

Umatilla County
Local Emergency Planning Committee
Minutes
July 7, 2009

Present:

Whitney Brunson, Smith Frozen Foods
Dan Coulombe, Hermiston Police
Jim Whelan, Stanfield Fire
Thane Jennings, Calpine/Hermiston Power
Pat Hart, Hermiston Fire
Tom Groat, CTUIR
Ric Tunstead, Oregon Health
Dean Marcum, Stanfield Fire
Mark Milne, City of Pendleton
Terry Wolfe, Oregon State Fire Marshal
Jim Stearns, Umatilla Co. Emergency Management
Jodi Florence, Umatilla Co. Emergency Management

Election of Officers

Terry Wolfe suggested Emergency Management or one of the responding agencies, such as Fire, take on a temporary role as the Chair until the committee gets established.

Jim Stearns nominated John Fowler, Pendleton Fire, for temporary Chair, seconded and approved (pending John's acceptance).

Jim Stearns will contact John Fowler to see if he is willing to be Chair.

Suggestion was made that the Vice Chair-person be someone from industry. Thane Jennings volunteered to be Vice Chair. Pat Hart nominated Thane, seconded and approved

Jim Stearns nominated Jodi Florence to be Information Coordinator, seconded and approved.

Officers

Chair – John Fowler

Vice Chair – Thane Jennings

Information Coordinator – Jodi Florence

Sub-Committees

Membership:

Suggestion was made that members invite other industry members.

- Union Pacific – possible contacts: Phil Houk, risk management or Gary Cooper
Jodi will contact Gary Cooper
- Schools - Jodi will contact Casey White or Maria Duron with ESD
- Hospitals - Dean Marcum will get Jodi contact information
- Media - Jodi will contact media with information about the formation of Umatilla Co. LEPC
- State Police - Terry will get contact information to Jodi

Terry can help with getting points of contact for various industries and can send letters letting them know Umatilla County has a LEPC and they are mandated (EHS facilities) to be involved.

Other suggested members: GASP has been interested in Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) for CSEPP and may want to be involved.

Public Notice will be made on State's website. We can also send press release or notification specifically to media to help get information out. Tom Groat suggested that LEPC could be part of the CSEPP closeout process.

Jodi will send agenda and minutes to Krista for posting to the State web page.

By-Laws:

Federal requirements states that we need to have officers and by-laws. The committee can be run how each county wants it, there is no mandate as to how the meetings are run, who can vote, what the by-laws are, etc.

Terry said that it usually takes committees several meetings to establish by-laws. An example to look at is the Mid-Valley LEPC By-Laws. We can reproduce their information with specific needs for Umatilla County LEPC

Jim Stearns suggested a committee to review by-laws. Volunteers are Pat Hart, Thane Jennings, Jim Stearns, and Tom Groat. They will review by-laws and begin working on them for Umatilla County.

Report back to committee at next meeting

Discussion

Jim Stearns would like to see information on incidents that have occurred in the area and share learning points. He discussed the recent ammonia release at Hinkle.

Oregon State has 14 regional hazmat teams. Hermiston Fire is one of those teams. Pat Hart stated that his agency will do outreach to your industry. He can present how to notify the team, what to expect, etc.

Umatilla County Emergency Management has a state of the art Emergency Operation Center (EOC) that serves the area. The EOC was paid for through CSEPP money. It has been utilized for non-CSEPP events (there has been no CSEPP incidents). As CSEPP goes away, the capabilities provided will remain and be available.

Tom Groat suggested that LEPC may be able to help maintain and use the buildings (i.e. EOC). Umatilla County will be looking for someone to use and maintain the space. The EOC and Joint Information Center (JIC) can be used in any incident to keep media and the public informed.

Dean Marcum stated they are trying to put together Type Three teams for local incidents and they are looking for specific positions for those teams.

Mark Milne asked what hazards are in the area from industries. His site has chlorine. Discussed other industries that have chlorine on site. Pendleton Flour Mills, Smith's Frozen Foods. Jim Stearns talked about the Hermiston Pool incident where a large amount of chlorine was released.

Terry will send a Commodity flow study produced by ODOT, as well as one produced by the Rail industry. This will show us what is being transported through our area.

Tom Groat discussed a vehicle fire that CTUIR responded to at Deadman's Pass.

Other suggestions for members:

Trucking Industry

OSHA

DEQ

Tidewater Barge lines

ODOT

Starch Plant – Jim Whelan will check with them

Discussed having presentations by individual agencies. We will have a "Spotlight" for industry or agency to discuss:

What hazards on site?

What assets / resources are available?

What would make responding easier for responders?

Present general information about their agency/industry.

Next meeting date: August 4, 10:00 a.m. @ Hermiston Fire Station #3

Agenda

Report from By-Laws Committee

Status of EHS participation from State Fire Marshal's office

Hazardous Substance Information System (HSIS) demo – Bill Brauer

Spotlight on members: Pat Hart – Hermiston Fire

Round Table: General information / chemicals on site / hazardous incidents / responses