

**Umatilla County LEPC
Minutes
October 6, 2009**

Present:

Pat Hart, Hermiston Fire and Emergency Services
Dan Coulombe, Hermiston Police Department
Jim Stearns, Umatilla County Emergency Management
Rod Holland, UMCDF
Whitney Brunson, Smith's Frozen Foods
Doug Paine, Good Shepherd Community Hospital
Genni Lehnert, Umatilla County Public Health
Sherena Clements, Umatilla County Public Health
Sean Basford, Hermiston Water
Ric Tunstead, Oregon Health
John Fowler, Pendleton Fire Department
Dean Marcum, Stanfield Fire Department
Larry Hinkle, Pendleton Flour Mills
Greg Loftus, Pendleton Flour Mills
Maria Duron, Umatilla-Morrow Educational Services District
Bill Brauer, Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office
Jodi Florence, Umatilla County Emergency Management
Darla Huxoll, Umatilla Police Department
Thane Jennings, Hermiston Power

No additions to agenda, minutes approved

Umatilla County Public Health – H1N1 presentation

Genni Lehnert –

Seasonal flu is here. The Health Department wants everyone to get vaccinated, especially those 50 and older, small children, or those with underlying chronic health problems. Seasonal flu shots are available at local pharmacies and hospitals.

H1N1 is a new virus, it is still influenza. The vaccine is expected to arrive later this week. The Health Dept. will have about 46,000 doses in weekly allotments.

Mass vaccination clinics are planned in Hermiston, Pendleton, and Milton Freewater. Dates will be determined by Multi Agency Coordination (MAC) group on Thursday. There will be no cost at the clinics. However, partner providers (hospitals, pharmacies, physicians) may charge an administration fee. Vaccines at the Health Dept. will be free.

Priority Risk Groups will be: pregnant women, providers who care for children less than 6 months, anyone with an underlying condition, 6 months to 24 years, first responders.

If you are sick: stay home if you have a fever of 100 degrees or more, don't return to work for 24 hours after fever (without medications), cover your cough, wash your hands frequently, practice social distancing.

John Fowler – Umatilla County had Flu Summit to talk about continuity of operations. Discussion focused on what to do if you have people out of your office or business due to illness. What is the effect of having people out in your operation? What happens if 911 or first responders are overwhelmed with calls that are flu related.

Recommendation: get information to employees about the flu (www.flu.gov or www.cdc.gov)

By-Laws Committee

Pat Hart – By-laws have been drafted. There are a few changes that still need to be made. By-laws will be sent out for members to look at. Decisions that need to be made:

- Elected officers – do we need a treasurer, can it be combined with another position? Will Public Information Officer act as a secretary?
- Do we need to hold an annual meeting? Can we designate a monthly meeting as our annual meeting?
- Do we need to have an Executive Committee meeting? If so, who does it include?

Jodi will email out the draft of the by-laws. Send comments or suggestions to Pat, before the next meeting.

Natural Hazards Committee

Jim Stearns – Umatilla County Emergency Management has a natural hazards plan (flood, earthquake, fires, etc). One requirement is to have a natural hazards committee. Would LEPC form a natural hazards sub-committee to look at man-made and natural disasters? A sub-committee could tie in to EHS facilities, and look into natural hazards around the county. This group could include public works professionals.

Dennis Olsen, who is working with FEMA, may become part of this group (work group or sub committee). This could be a working group with a representative that reports back to LEPC. Jim Stearns will talk to Dennis Olsen.

Spotlight on Wal-Mart Distribution Center – no one present (will have them present another time) Mark Milne mentioned that Wal-Mart has gone to more green cleaners. This reduces the amount of chemicals that go into the waste water. He noted that the antibacterial cleaners go through the waste water treatment plants and could end up in the rivers, effecting fish.

Bill Brauer, Office of State Fire Marshal -

Gave out brochures, notepad, and three ring binders, stationary with envelopes, these were products received with the Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) grant. HMEP is an annual process. State Fire Marshal's office will be reviewing grants. Grant money is available for haz-mat related needs (training, exercise, not for equipment), contact Bill. Requests need to be submitted by September 2010. We will need to discuss what we want to request.

Discussion about whether we will need a treasurer if we receive grant money.

Possible Training: Confined Space. Currently, there is not a rescue team available. We may need to do an awareness training. Rescue team now comes from Portland or Seattle.

One of the challenges of having a rescue team is that it requires significant training and is expensive (overtime, back filling positions, equipment, annual training). Training has to be done

at each confined space location. Industries / businesses need to be aware that first responders are not trained and able to respond to confined spaces.

Thane Jennings said that they contract with a company from Portland. UMCDF has a team specific to the plant, they will not come off base.

Round Table

Richard Winter – working with County and Flood Plain definitions

Jim Stearns – attended the Oregon/Washington Emergency Management conference. He noted that the CSEP program has been really good for this area. Communications, response planning, and in-home notification systems are ahead of many areas. The concern is that we won't be able to sustain systems when CSEPP goes away. He explained the 450 MHz system that is funded by CSEPP now, but will need funding for the system and maintenance when the program is finished. This system currently allows first responders to communicate with each other from most geographic areas.

A Special Communication District has been formed but will need funding by users to continue maintenance, upgrades, etc. for the system. This will be on the ballot in May 2010, asking for 17 cents per \$1000.

John Fowler explained that voting against this doesn't mean the cost will go away. Most of the current old system will have to be replaced, due to bandwidth, by January 2013. Without the special district funding, each community will have to fund their own systems. The special district will be less expensive.

Doug Paine– Good Shepherd Hospital has never had a citation for lack of emergency preparedness. He echoed Jim's comment that we have a good system in place, thanks to CSEPP.

John Fowler asked everyone to review the by-laws and think about committees or work groups that should be formed. We would like to have everyone involved and active to be able to target issues and prioritize them.

Next meeting – December 2, Wednesday, Hermiston Fire Station #3, 10:00 a.m.