

Minutes of the  
January 20, 2022 meeting of the  
State Interagency Hazard Mitigation Team (State IHMT)

Meeting location: webinar only

The following 32 people participated in the meeting:

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)	Don Pettit Wes Risher
Division of Financial Regulation (DFR) Building Codes Division (BCD)	Tracie Weeder Warren Jackson Jeremy Payne
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Dept. of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) Oregon Health Authority (OHA)	Nancy Taylor Bill Burns Candy Cates Amelia Reynolds
Dept. of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)	Katherine Daniel Marian Lahav Pam Reber Chris Shirley Lauren Brown
Department of State Lands OMD, Office of Emergency Management (OEM)	Stephen Richardson Anna Feigum Jason Gately Joseph Murray Althea Rizzo
Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) Oregon Public Utility Commission Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Oregon Water Resources Department (OWDR)	Erik Rau Jenna Trentadue Lisa Gorsuch Jessica Gourley Alyssa Rash
Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Julie Smithart Danny Martinez Edgar Gomez Rynn Lamb Laura McSweeney
WSP USA (formerly E&E)	Erin Bench Trevor Clifford Faye Walstead

1) *Welcome*

Stephen opened the meeting at 9:01 a.m. He thanked the Members who have helped OEM with recent Grant Review Board work. He said the next such panel will occur during the second or third week of February, and he will soon be asking for help with that one as well. He asked how Basecamp worked? People seemed to generally be okay with it. Stephen also noted that over the past year, OEM has noticed gaps in the Membership, and has worked to fix them. Let him know who is still missing.

## 2) *Introductions*

The webinar chat was used to facilitate introductions.

## 3) *Act on draft minutes from October 21, 2021 meeting*

Stephen facilitated. Erik moved adoption as drafted. Laura seconded the motion. The minutes were adopted as drafted.

## 4) *DLCD Report Out*

Marian showed a table and gave a report on what DLCD, DOGAMI, and OPDR are working on in terms of local mitigation and mitigation planning. She will provide it to Joseph for distribution. The table she put together is in a different format and has a broader reach from what they have been doing in the past.

Marian asked what information people feel would be helpful to them. Bill liked the idea of the table. However, he'd like to put one together specifically for DOGAMI too. Marian would be free to combine them. Marian suggested that OEM would be a better party to combine them.

Marian talked about doing a quarterly survey to gather information; it would sit on a sharing platform.

Jason said the table is great and dovetails into something he had planned to say a little later today. He noted we have a bunch of actions in the Oregon NHMP, and the work DLCD is doing on local plans, etc. He thinks this is a great idea for pulling several things we are doing together in one place.

Danny asked if Tribes would be incorporated? Marian said yes.

Pam talked about the nexus to community work doing capital upgrades.

Stephen said this report would be useful. Stephen said OEM could use Basecamp to facilitate this.

Stephen talked about how the mitigation landscape is changing after the 2020 fires.

Marian asked everyone to weigh in on whether they would enter the information into a container on Basecamp, or are there other ways that they would like to provide the information. Jason thinks a quarterly survey – state agencies, Tribes, and universities (the State IHMT list). Bill suggested that we keep it simple. Erik thinks that the OSFM would contribute to data sharing for this.

Marian will be the POC for post-meeting feedback. There was talk of maybe using Box instead.

Stephen said that OEM would circle back around in a smaller meeting with DLCD and DOGAMI, and make this a pilot project.

5) *Report from FEMA Region Ten Mitigation Division*

Edgar talked about working to better align his reporting data with that of OEM and DLC. He talked about the K-318<sup>1</sup> class next week, invitation only, and that staff within OEM have been identified for the training. He is waiting to hear back from FEMA HQ about the invitations. Edgar expects better delivery of 318 during 2022. He would like to know who would like to take 318 in the future.

Rynn talked about base level engineering analysis in NE Oregon; she said that the LiDAR is pretty incomplete in that part of the state. Rynn noted the CTP Executive Summaries for proposed 2022 grant cycle projects are due at the end of this month.

6) Update on State IHMT Charter and By-Laws, Agency Updates (added positions/teams)

Stephen talked about the transition to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (ODEM), hiring, and the situation at OEM being in a bit of a flurry. We asked about contacting OEM through MStems. Stephen said MStems will work, but sometimes Zoom works better. Stephen said the entire Mitigation Team will be in place by the end of February, bringing the old Team of two to a Team of ten. He talked a bit about who is coming to work at OEM, including the former SHMO of New Mexico. He noted that staff working for Anna will now be doing many of the kick-off meetings and close-outs. Jason is supporting Joseph, and Joseph will likely get another .5 FTE helping in planning.

Katherine would like to know how best to connect with OEM on planning. Stephen said to reach out to Joseph and Jason.

Stephen then talked a bit about the hiring of our mitigation regional representatives who will be working for Amanda Mathis.

Stephen talked about OEM's "Plan to Action Initiative." When a plan is FEMA approved, OEM sends out an email to the entire Steering Committee of the local or tribal NHMP to let them know about potential funding opportunities.

Stephen then noted that OEM has begun working on a Charter to formalize the State IHMT. Let him know by email or MStems if you want to be part of that effort. [A small group of people had volunteered during the October meeting.]

Stephen said that OEM is also working to improve the hazard mitigation portions of its website. He then shared the link in the chat to OEM's new GIS-based hazard mitigation status page. He said if anything looks wrong to send correction information to Joseph.

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<sup>1</sup> "318" is training in local and tribal hazard mitigation planning normally conducted over two eight-hour days.

7) Non- and post-disaster HMA grant updates

Anna gave an overview of status on the following HMA grant rounds: FEMA-4499-DR-OR,<sup>2</sup> FEMA-4562-DR-OR,<sup>3</sup> FEMA-4599-DR-OR,<sup>4</sup> HMGP-PF-FM-5394-OR,<sup>5</sup> BRIC<sup>6</sup> FY21, and FMA<sup>7</sup> FY21. She noted that the subapplication deadline for FEMA-4562-DR-OR is January 29. BRIC FY21 includes DLCD's application to update portions of the Oregon NHMP.

8) *Update on implementation and maintenance of the Oregon NHMP*

Jason took the lead by talking about the work OEM is doing monitoring progress on implementation of the actions in the Oregon. He talked about how Marian has helped OEM by creating documents that break-out the actions by agency. It's now a Microsoft word file that OEM has been or will be distributing to each agency with their priority and ongoing actions. Jason is looking for gaps, including funding. Joseph talked about his recent reach-out to about half of the dozen or so state agencies on his list. He has already heard from some of them. He is giving each an approximate one-month deadline with the goal of being able to wrap all of the agencies' reports into a single report for the April State IHMT meeting. Marian said this is a really important activity, and to please do what you can to work with Stephen, Jason, and Joseph on this. Stephen said some of the state agency staff he is working with have actions assigned to them that they indicate they were not aware of. He noted that this is a "no pressure exercise." Stephen said that there are about 180 actions in the plan, which can look overwhelming.

9) *Silver Jackets (Flood Mitigation Subcommittee) and NFIP updates*

Joseph introduced Paul and his role in helping the State of Oregon administer Silver Jackets. He noted that Paul is pinch hitting today for Celinda Adair, the State Floodplain Manager. Paul gave his report verbally noting we are focused right now on the *Silver Jackets Strategic Plan* and its nexus to the flood actions in the Oregon NHMP. He noted it is timely as Silver Jackets members are also looking at funding proposals for the next FFY which begins in October.

He then talked about continued work on Lower Willamette flood modeling for Portland, Milwaukie, and Lake Oswego. The next step is to figure out how to get the next phase of the project funded through FEMA. He talked a bit about work that is occurring on King Tides.

Paul said USACE has a new Emergency Manager (EM), Linda Campbell. He'd like to get Linda introduced to OEM and its new structure. He talked a bit about the flood preparedness work USACE does with local EMs. Stephen then talked a bit about the reorganization of OEM. He said, "we're functionally the same, but a bigger tree." Paul said he would like the new OEM organization chart to go to the Silver Jackets distribution. Stephen indicated he would send it to Paul, maybe via Joseph.

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<sup>2</sup> 4499 is the COVID-19 major disaster declaration.

<sup>3</sup> 4562 is the major disaster declaration in response to the September 2020 wildfire disaster.

<sup>4</sup> 4599 is the major disaster declared due to the winter storm of February 2021.

<sup>5</sup> 5394 is the post-fire mitigation program due to three fires that occurred during the summer of 2021.

<sup>6</sup> BRIC is Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities.

<sup>7</sup> FMA is Flood Mitigation Assistance.

10) State IHMT Member updates; Legislative directives or intent that would be of interest to IHMT

Stephen facilitated this agenda item, noting one of his priorities is seeing how we can collaborate.

Erik led with Senate Bill (SB) 762 (2021 Session), noting that the OSFM has a Community Risk Reduction Program led by Clair McGrew. Part of their team includes Tom Welle, who is busy staffing up that unit. Erik put this in the chat: <http://riskassessment.strategicfire.org/>. Erik also mentioned that in addition to the Community Risk Reduction Program work in the OSFM Fire and Life Safety Education Division, the Fire and Life Safety Services Division is working to develop wildland urban interface (WUI) code.

Stephen asked if DLCD received a position for a wildfire planner? Marian confirmed that they did, a person who will be focused on how to change the state land use planning program to reduce risk from wildfires. A report is due to the Oregon Legislature by October 1.

Candy introduced Amelia Reynolds as OHA's new Wildfire Coordinator. Her position is also part of SB 762. One goal is to create cleaner air in public spaces and to also assist homeowners with smoke filtration devices to produce cleaner indoor air in their spaces.

Jenna then jumped in about SB 762: there is so much that came to her agency from this SB. It includes a Rules Advisory Committee for risk mapping, a new definition of the wildland-urban interface (WUI), a great deal of funding for fuels reduction, improvements to the work of the Firewise communities, a burn management program (prescribed burns), several additional positions, and lots of other moving parts. They are also getting funding on the federal side from the Infrastructure Bill that will include updates to CWPPs.

Chris talked about climate vulnerability assessment work that is underway with Oregon communities. The thing that is different is it does not focus on infrastructure or ecosystems, but rather on the effects on people. She is also working with Marian on climate adaption information for the Oregon NHMP.

Alyssa Rash talked a bit about the new work she is doing as the public information lead for OWRD.

Danny talked about \$25,000 grant the Tribe had received from OHA to look at traditional foods.

Paul said he had gotten a call from the Columbia River Treaty Manager, looking for stakeholders to talk to. He suggested they reach out to the State IHMT. The Treaty Manager wants to hit high levels and broad interests.

Stephen talked about the need to document all the great collaborative work we are doing.

Stephen asked if we ought to be targeting some of our mitigation funding to the tsunami hazard, a question that went unanswered.

Stephen then talked about the enhanced piece of the Oregon NHMP. He noted a requirement of the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) that jurisdictions receiving funding need to update their risk assessments using the OEM Methodology.

11) *Other business*

Stephen also facilitated this agenda item. Bill talked about the recent debris flows in the Eagle Creek drainage, the Dixie Mountain Landslide in Washington County, as well as the unusual geologic event that occurred on Saturday near Tonga. Bill said in the Eagle Creek area, snowmelt likely contributed to the debris flow. He said the models we have for debris flows are from other parts of the USA and may not apply all that well to Oregon. DOGAMI is doing field monitoring of debris flows and comparing with the rainfall totals and rainfall intensity. Paul offered to help with technical aspects of the work DOGAMI is doing.

12) *Develop agenda items for April meeting*

Stephen said we will start looking for guest agencies to present for 10 minutes or so, including a focus on a tie-back to the Oregon NHMP, and what actions are being done in accordance with the Oregon NHMP. A few people gave the thumbs-up in Zoom. Stephen said it will be voluntary and OEM will give lots of notice.

13) *Public comment*

No person of the general public offered comment.

14) *Adjourn*

Stephen ended the meeting at 10:52 a.m.

***The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2022, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.***