



MEETING MINUTES

February 16, 2016 @ 1:30 p.m.

Umatilla County Justice Center / Emergency Operations Center
4700 NW Pioneer Place
Pendleton OR 97801

Present

Jason Gefre, Hermiston Generating
Vincent Papol, National Weather Service
Ben Weinke, City of Hermiston, Recycled Water Plant
Deb Fritts, PGG
Mike Kay, Hermiston School District
Matthew Drumheller, Army Corps of Engineers – McNary Dam
Alan Polan, ARES
Virginia Blakelock, KBLU-FM
Gary Betts, KBLU – FM
Jodi Florence, Umatilla County Emergency Management
Jack Remillard, Umatilla County Emergency Management
Klaus Hoehna, City of Pendleton
Ryan Bagley, Smith's Frozen Foods
Jacob Devine, Smith's Frozen Foods
Tim Byam, Grain Craft

Approval of Minutes

Minutes Approved

Election of Co-Chair Position

Nominations for Co-Chair were made at the last meeting. Klaus Hoehna was nominated. Motion was made by Vincent Papol to elect Klaus as Co-chair; motion was seconded by Ben Weinke. All approved of the motion. Klaus was unanimously elected.

Exercises

Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) Earthquake Exercise - June 7-10, 2015

To gain an understanding of LEPC's responsibility with the CSZ exercise, the committee decided to meet monthly. Some facilities with headquarters on the West side of the State, realized that their facility could be affected. A large influx of people to our area would also present problems with sheltering and feeding.

Emergency Management needs for the CSZ earthquake exercise will be staffing the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The exercise will be a table-top exercise for Umatilla County, with the focus on operating the EOC. EOC staff should be two deep in each major position in order to work twelve hour shifts (for real incidents). Those positions include the Command Staff (Logistics, Operations, Planning and Finance), as well as Liaison's, Safety Officer and Public Information. Training is available to anyone interested in working in the EOC.

Jack would like to get a policy group together to make decisions and define goals of an incident. The EOC staff would then make plans to meet specific objectives to accomplish those goals. With Jack's retirement on February 29th, the new Emergency Manager will need to work on establishing this group.

If you are interested in helping in the EOC or observing the TTX, contact Jodi at Jodi.florence@umatillacounty.net

Virginia Blakelock, KBLU-FM, would like to do an interview about CSZ earthquake in order to get emergency preparedness information to the public.

Deb Fritts said that Oregon Public Broadcast has had televised specials on the earthquake. She would like to get preparedness information out to PGG employees

State ECC Drill

Alan Polan talked about the State Emergency Coordination Center's drill that took place this morning. The State EOC was activated and HAM radio operators participated. The scenario was that communications were down. ARES was able to practice communications and sent messages to the State for the EOC.

The East Oregonian had a reporter and photographer at the Umatilla County EOC. They are planning a story on ARES and emergency communications and how it works with Emergency Management.

See link below for EO article:

<http://www.eastoregonian.com/eo/local-news/20160219/hams-and-the-big-one>

Emergency Response Plan

The LEPC manual is specific to the purpose and objectives of a committee. We are a planning body with the primary focus on HazMat throughout the county, but can also be other hazards.

The Emergency Response Plan is finished. Each facility will need to review their information in the ERP and keep it updated with all materials included. The Tier Two document can help make this easy to update the ERP. A Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) for each facility should also be included.

Please send updates to Jodi.

New Business

A Mass Notification System has been purchased by the City of Pendleton. There are three main companies Everbridge, Code Red, and Alert Sense. The systems take all federal mandates and include them in the notification system. People can voluntarily sign up and give their contact information, and how they want to be notified of an incident (email, phone, etc.). The system can also automatically notify everyone with a cell phone in the area covered by a specific cell tower.

Pendleton chose to purchase Alert Sense. They provide service and training for lesser cost, and are located in Boise, ID.

An Alert Sense rep will speak with Umatilla County Dispatch Supervisor and Emergency Manager about acquiring the system. If the County decides to purchase the system, all Umatilla County residents would be able to sign up for alerts.

Within this system, there are modules for Police, Schools, Public Works and other groups. Groups can be used to send notifications of meetings, public works activities, closures, etc. There is also a mapping feature, to notify people in a specified area. A line can be drawn around a geographical area, and notifications can be sent to all in that area. This system will also let you know if a call was answered, message left, or no answer.

Mike Kay with Hermiston School District said that they have a system similar for their employees, parents and students. Notifications can go to selected groups, based on what the message is. When there is a lockdown, a push notification goes out to let users know what is happening. Emergency Plans are also available with their system, and Fire and Law have access to maps, codes and emergency shutoff information.

City of Pendleton has a website with a link for residents to sign up for Alert Sense.

<http://www.pendleton.or.us/>

Communication Liaison

Klaus would like to see two people from LEPC work with Emergency Management to let the public know what LEPC does. He would also like to see LEPC members talk about their facility (what they do, location, exercises, etc.).

The Liaison would be a one year commitment to inform the public through newsletter, articles, or presentations.

Other

Klaus has been talking to Casey White-Zollman, Vice President of Public Relations, with BMCC. BMCC organized a Safety Summit in January and invited organizations interested in public safety. Multiple entities attended that represented three local Counties. They created a forum to help people collaborate with each other. Casey had no idea what LEPC is or does, yet this summit fulfilled some of the duties of a LEPC.

The City of Hermiston and Morrow County has continued to meet and talk about preparedness.

A Retirement Cake was presented to Jack, since it was his last LEPC meeting before retiring.

Next Meeting Dates: March 15 @ 1:30 at Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston

Please let Jodi know if you are able to provide a meeting location for the following dates:

April 19 – Pendleton TBD

May 17 – Hermiston TBD