

Department of Geology and Mineral Industries Connolly

Request: Report on progress in making improvements to the agency's business practices by the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.

Recommendation: Acknowledge receipt of the report.

Discussion: The Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) is returning to the Legislature to provide a progress report on the changes the agency has made to its business practices and information technology systems. The agency received budget notes, during the 2015 Legislative Session, directing the agency to improve its business practices and work with the Office of the State Chief Information Officer (OSCIO) to improve its information technology (IT) practices and resources.

The agency reported on these issues during the February 2016 Legislative Session and the May 2016 meeting of the Emergency Board and is providing this update as requested by the Legislature.

The agency has completed or made substantial progress in all of the action items contained in the budget note on business practices. In addition, it has received the results from two financial audits. The first audit was a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) audit conducted on DOGAMI's management of Federal Funds. There were no audit findings reported. The second audit was a new director's audit by the Oregon Secretary of State (SOS), which was requested by DOGAMI. The SOS made a number of recommendations, which the agency has either completed or is in the process of implementing.

Since the last report, the significant changes include writing and implementing additional financial policies and procedures, implementing and training staff on a new time-keeping system; and organizational changes that will support succession planning and build long-term capacity in the agency. Potential changes identified for future biennia include changes to the agency's Key Performance Measures (KPMs) and fee changes in the Mineral Land Regulation and Reclamation Program.

The report also provides an update on the changes made to the agency's IT program since receiving new resources, during the February 2016 Legislative Session. The agency has hired new staff, purchased new equipment, will move servers in March or April 2017, formalized a Help Desk system, put in place budget and procurement procedures, and other IT policies and plans are circulating for review. The 2017-19 Governor's Budget requests a limited duration ISS 7 position be made permanent to support the continued development of the agency IT program.