

MULTNOMAH COUNTY LEPC
Meeting Minutes
Friday December 11, 2015
Portland Fire & Rescue Training Center – Portland, OR

Members Present: Recorded by sign-in sheet

Meeting was called to order at 11:00 am.

Members present approved meeting minutes from November 13, 2015

Jim Dunlap discussed an upcoming Department of Homeland Security Audit. There is a new question from DHS asking about facility involvement with LEPC's and reaching out to first responders to conduct site tours.

Jim Dunlap discussed a recommendation to include adding a notice of potential fines or penalties for failing to participate in LEPC planning activities to the proposed outreach letter being sent to facilities reporting Extremely Hazardous Substances on the Hazardous Substance Information Survey.

- Members present recommended against mentioning fines or penalties in the outreach letter in the absence of enforcement history for LEPC non-participation.
- The draft letter will be used maintaining the focus on providing information and awareness with the goal of generating meeting attendance.

Jim Dunlap read a press release detailing \$300,000 in penalties issued to four companies in Washington State for failing to report as required under the Emergency Planning & Community Right to Know Act. Further discussion noted that most enforcement actions result after an incident occurs rather than from an independent finding, and EPA fines tend to be large due to multiple individual penalties being associated with each violation.

Jim Dunlap reviewed OSFM information studies from 2010 and 2013. Multnomah County contained 195 facilities receiving Hazardous Substance Information Surveys. In 2010, 83% of surveys issued in Multnomah County were returned. In 2013, 94% of the surveys were returned.

Jim Dunlap and Terry Wolfe provided an update of the HMEP Grant process

- Grant application has to be submitted by the end of January
- Easiest way to assemble a grant is to keep the grant small and use an available template
- First grant will probably start with five to six facilities
- Next anticipated step is to add small facilities with only a few substances to report
- In following years establish a process of annually reviewing those plans already submitted and adding another five to six facilities to the plan each year through the grant process

Jim Dunlap is working on a formal request for a training presentation from the Department of Homeland Security. Largest hurdle is coordinating a mutually workable date for the presentation.

Alison Boyd of Multnomah County Emergency Management has a draft of Multnomah County's Human-Caused and Technological Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment report to send to LEPC members for review.

- Report is a broad overview that excludes specific details like locations and names
- Seeking comments from members on content and if the information is helpful

Seth Tane of Linnton NET asked about audible signals used by companies for emergency warnings that can be heard by the facility's neighbors but which those neighbors do not know the meaning of.

- Bryan Profit of Portland Fire & Rescue noted this same question was recently raised within the responder community
- Seth Tane asked if there is a way for Linnton NET to ask the facility managers these questions or if there is an existing channel for getting such questions answered through the LEPC
- Terry Wolfe reported he had also received a similar question relayed second hand, that the starting point is with the OSFM CR2K website, and offered to help word a request for the information being sought.
- It was noted that obtaining specific facility contact information for a dense business location like Linnton is difficult, as is identifying which signals are being heard.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:00