

OREGON SUSTAINABILITY BOARD

REPORT TO THE 2009 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**2005-2009
Biennial Report**
May 2009

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Oregon Sustainability Board Members

2009 Board Members

Susan Anderson, Director, City of Portland, Office of Sustainable Development

Kate Brown, Chair, Governor's Representative, Secretary of State

Martin Goebel, Sustainable Northwest

Becky Hyde, Rancher, Southern Oregon

Annabelle Jaramillo, Commissioner, Benton County

Pete Kratz, Executive Vice President, Operations, Harry & David Holdings, Inc.

John Ledger, Vice President, Associated Oregon Industries

John D. Miller, Wildwood/Mahonia

Eric Schooler, President, The Collins Companies

Trey Senn, Executive Director, Klamath County Economic Dev. Association

Sara Vickerman, Director, West Coast Office, Defenders of Wildlife

Former Board Members

Bill Bradbury, Former Chair, Governor's Representative, Former Secretary of State

Bill Blosser, Natural Resources/Community Health/Economics

Ned Dempsey, Small Business Representative

Deborah Kane, Natural Resources/Community Health/Economics

Tracey Liskey, Natural Resources/Community Health/Economics

Tom Nygren, Small Woodlot Owner

Overview of Sustainability Board Activities

During the 2005-2009 biennia, the Board met approximately every six weeks. It divided its work into these general areas:

- State agencies
- Special Board initiatives
- Community outreach

It was difficult for the Board to carry out its legislative mandate without a budget. The lack of a budget meant the board could not hire full-time staff, and curtailed its activities.

Fortunately, agencies provided staff assistance to the Board, including the Secretary of State's Office, City of Portland and Department of Administrative Services. In addition, a number of non-state volunteers provided significant assistance to the Board.

The Board believes its principal role is to facilitate and encourage work on sustainability-related issues within state government and in the broader Oregon community. In particular, its role is to act as a bridge to connect the many groups working on sustainability, both within and outside state government.

Overarching Priorities

The Board maintains the following priorities for its work:

- Sustainable economic development with emphasis on fostering rural/urban connections. Three specific projects are underway in this area:
 - Sustainable Oregon Schools Initiative
 - Working Landscapes
 - Ecosystem Services
- Connection with state agencies and their sustainable external impacts.
- Support ecosystem services through the creation of Senate Bill 513.

New Projects for 2009-2011 Biennium

The Board has started three new projects for the 2009-2011 biennium. A summary of the project is below.

- Project #1: establish a sub-committee for oversight of the Ecosystems Services Workgroup, per Senate Bill 513.
- Project #2: create a program for state agencies performance excellence around sustainability.
- Project #3: expand awards program to include a forum with the winners and industry peers to encourage best practices within their business cluster.

There are several other projects the Board will investigate as time allows. In all aspects of the Board's work it will place emphasis on non-regulatory approaches to sustainability and on reducing costs or increasing revenues for Oregonians.

History

The legislature established the state's overall sustainability policy when it adopted, in 2001, the Oregon Sustainability Act (ORS 184.423). Among other things, the legislation created the Oregon Sustainability Board and established legislative goals for state government in the area of sustainability. In order to help implement the act, Governor Kulongoski issued Executive Order 03-03 in June 2003, which directed the Sustainability Board to oversee the process for carrying out the Act. The Executive Order specifically requests that the Board oversee development of sustainability plans by 20 state agencies. The Executive Order also established a Sustainability Leadership Team composed of senior state employees to assist the Board in carrying out its activities.

In 2006, Governor Kulongoski issued Executive Order 06-02. The Executive Order specifically requests that the Board assist local governments and the private sector with the development of sustainability practices, promote sustainable economic investment and development, and advance sustainability performance in state government. The Executive Order identifies Sustainability Leadership Team, Interagency Sustainability Network, and Oregon Solutions to assist the Board in completing the requirements.

The 2007 Legislative Assembly passed House bill 3244, which established the Board as a permanent advisory body within the Oregon Department of Administrative Services.

A copy of the Governor's Executive Orders 00-07, 03-03, and 06-02 can be found at: <http://governor.oregon.gov/Gov>

Connection with State Agencies

Guidance and Training

2003-2005

In order to assist agencies in developing their sustainability plans, in November 2003 the Board issued an agency guidance document titled "A Sustainable Oregon for the 21st Century". The document provided specific guidance on a development of agency plans and asked each agency to identify at least three sustainability-related actions they would undertake during the biennium.

Plan Development Review

2003-2005

The 20 agencies required to prepare sustainability plans submitted them and then Board committees reviewed them against the criteria listed in the guidance document. A number of the plans required revision before they would meet the criteria. These revisions were made by the agencies and then the Board approved all of the plans.

Current State Agency Actions

State Agency Plans

The Board met with agencies several times from 2005-2009.

They asked agencies to report on major sustainability initiatives, including sustainability plan updates in 2006. In addition, by connecting sustainability components to agency business plan and budget reporting, they ensured state agencies maintained active plans. In 2007, the Board redirected its focus towards state agencies impacts on sustainability through external operations. While this produced several interesting conversations, it did not bring about the intended outcomes the Board expected. The Board plans to readdress the issue of state agency progress towards sustainability through the performance excellence and benchmark project listed on page 1.

Interagency Sustainability Coordinators Network

In 2006, the five-year run of the Interagency Sustainability Coordinators Network (Network) came to a close. The Network had been an important forum for state agency information-sharing in the early days of sustainability, but it disbanded. The responsibilities shifted and coordinator duties changed. The Board understood the reasons behind it, but felt state agencies needed a continued forum for collaboration around sustainability. The Board assigned DAS the responsibility to re-institute the Network. In January 2008, the Network

Key state agencies

- Administrative Services
- Agriculture
- Consumer & Business Services, Building Codes Division
- Corrections
- Economic & Community Development
- Energy
- Environmental Quality
- Fish & Wildlife
- Forestry
- Governor's Office
- Housing & Community Services
- Lands
- Land Conservation & Development
- Parks
- Progress Board
- Public Utilities Commission
- Transportation
- Travel Oregon
- University System
- Water Resources
- Watershed Enhancement Board

met again and established a regular bi-monthly meeting schedule. Since its rebirth, the Network facilitated discussions around energy conservation, solar projects for state buildings, legislative bill coordination, social equity, and more. The Network also organized a “solar roof tour” of arrays in the Salem and Eugene areas for state agencies to learn different project techniques. The Network now reaches out to other interested state agencies and local governments to ensure no opportunity for collaboration and innovation is missed.



Interagency Sustainability Coordinators Network solar roof tour in July 2008

Senate Bill 513

The 2009 Legislative Assembly introduced Senate Bill 513. If passed, this bill would create an ecosystems services workgroup within the Natural Resource Institute. The workgroup would work with agencies to streamline ecosystem services markets and payment programs. The Board would have oversight of this group, both in its charge and direction. At the time of this report, the bill had moved through the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and was awaiting action by the Ways and Means Committee and the House of Representatives.

Board Community Outreach

Sustainableoregon.net Web Site

The Board, acting through the Department of Administrative Services, maintains a state website for sustainability. The website contains archives of all Board actions, copies of agency sustainability plans, links to a wide variety of sustainability resources, sites, and other information on sustainability. The site recently moved to a new server and was down for a bit during the transition. Staff will track the number of hits on the new server and report in the 2011 report.

Presentations to Board

As part of its objectives identified in its strategic plan, the Board has invited a wide variety of outside groups and specialists to make presentations to the Board on their sustainability activities. A sampling of these presentations is listed below.

2006

- Governor’s Rural Policy Advisory Committee (*Bill Wilber*)
- Overview of the issues facing the Prineville area and the Crook County (*Scott Cooper, Crook County Judge*)
- Lincoln City sustainability efforts (*Mayor Lori Hollingsworth*)
- Business, client services and sustainability efforts (*Ken Wightman, Tom Puttman, and Gillian Ochner, David Evans & Associates*)
- Signs of Sustainability and Sustainable Economic Development (*Mike Houck and Kent Snyder, Portland/Multnomah County Sustainable Development Commission*)
- Sustainability performance measures in state agencies (*Rita Conrad, Oregon Progress Board*)
- Sustainability at Oregon State University (*various professors*)

2007

- Community renewable energy (*Paul Woodin, Community Renewable Energy Association*)
- Stream bank program (*Brett Brownscombe, Oregon Trout*)
- Pringle Creek Community (*Don Myers, Sustainable Development, Inc.*)
- Sunderland Yard Facility (*Susan Kiel and Jill Jacobsen, PDOT*)
- Metro's sustainability program (*Rod Park, Metro Council's Deputy President*)
- Double Tree's sustainability program (*Steve Faustick and Mike Lewis, Double Tree Lloyd Center*)
- International Sustainable Development Foundation (*Larry Chalpin, Zero Waste Alliance*)
- Gerding Edlen Development programs (*Dennis Wilde*)
- Sustainable Harvest (*David Griswold*)
- Three-Mile Canyon and United Farm Workers presentation
- Port of Morrow presentation (*Gary Neal, General Manager*)

2008

- Brownsville Dam Removal and Irrigation (*Laura Lesher from the Oregon Department of Transportation*)
- Sustainability and the Olympic Track & Field Trials (*Alex Cuyler, City of Eugene and the Chair of the Sustainability Planning Committee*)
- City of Eugene's sustainability efforts (*Felicity Fahy, Sustainability Manager, City of Eugene*)
- Oregon Business Council members (*Jeremy Rodgers*)
- Sustainable tourism transformation in Astoria (*Donna Quinn, Cannery Pier Hotel*)
- Geothermal high school and regional sustainable development projects in Klamath Falls (*Trey Senn and Tracey Liskey*)
- Upcoming sustainability programs for Klamath (*Trish Seiler, Klamath Falls City Council; Al Switzer, Klamath County Commissioner*)
- Presentation of fast pyrolysis (biomass) project in Douglas County (*Joe Laurance, Douglas County Commissioner*)
- Discuss ecosystem marketplace policy issues (*Kate Marx, DCBS, Office of Regulatory Streamlining*)

2009 – through March

- Sustainable Oregon Schools Initiative update and discussion of ways to increase awareness and participation (*Lori Stole, Zero Waste Alliance*)
- Oregon Informed Growth Act (*Lenny Dee, Onward Oregon*)
- Oregon Built Environment and Sustainable Technology Center (*David Kenney*)

Presentations to the Board – history

2003

- City of Bend
- reSource
- 3E Strategies
- New Path Renewables
- Community Solutions
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Sustainable Natural Resources Management Framework
- IdaTech
- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Renewable Energy Economic Development Project
- Team Oregon

2004

- Better World Travel
- Appetit's
- City of Portland & Multnomah County
- Oregon Garden
- Cascadia Green Building Council
- South Australia Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Representative Jackie Dingfelder

2005 – through June

- Oregon State University and Cascade Grain

Board Travel

In addition to community partnership for presentations, the Board thrives on traveling to locations around the state for their meetings. The Board members are not reimbursed for their travel expenses. A sampling of the travel locations is below.

May 2005 – Klamath Falls

October 2006 – Prineville

September 2007 – Boardman

- Collins Pine plant
- Pacific Ethanol's Columbia plant (optional)

November 2007 – Lakeview

- Collins Companies small diameter sawmill grand opening

June 2008 – Astoria

- Seafood Research Center for lunch, demonstration, and tour

July 2008 – Klamath Falls

- Oregon Institute of Technology – discuss renewable energy degree program and upcoming LEED-certified dormitory
- IFA greenhouses – seedlings sold to Forest Service that use geothermal heat
- Tracey Liskey's – tour the ranch to see innovative technologies and programs

Future travel locations in 2009

- June – Enterprise
- August – Roseburg
- October – Oakridge



Collins Companies small diameter sawmill in Lakeview



Consumer Seafood Research Center in Astoria



The "mighty mites" at Liskey Farms in Klamath Falls

State of Washington Coordination

The Oregon Sustainability Board and the Washington Panel held a joint meeting in May 2004 to compare the two programs and to seek ways to work together on projects of mutual interest. While this meeting sparked much interest in collaborative projects, nothing much resulted as Washington shortly had a new governor and different priorities. However, in 2008, the State of Washington agency sustainability coordinators invited Oregon's Sustainability Policy Advisor and Sustainability Coordinator from the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to give a presentation. That sparked a new interest in connecting the two states' activities that lead to a joint meeting of the agency coordinators in January 2009. The groups discussed joint greenhouse gas reporting mechanisms to allow for state-to-state benchmarking, collaboration on executive order development, and combining resources for green procurement.

State of Oregon Sustainability Awards

2007

The 1st Annual Oregon Sustainability Awards were hosted by the Oregon Sustainability Board and the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department on June 1, 2007.

- Small business winners:
 - Gerding Edlen Development, Portland, OR
 - Standing Stone Brewing Company, Ashland, OR
 - Sustainable Harvest Coffee Importers, Portland, OR
- Large business winners:
 - Doubletree Hotel and Executive Meeting Center, Portland, OR
 - Siltronic Corporation, Portland, OR
- NGO/Government winners:
 - International Sustainable Development Foundation, Portland, OR
 - City of Portland, Office of Transportation, Portland, OR
 - Metro, Portland, OR

Finalists:

- Arnold Creek Productions
- City of Eugene
- Coastwide Labs
- Columbia Forest Products
- Highland Labs
- Hot Lips Pizza
- Lane Community College
- Lean Path, Inc.
- New Seasons Market
- ONAMI
- Port of Portland
- Rejuvenation
- Sequential Biofuels
- Sokol Blosser Winery
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Tualatin Valley Water District

2008

The Oregon Business Council's Leadership Summit in Portland hosted the ceremony for the second, annual awards on December 11, 2008. Former Secretary of State and Sustainability Board Chair, Bill Bradbury, presented the awards to the recipients.

- Small business winners:
 - Sokol Blosser Winery, Dundee, OR
 - Full Sail Brewing, Hood River, OR
 - Klamath Brewing, Klamath Falls, OR
- Large business winner: New Seasons Market, Portland, OR
- NGO/Government winner: ShoreBank Enterprise Cascadia, Astoria, OR
- Project winner: Eugene 08 Olympic Trial Committee

Finalists:

- Artemis Foods
- DeSantis Landscapes
- Green Hammer
- Intel
- ODOT – Solar Highway Project
- Oregon Institute of Technology
- Steele Associates Architects
- Tillamook Forest Center



Governor Kulongoski's speech at the 2007 awards presentation



Sustainability Award Presentation at the Oregon Business Summit

Conclusion

The Board continues to grow in its role within the state, even while that role continues to flux. Over the next biennium, the Board plans to complete new projects and looks forward to a robust and innovative future. In addition, the Board serves at the pleasure of the Governor and will implement any new directives that come from the 2009 legislative session or any future Executive Orders.

Throughout this new future, the Board will not lose sight of its principle role as facilitator and champion of work on sustainability-related issues within state government and in the broader Oregon community. It will continue to serve as the primary bridge for innovation, environmental stewardship and social equity, both within and outside state government.