internships and the OSRI website. Projects of opportunity receive a modest amount; those projects include: support for the pink salmon modeling workshop, a river otter survey, the annual marine symposium, viscous oil pumping and AOOS. Schoch also reported on the partnership with the Univ. of New Hampshire and NOAA for the Coastal Response Research Center.</p>
	<p>Mid-morning break:</p>
<p><b>Oil and Ice Workshop Report</b></p> <p>-International developments</p> <p>-Discussion of future testing</p>	<p>Walt Parker described the workshop, stating the biggest issue on which everyone agreed was that on-water training/practice is important. He said the Canadians are not impressed with the MORICE results and noted that Exxon is prepared to spend a significant amount on dispersant related research.</p> <p>Goering added that he too found it surprising how disparagingly mechanical recovery is viewed. Lentsch said he was disappointed by the general response on mechanical recovery; he noted that CISPRI has developed some techniques that they believe would work pretty well in oil and ice conditions but have not tested them in real-life situations.</p> <p>Parker briefed the Board on oil developments in Russia, Canada and elsewhere in the Arctic and noted that Lawson Brigham, Deputy Director of the Arctic Research Commission, wants to distribute this workshop report widely to the Arctic Council's EPPR. The next EPPR meeting is in Inuvik in late April. Saupe asked about Japanese involvement in oil and ice issues, noting she'll be attending a conference on Japan's Sea of Okhosk. Ujioka asked which agencies are blocking on-water practices.</p> <p>Discussion ensued on possible tests on water being done in other countries with American observers/participation, instead of pursuing permits in the U.S. Kopchak asked those who attended the oil and ice workshop what role OSRI might play in future oil and ice related research, i.e. how might OSRI be a catalyst for future oil and ice</p>

	<p>projects. The board supports investigating partnerships with countries where field testing can take place. The report from the Anchorage 2003 Oil and Ice Workshop should be available in March.</p>
<p><b>Finance Committee Report</b></p>	<p>Treasurer Kopchak said the committee has not met to review the Finance Reports included in the packet. There was agreement that the committee needs to meet soon. Questions/discussion.</p> <p>Kopchak recommended that all contracts have a 12-month limit on receipt of final reports (others said it should be shorter; Bird noted that it's 90 days in the current Grant Policy Manual). Several Board members expressed concern that project management be improved, i.e., tracking quarterly reports, annual budget and timely collection on contracts with outstanding receivables. There was discussion of intellectual property issues concerning OSRI work product. Further discussion of the need for improvement in leadership and fiscal areas.</p>
<p>-Next Finance Meeting</p>	<p>Finance Committee scheduled a meeting in Anchorage (at the PWS RCAC office) on Friday, April 2, 2004 at 1 pm.</p>
<p><b>Science Director's Report on draft plans for FY05 &amp; beyond</b></p>	<p>Schoch gave a presentation highlighting his thoughts and plans for a longer term OSRI program. He noted that while he had initially thought OSRI's budget was moderately large, he's learned in his short three months on staff that the approximately \$900,000 available per year is relatively small. He also noted that the presentation and proposal he is making today is food for thought. He stated his concern that the annual expense budget must be reduced to ensure long-term sustainability. He outlined what he termed a "core" budget of just over \$1 million per year (\$380K to understand, \$200K to respond, \$198K to inform, \$120K for science director and \$180K for administrative costs). He went on to suggest a FY05 work plan budget totaling \$1,240K (\$480K to understand, \$200K to respond, \$210K to inform, \$120K for science director, \$50K for partnerships and \$180K for administrative costs). Projected cost breakdowns given for different observation and monitoring projects.</p>

<p>-CICEET partnership proposed</p>	<p>A partnership is proposed with the Cooperative Institute for Coastal and Estuarine Environmental Technology (CICEET) for a set amount each year for technology projects addressing OSRI's response goal. Schoch encouraged Board members to review the CICEET web page, <a href="http://ciceet.unh.edu/online/">http://ciceet.unh.edu/online/</a>. Board members had a lot of questions but generally support the partnership idea. Concerns are to have the Requests for Proposals (RFPs) focus on the arctic and sub-arctic region, to ensure that review panels have some with expertise in the arctic and sub-arctic, and there were questions about how much our dollars might be matched from the CICEET pot of funds. They also expressed a desire to be able to amend the partnership dependent on how it works. Kopchak stated that he has repeatedly suggested OSRI offer a cash prize for an oil spill technology, and wants to plant that seed again.</p>
<p>-Summary on action for CICEET partnership</p>	<p>Schoch will discuss a conceptual partnership model with CICEET, will then send the model to OSRI Board for review; Board will then respond with concerns; Schoch will take concerns back to CICEET and plan to have a revised model/MOU ready in time for consideration at the fall Board meeting.</p>
<p>-Research partnerships</p>	<p>(Molly McCammon, Executive Director, Alaska Ocean Observing System AOOS, joined the meeting)</p> <p>Fink expressed concern about the inflexibility this plan will leave OSRI in future funding decisions. Schoch countered that OSRI will gain a tremendous amount of dollar value in leverages made through partnerships within the ocean observing system. As an example, he stated that the ocean observing system's existence in Prince William Sound will make it more likely that the National Science Foundation will support a Long-term Ecological Research (LTER) site proposal from this region. The LTER program will bring a long-term biological monitoring program. The proposed partnership with the Alaska Experimental Forecast Facility (AEFF at UAA) was discussed. Several</p>

<p>-Educational partnership</p> <p>-Nowcast Forecast and Ocean Observing Systems</p>	<p>Board members expressed concern that we make this a competitive process.</p> <p>Another partnership in the educational area is in discussion with the Imaginarium (of Anchorage). The concept is to develop a mobile science display focused on Alaska’s coasts and oceans.</p> <p>There was further discussion on the ocean observing system, both nationally and on the statewide level and the proposed OSRI support for part of the PWS OOS. Bird referenced the Nowcast Forecast program’s evolution into being part of AOOS, and noted the OSRI Advisory Board’s direction one year ago to “ramp down” that program within three years.</p>
	<p>Mid-afternoon break</p>
<p><b>Scientific and Technical Committee Report</b></p>	<p>Committee Chair Goering reported that the committee recommended adoption of the Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) charter, as presented..</p> <p>Brief discussion. <b>Motion by Mutter</b>, seconded by Lentsch to approve the Charter as presented. <b>Motion passed unanimously.</b></p> <p>Goering reported that the Committee had discussed and endorsed the development of a long-term science plan.. Goering asked Schoch to describe in a little more detail the field experiment. Plans are being refined by Walter Cox, under contract through the PWSSC. While at one point, plans had included two field exercises, Schoch said plans were scaled back to assure staying within budget. Table top exercises will occur in June, tentatively, and the field experiment (on water) is scheduled in the first two weeks of August.</p>
<p><b>Large Grant Proposal &amp; Herring Model proposals</b></p>	<p>Goering reported that the STC met as a proposal review panel in mid-January and reviewed and recommends for funding a proposal for observational oceanography submitted by Steve Okkonen and Shelton Gay.</p> <p><b>Motion by Mutter</b>, seconded by Kopchak to approve the \$150K proposal for observational oceanography submitted by interim PI Steve Okkonen and co-PI Shelton Gay. <b>Motion approved unanimously.</b></p> <p>A total of four full proposals were received in response to</p>

	<p>the herring modeling request issued by OSRI in the summer and fall of 2003. Goering reported that the peer reviewers had ranged widely and that, after considerable discussion, the STC reached consensus to not recommend any awards for herring modeling at this time. The committee suggests that the OSRI Advisory Board consider the development of a new request for OSRI Biological Modeling proposals that more clearly defines the biological modeling needed to support the ongoing OSRI Nowcast/Forecast program and the planned field oil spill modeling exercises.</p> <p><b>Motion by Kopchak</b>, to concur with the Scientific and Technical committee regarding herring modeling proposals and direct staff to redraft and issue a herring modeling RFP. Seconded by Parker. Long discussion over commitment of funding and the integration of the in place OOS. <b>Motion to amend by Mutter</b> to consider re-offering a herring modeling RFP after the field experiment. <b>Amendment withdrawn. Main motion passed.</b></p>
<p><b>General discussion</b> -International Arctic Oil &amp; Gas Industry Assessment</p>	<p>Calder stated that the Arctic Council has agreed to produce a report by November 2006 on oil and gas assessment program for the entire Arctic. All of the Arctic Council working groups will be involved. The U.S. and Norway will be the lead countries. Dept. of Interior (Dennis Thurston) will take the lead in the U.S. Calder met with Dept. of Interior folks just a few weeks ago. He described the chapters proposed for inclusion in this report, comprising six major themes. The U.S. has agreed to take on two chapters and is now looking for people and entities/agencies to take the lead in writing the other chapters. OSRI previously had tentatively agreed to be involved in this project but no specific commitment was made. A symposium scheduled in 2005 is one activity that will require some sponsorship; another potential activity is publication of the assessment report (in 2006). Calder said OSRI should decide at the September meeting as to whether it wants to participate in this project and suggested that Thurston be invited to the OSRI meeting in</p>

	September.
<p><b>Calendar Review</b> - Advisory Board meeting Sept 12-14</p> <p>-Next STC &amp; Work Plan Committee Meetings</p>	<p>OSRI Fall Board meeting is Monday, Sept. 13, in Cordova (with travel to Cordova Sunday evening) so that a morning session can be scheduled with the PWSSC Board of Directors. The OSRI meeting continues Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning (travel to Anchorage Tuesday mid-day on the Alaska jet). It was noted that it may also require some work on Monday evening to conclude the business.</p> <p>The FY05 Work Plan and the Science Plan will be generated concurrently over the next three-four months. The FY05 Work Plan will be adopted in September. The Science Plan should be finished by September, but may be only in draft form by then. The STC will also review the Science Plan.</p> <p>Work Plan committee meeting tentatively scheduled during the last two weeks of May.</p> <p>Bird stated that the administrative travel budget does not allow for the STC to have two annual meetings in person.</p>
<b>Board comments</b>	<p>Lentsch stated that the viscous oil pumping workshop was very useful to the CISPRI and Alaska Clean Seas folks who attended.</p> <p>Calder noted that OSRI wanted to hire a science director with strong vision and direction; he thanked Schoch for succeeding in that department.</p>
<b>Adjournment</b>	<p><b>Motion by Kopchak</b>, seconded by Calder, to adjourn. <b>Motion passed unanimously</b>, meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.</p>

These minutes were reviewed, corrected and approved Sept. 13, 2004.

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Marilyn Leland, Secretary 2003-2004