



# *Eastern Oregon Building Officials Association*

Quarterly Business Meeting

December 6, 2024

800 SE Emigrant Ave

Pendleton, OR 97801

## **In Attendance:**

Vena Swanson, CCB

Lewis Topinka, CCB

Terry Roach, CCB

Timothy Lenihan, CCB

Brady Hickman, BCD

Alicia Brown, Jackson County

Joe Sloan, City of LaGrande

Dawn Kitzmiller, Baker County

Katherine Denight, BCD

Adele Schaffeld, Malheur County

Heaven Doherty, City of Hermiston

Blaine Curry, BCD

Wade Gibson, OSFM

Madison Yock, BCD

Serena Locke, Jackson County

Shawn Lippy, City of Hillsboro

Rick Stauffer, Harney County

Rachel Tiedy, Jackson County

## **Call to Order:**

Meeting began at 8:30am, PST.

## **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Adele Schaffeld called for a motion to approve meeting minutes from October 11<sup>th</sup> ABM. Katherine Denight motioned to approve; Heaven Doherty seconded. No objections. Minutes approved.

## **Guest Speaker:**

N/A

## **New Business:**

Kylee Ruby presented the Treasurer's Report:

- Account balance is \$1,050.41 as of November 30. We have not yet received check from OPTA for ABM revenues.

Adele asked for a motion to send a \$250 donation to OPTA for all of the help they have provided in handling registrations for our last two ABM's. Kylee motioned to make the donation. Heaven seconded. No objections from group. Motion approved.

Adele Schaffeld presented the ICC Update:

- Code Committee review is upcoming.
- ICC recognized EOBO as a Chapter at ABM in Long Beach this year.
- Region II recognized EOBO with the President's Award at ICC ABM.

Madison Yock presented the BCD Update:

- Plumbing Chief is working on updates to "Sustainable Plumbing" pamphlet for rainwater catchment systems.

- Tony Rocco's team is working on stacked two-family dwelling concept. There is a RAC scheduled on 12/10/24 at 1:30pm online.
- A Backgrounder was sent out awhile back about small homes with information on the upcoming sunset of the HB and moving requirements into the Code.
- OSSC 2025 was approved. Publishing work has begun. Things are now pivoting to the next iteration of the ORSC.
- HAPO is gearing up. DLCD has their manager on board. Agreements are being finalized.
- The Electrical Board approved the 2023 errata changes. Nothing is too significant.
- BESA has four signatories so far.

Adele asked where the white paper on whole-home re-pipes & grounding was. It was mentioned in a previous meeting, but we have not seen it yet. Madison will check on this.

Vena Swanson presented the CCB Update:

- There are 39,620 Residential Contractors in Oregon; 11,247 Commercial. (50,867 total)
- CCB has around 60 employees with only 9 Field Investigators across the state.
- Their goal is to gain compliance before they issue fines.
- CCB performed 10 weeks of sweeps this year and made 1,052 job site visits. There were 200 proposed violations from those visits.
- CCB performs 7,000 – 9,000 job site checks per year.
- CCB boundaries have changed over past two years.
  - Central Coast expanded. The Clatsop County FI goes all the way to Hood River now.
- South Post (Terry) covers Lane to Curry Counties.
- South State (Dan) covers Josephine to Malheur Counties.
- Lewis is Central & covers Deschutes to Gilliam Counties.
- Vena will invite the entire field staff to next EOBO meeting, so we can meet all of them. The FI's rotate across the state, so we may encounter different staff depending on the time of year.
- CCB's goal is to get out as much as possible & to be as transparent as possible. They are trying to partner with other agencies such as BCD more, and trying to make their presence more known.
- CCB is working on a pilot program for remote investigations. They hope this will help enforcement in border areas.

Rick Stauffer would really like CCB to put together a training class that shows people how to fill out their forms, and how to get CCB all of the information they need in order to make an enforcement case.

EOBO definitely appreciates CCB's efforts and transparency. We look forward to our continued partnership.

Dawn Kitzmiller expressed that, as part of our role as Building Officials and Inspectors, we are to check contractor licenses in order to support CCB. We are hoping there is a way that CCB can help support us in checking permit requirements during their site visits as well. Vena looks forward to working with us on ideas of how best to go about this.

Serena Locke presented the OPTA / PTN Update:

- OPTA had a great conference this year in November.
- The Spring Conference will be virtual only, in hopes that they can reach more people. It will also be spread out over a longer time period so that it is not such a burden on offices to have staff out for several days in a row.
- OPTA is looking forward to hosting a Day of Service next year.

- Don't forget to renew your OPTA memberships! This automatically registers you with PTN.
- OPTA offers scholarships for many different things. Look into this if your jurisdiction is strapped for funds, and employees need training or certifications.
- Check out OPTA's amazing website & their calendar of events that has EVERYONE's schedules on it!

Adele asked for a motion to submit an Association membership to OPTA for EOBO. Kylee motioned to submit. Heaven seconded. No objections. EOBO will register as an OPTA member.

Adele Schaffeld presented the OBOA Update:

- The Governor has formed a focus group to look at workforce shortages in both our industry and in the trades. This group will present her with a report on the shortage data.
- OBOA Board voted to move the February QBM from the 21st to the 28th.
- July 16 – 18 is the OBOA ABM in Hood River.
- The Standards Committee is working to align how all OBOA committees function.
- Legislation this year will be extensive. Budget is a big topic. (FYI they are going to keep our kickers.) A big chunk of change has been requested to fund workforce development and infrastructure loans.
- OBOA put together a response to the Governor's 6 pillars on how to reduce costs of development. Items include reducing energy efficiency requirements for homes 1500SF or less. In-fill homes are also causing issues with large SDC costs because they require sprinklers when there is only one access. Part of the proposal is to NOT have to increase your SDC fees in these areas simply to install sprinklers.
- OBOA is trying to find an apprenticeship program for building inspectors. Chemeketa is proposing to launch a combination Residential/Commercial Inspector program.
- OBOA is finalizing their strategic plan.
- Steve Matiaco was appointed to the State Plumbing Board.
- Chris Wong was appointed to the State Structures Board.
- The single-access multi-story/multi-family development was NOT approved. There is a technical paper from NFPA.

Alicia Brown presented the WICED Region II Update:

- This is a NEW Region II Chapter! Katherine Denight will be helping with the first meeting on 12/11/24 @ 2pm.
- The goal is to provide mentorship and collaboration to women in the Region II Code world. Anyone is welcome to join though.
- The new Board will be formed in January.
- The hope is to really help provide women in Code Enforcement in our rural areas across the region with resources and training.

No representatives from Region II, SOICC, or COICC were present at the meeting. The group discussed the updates they were aware of as a roundtable.

- Region II meets monthly. There is a meeting link on their website.
- SOICC events are on OPTA's calendar. They are an ICC CEU Preferred Provider and offer some great trainings.
- There is a Regional Consistency Meeting hosted by Happy Valley. This is a great meeting if you have a chance to attend.
- EOBO received confirmation of their registration from the Oregon Department of Justice as a Charitable Trust. Kylee will look into all of the reporting requirements.
- EOBO is waiting on our website from ICC. We are hoping that we are allowed our 'day of training' benefit next year, since we submitted everything in time and have been recognized as a Chapter.

- Membership applications will roll out in January.

Adele asked for a motion to renew EOBO's membership in ICC Region II. Kylee motioned. Heaven seconded. No opposition from group. EOBO will renew its Region II membership for 2025.

Roundtable Discussion:

Wade Gibson is working to wrap up numerous fire investigations before the end of the year. We appreciate the partnership we all have with OSFM and how helpful they have been.

Madison Yock advised that the Ready-Build (Permit-Ready) Plans are set to be updated in the new year. We will all be notified when they are ready. Jeremy Williams is working to beef up some designs based off of input from some of our EOBO members.

Rick Stauffer has signed an IGA with Wallowa County to provide inspections and plan reviews. He has hired an A-Level Electrical Inspector who will provide full-time inspections in both Grant and Harney Counties.

Dawn Kitzmiller advised that DEQ eliminated its position for Malheur County. Jessie Barnes from Harney County has been doing a great job with onsite inspections for Baker County. She may be a resource for Malheur County.

Rick advised that Harney County is working to provide on-site inspections for multiple counties as well.

**Old Business:**

Discussed in conjunction with New Business.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:52am.**