

Columbia Emergency Planning Association Meeting

January 5, 2010

Present:

Jay Tappan
Diane Dillard
Janis Walters
Jo Brooke
Jim Huff
Steve Watson
Terri Levie
Adrienne Donner
Al Pierce
Dave Morrison
Robbie Roberts
Pat Rubino –
Mike Greisen

Alicia Little
Michael Cave
Harold Nelson
Cristin Concoran
Marge Murphy
Caroline Frappier
Lee Knowlton
Dean Smith
Eric Corliss
Beth Dudley
Anne Parrott
Frank Grace
Theodora Tsongas

- Introductions. Thanks to Boise for treats and door prizes. Thanks to State LEPC for funding the 911 newsletter. Good opportunity to get information out to all of Columbia County.
- Committee Reports –
EHS – looking at plan evaluation to Dyno Nobel Program
Information Management – Steve S.
Executive – will meet soon to elect officers
Resource Development
Membership – no report
Sympathy
- Betsy – the biggie is the last day to register for election. If the ballot measures pass, we may do more policy stuff. We believe that February ought to be a budget discussion. If the ballot measures fail, we will be looking to plug a lot of holes in the budget. Election is the 26th – we go into session on the 1st.
- 911 – Clatskanie Mountain radio project moving along quite well – site is set up and we'll be finishing over the winter. This is a key site for us as for us and OWIN and for Clatsop County. We have been in this building now for 10-1/2 years and had new radio consoles installed and so we have gone back to the manufacturer – and possibly establishing a Beta site. And we will put used consoles into back up center.
- Port Comm
- Co Commissioners

- Emergency Management – Beth said Derek and Lorraine at a spill response class. Working on earthquake preparedness and CEPA members invited to attend February workshops. Purpose is to get people to be thinking about it. April 26 is April Preparedness Test day.
- ARC – very busy month. We are at one response per day – emergency warming center in Portland for 8 days. Great service. Locally the Orcadia fire displaced 23 people and we helped out there – 18 units affected. Got them motel rooms and groceries and other assistance. Thanks to the City of St. Helens for opening the council chambers so we could assist the displaced people and ARC was able to do casework in a warm, friendly environment. Also thanks to Chief Tappan and the Fire District for their response. Columbia County Rider provided transportation and Oak Meadow Inn for opening the rooms. New AED law coming out this month. Thanks to SH Police for their help. Special thanks to Laura Smith for helping us with all the animals. Animals got into heated storage.
- Corps
- Armstrong – everything 268,000 hours safe. Will have another layoff in March – down to two shifts.
- Boise – ended year with a 2.01 incident rate – full with orders – no downtime in December.
- NW Natural – nothing significant – during the cold snap – in Clark County we had a single feed of gas – we lost big pressure which vastly reduced the supply to Clark County for several hours – we did some operations and maintenance
- PUD – Kevin – we are certainly better off this year than we were last year at this time – we have had a couple bad car pole accidents.
- Dyno Nobel – things are going well – prices are decent and demand strong. Working on diesel exhaust equipment to meet new emission standards. We are the only urea plant west of Wyoming. Working on 12th year without a lost time injury.
- SHFC – Jeff – nothing major to report – instituted procedure to deal with swine flu in our offices. Robberies of financial institutions are on the rise.
- Sherriff – over the holiday weekend deputies very busy – made numerous alcohol related arrests. Jail has gone through several safety inspections – even had an OSHA inspections – one thing we did notice – in a snow event – our parking lot gets totally covered and we have no way to clear the place out – working with County Road department (Lonnie). Sheriff's also vested with SAR response – we haven't lost anyone we have searched for. We have 30 volunteers – Tom Elmore is one of the volunteers. 14 responded. Got a call out at 11 p.m. – at night we don't really pound the ground – we begin driving the roads. The guy found an

old caterpillar and climbed in there and stayed dry – then at daybreak we had searchers out.

- Sally – the CAN is dealing with second vendor – they have a good product but they made promises they have not kept. We may be issuing another RFP.
- Betsy – the governor has reactivated his SAR committee – Betsy is serving on it – lot of focus on mountain locator – I invite public safety people to give me input. Next meeting is at 1 p.m. on the 6th. The second thing jail issue and parking lot – there are other public structures who are struggling with snow removal protocol --- we should identify places that “have to stay open” and reduce inefficiencies.
- OSP – there were no traffic fatalities in the state.
- Steve Salle’ – Business as usual – lot of minor crashes – one pursuit got away from us because of snow – lot of domestics. Donut Day went very well – 425 dozen donuts and all gone by 11 a.m. – just SH – 7500 lbs. of food to the food bank and \$4200 in cash.
- Randy – designated Steve to be our delegate to CEPA.
- Frank – last Tuesday snowstorm – caused some traffic jams – currently working on revising emergency operations plan for Vernonia
- Mike – like to recognize Derek White and PUD and CRF&R – helped us last month with an exercise in Columbia City – ironically based on a winter weather event.
- All 5 fire district – 131 incidents in December in Scappoose – one firefighter lost time CRFR – 353 calls and finished 3893 total calls – structure fires – Holiday Hope and Toy N Joy went well
- Mist-Birkenfeld – 2 fires – the snowstorm – thanks to Kathy Wolfe for helping us get toys – also helped another family who lost a father in a crabbing accident. MVA on Apiary – car in the water. Lost a person Christmas morning at the park – best thing that ever happened in December – we performed CPR and called in Life Flight – the woman lived.
- Clatskanie – finished 1051 calls – Steve – excited about Clatskanie Mountain radio site – if you are traveling in our area – with rain and freezing – some instability of terrain – got two AED’s in the school and many food baskets
- Dean Smith in Vernonia – most of our guys knocking on wood – went through December with a natural disaster – 440 calls for the year.

- OSFM – only one project left for grant requests --- will talk with Steve about a training project – we heard Cascade Grain has been purchased by the company that built it. Good idea for CEPA to get involved – it sounds like the business may start up again.
- ARES – no report – quiet December
- Life Flight – Holly Love – outreach manager for Life Flight in Oregon – working with CRF&R on some challenges on radio communications because of your terrain. We have a new newsletter – exciting cardiac save in McMinnville – we were selected out of nation as #1 program of the year – doing well. Longview base is strong – weather challenges are a part of this time of the year. If you would like a representative her for community events
- CRI – Adrienne - - sit in six counties and this is the best meeting in the region. Been very involved H1N1. Great kickoff meeting – some really interesting stuff – on the 30th an Executive Order came down – to prepare for the “postal plan” – trying to inoculate 2 million people in 48 hours. Working closely with CERT and MRC teams.
- Anne – MRC’s plugging away still out vaccinating – got a small grant yesterday (\$5000). Further developing mobile vaccination teams. New member orientation later this month. In Public Health focus still on H1N1 – decided to be able to give to anyone who wants it – had a POD at St. Helens High School – vaccinated 300 people in a four hour window.
- Mark –
- Cities – quiet holiday season in Clatskanie – Greg Hinkelman
- City of SH – Legislative briefing tonight – goodbye to Skip Baker who is retiring.
- Conrad Forest Products – David Qualman – first CEPA meeting –
- Introducing – Lindsay Ball, OWIN director –
Used to live here – worked State Police for 27 years – six of it here – enforcing fish and wildlife laws. All the good times and dear friends in the local area. This meeting here speaks volumes of what Columbia County is all about – I am really proud of what you do here. I can see you are joined in many different ways – you got it all – I haven’t seen anything like this around the State.

A little bit about Sally Jones – when I was assigned this project – “public safety communications” and I didn’t know the people and so I had the good fortune of getting to know her very quickly and she’s got a network across this state that is unbelievable – she has been a great help OWIN project – the other person I want to recognize is Senator Johnson part of the legislative work group – as legislature adjourned 2009 – and they volunteered their own time and own transportation to continue providing guidance – Senator Johnson is a senator that works.

Anytime I have a chance to plug Life Flight – attacked on Sauvie’s Island – four people attacked him and he literally bled out. Because of the helicopter and the flight nurse I am alive today. Just remember that helicopter is a real resource for you – it can save your neighbors, family and friends.

OWIN – this whole thing started in 2001 – as a result of 9/11. Can police fire and other safety entities talk to one another. Since there was a lack of interoperability – there was death as a result. What is status of our public safety communication systems across the state? The outcome reveals 80% of the state’s infrastructure – needed replacement – and it has been based on 1950 technology – in conjunction with that the FCC passed a law that requires everyone in the nation to go from wide band to narrow band by January 2013 – and we have technology way outdated – so the OWIN project came out of last legislative session – currently scheduled \$360 million to be spent – five radios in a police car – the system we are going to put in will only need one radio. We having siting, architecture and Engineering and we are under budget – we budgeted \$25 million and just over \$20 million spent. We are overseeing a project in Umatilla and Morrow counties – we will assimilate the army depot project - Showed map of sites around the State.

Partnerships – one of the things the legislators advised us and requested us – take the \$660 million price tag to a level that was more palatable for the economy – reduced cost by doing a lot in house. Told Gov. Kulongoski – that we can reduce costs by partnering with the local jurisdictions – we have 41 partnerships to date. Saved \$60 million to date – Clatskanie Mountain site is a backbone site for the State. We have not subscribed anyone from local government but will allow it when the project done – we are not mandating joining us. Lot of discussion still taking place on whether we use mobile and data. OSP has contracted with Verizon by using an air card. The drawback I see with having Verizon as a carrier – in the event of a disaster that system will fail. Have your own mobile data system – don’t rely on a vendor who in an emergency cannot provide you with the service you need. Betsy said we need a unified system – like OWIN – I want to avoid a bunch of work arounds on this new system – the little agency work arounds does not work for us. We are going to have an earthquake and I can guarantee you a commercial vendor will not be able to respond. We have to have a very reliable system says Betsy – when people’s lives depends on you we got to do better. The Columbia 911 system is not reliant on the phone, power systems, we are independent --- we also have the authority to coordinate and integrate with OWIN.

The system we are putting in is going to have its own ISSI – it allows us to access all 15 channels -- saw a demonstration in Scottsdale, AZ. What was really cool --- they all had different frequencies but they could bridge through the ISSI. How we can maintain this system into the future? We put our budget together to plan to keep the system maintained. From an air ambulance perspective --- I propose a single dedicated air to ground channel. OWIN will be built on a 700 MHz platform – you should look for narrow band