

Oklahoma Senate Committee on Appropriations

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2013-14 Performance Report

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Oklahoma Energy Resources Board

AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT:

The creation of the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board (OERB) was requested by the oil and natural gas industry. The agency was created by Title 52, OS 288.1 et. Seq. of the Oklahoma Statutes to be effective September 1, 1992 and was amended October 1, 1993, at which time the mission of the agency was adopted.

Specifically, the purpose of the Board is to coordinate a program designed to demonstrate to the general public the importance of the Oklahoma oil and natural gas exploration and production industry, to encourage the wise and efficient use of energy, to promote environmentally sound production methods and technologies, to develop existing supplies of Oklahoma's petroleum resources, to support research and educational activities concerning the petroleum exploration and production industry and to cause remediation of historical oilfield environmental problems.

As a quasi-state entity, the OERB board has focused mainly on two primary functions: to restore abandoned oil and natural gas exploration/production well sites to a usable condition by the landowner; and provide public education about the petroleum industry through public outreach and student education programs.

LEAD ADMINISTRATOR:

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GOVERNANCE:

The Oklahoma Energy Resources Board (OERB) is comprised of 21 members, with twelve (12) members being independent oil and natural gas producers, six (6) members being major petroleum company representatives, two (2) members being crude oil and/or natural gas purchasers, and one (1) member being a royalty owners representative. All Board members, except the two purchasers and the royalty owner representative, who are appointed by the Board, are appointed equally by the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma Senate and the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives. Each member must be at least 25 years of age and must have at least five years active experience in the petroleum industry. Terms for members are three years and can be re-appointed without stipulation.

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| <b><u>BOARD MEMBER NAME</u></b> | <b><u>CLASSIFICATION</u></b> | <b><u>APPOINTING AUTHORITY</u></b> |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Mark Aebi                       | Major                        | Governor                           |
| Thomas Goresen                  | Major                        | Governor                           |
| Mike Cantrell                   | Independent                  | Governor                           |
| Suzette Hatfield                | Independent                  | Governor                           |
| Michael "Mike" Cross            | Independent                  | Governor                           |
| Phil Cook                       | Independent                  | Governor                           |
| Vacant                          | Major                        | President Pro Tempore / Senate     |
| Dale Malody                     | Major                        | President Pro Tempore / Senate     |
| Ronnie Irani                    | Independent                  | President Pro Tempore / Senate     |
| David House                     | Independent                  | President Pro Tempore / Senate     |
| Tim Munson                      | Independent                  | President Pro Tempore / Senate     |
| Russell V. Johnson, III         | Independent                  | President Pro Tempore / Senate     |
| Will Whitley                    | Major                        | Speaker of the House               |
| Terry Adamson                   | Major                        | Speaker of the House               |
| John Pilkington, Jr.            | Independent                  | Speaker of the House               |
| Sam Langford                    | Independent                  | Speaker of the House               |
| Pete Brown                      | Independent                  | Speaker of the House               |
| Robert V. Johnston              | Independent                  | Speaker of the House               |
| William "Bill" Gifford          | Purchaser                    | Board                              |
| Garrett Phelan                  | Purchaser                    | Board                              |
| Julie Kruger                    | Royalty Owner                | Board                              |

A chairman selected by the Board heads the agency. The Board appoints officers every two years. The officers consist of a chairman, vice chairman, secretary and treasurer.

The committees of the Board are:

| <b><u>COMMITTEE</u></b>             | <b><u>AREA OF FOCUS</u></b> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Administrative Committee            | Administrative issues       |
| Accounting Committee                | Accounting issues           |
| Scholastic Outreach Committee       | Student Education issues    |
| Environmental Restoration Committee | Environmental issues        |
| Public Education Committee          | Public Education issues     |

All committee chairs are board members; however, not all members of the committees are required to be board members.

**GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITY:**

All board members are volunteers and do not have an attendance requirement. The Board does not have a formal attendance policy.

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MODERNIZATION EFFORTS:

None.

The OERB is a quasi-state agency and does not have state employees (FTEs). All functions of the Board are performed through private contracts.

CORE MISSION:

The OERB does not provide any services that are considered outside its core mission. The services the OERB provides are not duplicated or replicated by any other agency.

PRIVATE ALTERNATIVES:

The OERB provides its services at no cost to the State, or its citizens. These services are voluntarily funded by the oil and natural gas industry through a 1/10 of one percent assessment on the sale of oil and natural gas in Oklahoma. All functions of the OERB are privatized.

The OERB is the first of its kind in the nation. Several other states have adopted OERB's program to varying degrees. Those states are Kansas, Illinois and Ohio. Wyoming is currently considering legislation to create a student education program similar to the OERB's.