Oregon Citizen Corps - State Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes –November 16, 2011

Present:
Erik Anderson       Marion County
Fred Bretsch       FEMA (via phone)
Dave Davis         Florence CERT-Fire Dept.
Cathy Harrington   City of Gresham
Stella Hickey      Oregon Fire Corps
Kirt Hickey        Oregon Volunteer Firefighter Association
Roberta Janssen    Oregon State Defense Force
Curtis Peetz       American Red Cross (via phone)
Roger Stevenson    FEMA rep-Salem
Kelly Jo Craigmiles, Bev Hall, John Lewis, Chuck Perino Oregon Emergency Management

1. **Introduction and Opening:**
Chair Cathy Harrington opened the meeting at 1:00 and introductions were made.

2. **Previous Minutes:**
The minutes from July 27, 2011 were tabled due to a lack of quorum.

3. **State update – Chuck Perino**
The UASI CERT Conference is scheduled for September 2-9, 2012. Doug McGillvray from Yamhill County questioned the use of inter-county CERT deployments. Trainings are needed. Cathy said that there should be no self-deployments. Kelly Jo Craigmiles said it should work just like an activation, The activation and use of CERT inter and intra County should be like any type of mutual aid between jurisdictions.

4. **Federal Update - Fred Bretsch:** Regarding CERT deployment topic, Fred said the people need to be Emergency Management staff on loan. Cathy asked if there was any federal language regarding that. Fred suggested raising that question at the Bothell Summit Dec. 6-7, 2011 regarding the future of Citizen Corps. Cathy is attending. Around 50 people were invited to the Summit. Topics on the agenda include Breaking Barriers and Misconceptions of Citizen Corps, Catastrophic Planning, Whole Community concept and emphasis on youth, Goals, Public Education/Training, and agenda for future Citizen Corps conferences.

Fred said that they are looking at other states for the March Youth Education Workshop due to Oregon’s inability to host. On Dec. 7 there is an EMI Social Media Webinar. No information on the FEMA budget available yet.

5. **Discussion with John Lewis, OEM:** John first explained his background and what his role is at Oregon Emergency Management. Cathy asked about next year’s work plan and the budget. John said this year they eliminated regional programs to raise county amounts and give money to Citizen Corps. “Must haves” received money in lieu of recognition items. The future is unclear – is at zero now, but could become a carve-out or a state’s choice. Cathy asked how Citizen Corps can get money for projects. John said to be involved in the Investment Justification development. It also depends on whether Citizen Corps will have to follow State Homeland Security Program rules or Citizen Corps rules. Cathy said she is glad Citizen Corps is still considered five programs, but some programs aren’t connected to the Emergency Managers as much as CERT is – she would like help getting the message out. Chuck Perino said that some Emergency Managers just look at CERT as important. Stella Hickey said her area doesn’t have CERT, thinks only 3-4 counties have all five Citizen Corps programs.
Cathy said the SAC wanted time set aside at this year’s EMPG Conference, but after being turned down didn’t have time to be part of the connected OEMA Conference. John suggested talking to the OEMA representative. Roger Stevenson said that would be him. As far as getting the word out on success stories, Chuck suggested having a speaker at the next OEMA Conference come from Joplin, MO to share their successes using Citizen Corps in their response to disaster. Several suggested having a white paper and speak on that at OEMA. Kelly Jo suggested adding a section to the grant roadshow next year regarding Citizen Corps. Cathy asked how the SAC could request money for a road trip meeting each year for outreach. John suggested having that on the Strategic Plan out of the Work Plan. Cathy asked how the SAC is supported as is. John said that the work on the grant reviews is appreciated and the advocacy for CC programs. Outreach is needed. He liked the idea of having Citizen Corps a part of the OEM Grant Roadshow in 2012.

6. **Creation of a 2011-2012 SAC Work Plan:** Chuck facilitated the creation of a
   
   **Strategic Work Plan:**
   1. Coordination, inclusion and involvement of all 5 Citizen Corps programs.
   2. Promotion and education of how CC programs can benefit local emergency management.
   3. Expand volunteer resources for local Oregon emergency management.
   4. Public preparedness and education.

   From the above, a tactical work plan was made, tying in to the above strategies:

   **Tactical Work Plan:**
   - One annual road trip (1-3)
   - OEMA Conference at Salishan in 2012 (1-3)
   - Informational SAC white paper (1-3)
   - Handouts – Map Your Neighborhood (4) – already doing
   - Grant Review (1,3) – already doing
   - Citizen Corps Conference (1-3)
   - Website (1-4)
   - Mentoring Program (KJ suggested Mitch Neilson as a resource)
   - LDS Preparedness Conference March 2012 (waiting for more info)
   - “Zombies” in October (4) – a federal outreach idea for young people

7. **Good of the Order:** It was agreed that VIPS and Neighborhood Watch reps are needed on the SAC to better represent their programs. Cathy would like concrete projects for the SAC to take on. Kelly Jo suggested supporting all five groups by going to different conferences or having a conference. Regarding the OEMA 2012 Conference, Roger suggested having a breakout session or do one for each program explaining how CC programs benefit emergency management. Fred said that some programs are national, not state programs, like VIPS and Neighborhood Watch. Contacts would be the police and sheriff’s associations. Dave Davis suggested Florence Fire Dept. as a road trip site, and suggested having information in the OEMA newsletters and at their quarterly meetings. Stella had just arrived back from Washington, DC where she won an award for the Fire Corps Advocate of the year.

8. **Next Meeting:** Tentatively planned March 28, 2012. Meeting adjourned at 3:00.