

Columbia Emergency Planning Association
Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2009

Present:

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| Jim Huff | CRF&R |
| Diane Dillard | CRF&R |
| Steve Watson | 911 |
| Jay Tappan | CRF&R |
| Alicia Little | Dyno Nobel |
| Joseph Errante | CERT |
| Derek White | Columbia Co. Emergency Management |
| Roy Barbour | American Red Cross |
| Kate Fagerholm | American Red Cross |
| Mike Sullivan | Portland General Electric |
| Henry Heimuller | Columbia County Rider |
| Joe Espinoza | Graymont Western |
| Terry Wolfe | Oregon State Fire Marshal's office |
| Al Pierce | ARES |
| Beth Santangelo | Armstrong |
| Mike Greisen | Scappoose Fire |
| Karen Ladd | Public Health |
| Adrienne Donner | Cities Readiness Initiative |
| Loren Klepper | ARES |
| Chris Greenhill | Department of Homeland Security |
| Kimberly Johns | Oregon Military Department |
| David Capps | Department of Homeland Security |
| Tad Pedersen | Office of the State Fire Marshal |
| Kristi Ward | Georgia Pacific |
| Kevin Hawkins | Beary Special Photography |
| Les Miller | Corps of Engineers |
| Mark Kreutzer | Columbia River Fire & Rescue |
| Keith Locke | City of St. Helens |
| Henry Heimuller | Columbia River Rider |
| Steve Sharek | Clatskanie Fire |
| Rita Bernhard | Columbia County Commissioner |

The meeting was called to order by Jim Huff. Thanks to Dyno Nobel for the treats and door prizes. Introductions were made.

DEQ – no

OFSM – Everything going good – another county up and running - Umatilla County almost ready to go as a LEPC. Randy in full swing as new State Fire Marshal.

DHS – no

CCMH - no rep

Life Flight – no rep

CRI – Adrienne Donner - new staff member has joined us.

Dept of Homeland Security Chris Greenhill – trying to bring on 40 more inspectors – nationwide. New Dave Capps – going off to get trained. OEM invited us to join them. Spring training session coming soon.

Pub Health - Karen Ladd – sent Anne to Dallas, Texas – for training. Trying to create local partnerships so MRC can be used by more entities.

911 – Steve – not much new in activity level. We are progressing up Clatskanie Mtn. – construction will begin soon and continue throughout the summer. Watching budget issues at the state. The State is looking at taking money – We welcome Les to our facility. Sally is down in Salem.

Port – no rep

County Commissioners – three commissioners have been in Salem struggling with finances. State is attempting to take funds from some county services. Last Friday down there most of the day – they want to integrate mental health and public health services to the same sector. They are looking at pilot programs and we could very well be one of the counties they are looking at. There are 14 counties. We have good relationships with CCMH and Public Health. This change could have a big impact on us. If we are going to be a pilot county, we want to have a say in what is going to go on. There are stimulus dollars coming down the pike.

Derek White – Director Vicki Harguth out on medical leave – feeling a lot better – back part time in a few days. Office busy with follow-up on snow/floods – did receive a disaster declaration. Had about 14 applicants. We are critiquing so we can improve in the future. Press release issued last week. Working on grants. Training in Clatskanie yesterday for weapons of mass destruction. Weather training coming April 26. ICS 300 and 400 – classes coming up in June. Contact Lorraine Churchill.

Red Cross – Roy – sent two volunteers to floods in North Dakota. There is a video blog on their website. For any engagement with ARC, please call our chapter hotline 503 284 1234 – that is manned 24 hours/day. We have provided food, clothing, hotel stays for five different fires in about 5 weeks. We are still in need of local volunteers. Covers 17 counties. Getting a lot of CERT volunteers in the Metro area. Training is available. Emergency warming centers officially closed. A couple of local volunteers were on KOHI yesterday --- thanks to Diane for arranging this.

Corps – Guy is one of our new engineers – he is responsible for our levy safety management systems. Rehabilitation request by the Woodson Drainage District for repairs – one of things that the Corps is now doing differently – now we are taking a more holistic approach – a whole flood protection system. Now we are looking at the three drainage districts as a whole. Even the mechanisms of flood damage are changing through time. Woodson folks very easy to work with. Steve said this diking is really expensive to repair – so it is important to keep these repaired because it really was a catastrophic event and we are grateful for the Corps help in this area.

Keith Locke – all of the land deals for the hospital are finally being completed. Skip Baker did a great job. Dalton Lake – we have signed papers from the State that the City now has a signed lease. Construction on Milton Creek Bridge – bicycle/pedestrian path. Fixing big hole on 12/13th Street so it won't be prone to future flooding. Travelcolumbiacounty.com – web page now up and running.

Les suggested that these projects appear in the Hazard Mitigation Plan for the County.
Industry –

Armstrong – very quiet – closed a plant recently in Mobile, Alabama. We have 110,000 hours incident free, not working on the weekends. Putting on a pilot safety summit – working with

Longview Fibre.

Dyno Nobel – fertilizer industry still going strong. We are ramping up urea solutions market. Mike Cave is training for confined space rescue – we are creating our own team at the facility. Using CRFR training facility tomorrow. March 9th – 3 years without a lost time.

Cascade Grain – no news – still got 9 employees – we are about 3 weeks behind on a projected startup plan.

PGE – Beaver plant is preparing for maintenance shutdown – our Port Westward plant has 20 employees. Both plants celebrating 400 days without a lost time. They are also heading for an annual outage.

GP – Business as usual. 15 new hires came aboard yesterday. Our focus is on the annual outage which is coming up in two months. Main projects environmental controls... #1 bath tissue Quilted Northern in a consumer survey.

Law enforcement – no reps

Transportation – going along very well – we have been real active trying to bring as many stimulus dollars to CC – couple of new buses coming this month – a brand new 43-passenger bus.

Fairboard – mega Easter egg hunt is happening this weekend. Tens of thousands of Easter eggs that will be made available Saturday morning at 11 a.m. Get there early. We'll be parking over a 1000 cars Saturday morning. Contact Ronda at the fair office.

Chamber – Diane reported they have a board meeting today – working on Twilight tour opportunities.

Sacagawea – seeing an uptake in students without insurance. Annual Art Auction is May 16.

Military –National Guard will be deploying over 3500 of our troops being deployed overseas. So when winter comes we are going to be really short of resources. We have millions of dollars of new equipment – it is staying here in the State – so we are going to have equipment. Defense on line system – being broadcast to the joint operations center in Salem. My job is to get it into the center so the state can determine what a county needs and why. This helps them effectively deploy assets. We are trying to avoid “mission creep” – there is another program – razor:em – information system that has every county in the nation. Allows incoming guard troops to have knowledge.

Fire

Clatskanie – Steve Sharek reports he is encouraged to see Ken McFarland and Mike Sullivan – great job with their planning procedures at their facilities at Port Westward. Thanks to GP,

Eugene Fire, Clatskanie Fire, funded by donations – telesquirt purchase. Stimson Lumber has slowed down.

Scappoose – 118 emergencies – three trauma

CRFR – open burning in City of St. Helens. 301 calls in March – 77% of EMS. Uptick in structure fires. Be careful of barbecues. Hyla working with the Oregon department of Forestry on “defensible spaces.” Continuing legislative calls at 7 a.m. on Wednesday at CRFR admin. Building. Working on CEPA Expo. Hospital moving along.

CERT – Joe training classes for new CERT members

Steve Salle’ – not here today – LEPC sub-committee chairs met here a week ago – we are going to activate every sub-committee. Looking forward to active participation with CEPA Expo. Chief Salle will be heading up. Mike Greisen in charge of financial group. Derek taking over as head of **Resource Planning/Development Committee** committee. Terry Wolfe will help. State Fire Marshal’s website – up and running – feel free to upload information including calendar’s, minutes, etc. Karen Ladd is chair of the Planning Committee – her members are Henry Heimuller, Nancy Harwood, Robbie Roberts.

Les Miller – Corps of Engineers – certified to listen. Born in Alaska, raised in Walla Walla, moved to PDX in 1988 – Volunteers are critically important to any organization – you members of CEPA truly represent one of the finest examples of a public/private partnership. We rely upon relationships like you have here. A process for designing flood protection barriers/channels and planning their placement to prevent repeat flood damage to public facilities, infrastructure, local economy, and homes. All disasters are local. It is important to protect your business, home from flooding.

Flood History – there is not a lot of money available but there are resources and if we know where one is going to occur then we can prepare to defend it. Tough decisions – No action, warn and evacuate, flood fights – combination of government, non-profit, individuals, business/industry. Henry suggested we get a sand bag-filling machine. Get real estate easements and rights of way.

Sandbagging – Corps looked at the systems available – labor intensive but with the right plan you can get a lot done – takes a lot of coordination. \$39/linear foot 3 ft. high @\$ 0.25/bag. Typical pyramid sandbag place – we have one-half million bags under the St. Johns Bridge. If you have a plan and the State of Oregon knows about it – guess who we would vote for – the people who have a plan.

EZ Bagger – virtually indestructible, fits both burlap and poly bags – hard to use proper ergonomics. A cylindrical shaped sandbag-filling tool – the tool reportedly can increase production.

Sanding Truck attachment for sandbag filling –

Megga bagger – Sandbag filling machine – 1600 bags/per hour – average output of approx. 1000 bags per hour. Costs about \$20,000.

HESCO Bastion Concertainer – these provide security barriers – tested on the Mississippi River. Cost is \$35/linear foot 3 feet high.

You have to have a way to control seepage.

Rapid Deployment Flood Wall – Grids 4x4 and 4x2 - \$159/linear foot 3 feet high – very low seepage. Time consuming to remove.

WIPP Water-Inflated Flood Barrier – developed in New Zealand – these are used in rivers while doing environmental projects.

Portadam Portable cofferdam systems – utilizes a steel supporting structure. \$73/linear foot 3 feet high. Hydrostatic loading creates seal to streambed.

Aqua Fence – brand new product – first one put up in Mt. Vernon, WA. Goes up very quickly.

Water-Gate Self-inflating Barrier – portable and self-inflating.

Handling Leakage with Crisafulli pumps – Portland Corps has this product. WASHDOT is using this up in Chehalis. They are pre-positioning now.

Resources – People, Supplies, Equipment, Facilities – within this room you guys have shown how you can collaborate. This is how CEPA is successful in that you meet on a regular schedule and talk to each other –

OEM is now a part of the military department.

Design & Planning = Response and Recovery – Everyone who is a player during response and recovery – committed collaborators.

Here are all the websites – Flood Fight technology web sites.

d.les.miller@usace.army.mil – I would be happy to put on a flood fight training plan – need one for all of Columbia County participants. HSEMC will discuss this at their meeting.

Next meeting is May 5, 10 am at the 911 Center. Our guest speaker is James Roddey from DOGAMI. 911 will provide treats and door prizes.