Minutes of the
April 20, 2017 meeting of the
State Interagency Hazard Mitigation Team

Meeting location: This meeting was held in the State Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) within the Donald N. Anderson Readiness Center in Salem.

The following people participated in the meeting:

- Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience (OPDR)
  - Josh Bruce
- Department of Administrative Services (DAS)
  - Darrin Brightman
- DCBS, Division of Financial Regulation
  - Tracie Weeder (by telephone)
- OHA, Public Health Division
  - Eric Gebbie (by telephone)
- Dept. of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)
  - Bill Burns (by telephone)
- Dept. of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
  - Matt Crall
  - Marian Lahav
  - Dave Lentzner
  - Tricia Sears
  - Chris Shirley
- Department of State Lands
  - Lauren Brown
- OMD, Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
  - Angie Lane
  - Joseph Murray
- Public Utility Commission (PUC)
  - Rick Carter
- Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
  - Greg Ek-Collins
- Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)
  - Alyssa Mucken
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
  - Frank Fungone (by telephone)
  - Brett Holt (by telephone)
  - Cynthia McCoy (by telephone)
  - Amanda Siok (by telephone)

The following were distributed during or prior to the meeting:

- Meeting agenda
- Silver Jackets Webinar Series (agenda item #3)
- Table of proposals for HMGP on disaster FEMA-4296-DR-OR (agenda item #8.b)
- Information on PDM, HMGP, and FMA (agenda item #8.b)

[Email joseph.murray@mil.state.or.us for a copy of one or more meeting handouts; he also has some or all of the presentations given that were not included among the handouts.]

1) Introductions

   Angie opened the meeting at 9:01 a.m. with introductions.

2) Oregon NHMP update

   Marian said that she had received a handful of updates for the Annual Report. This needs to be done by the end of July. If you haven’t done your report, please do it soon and get it to Marian. She talked briefly about a proposed change that will result in digital information on how development changes over time.
3) Flood Mitigation Subcommittee (“Silver Jackets”) update

Chris noted that the mission of Silver Jackets is to coordinate mitigation around flood issues. The next meeting is scheduled for May 2 in Salem at OEM. That meeting will focus on selecting projects for funding. Chris talked briefly about a few of the proposed projects, and then about some of the work that Silver Jackets has done in the past, including high watermark signs. Josh suggested Mapleton would be a good location for such a sign. Locations where signs currently exist and ideas for new locations were discussed. Chris talked about rapid flood inundation modeling which links gauges to flood inundation areas. She talked about a study on Johnson Creek exploring the economic aspects of flooding. The stalled Mitchell warning project was briefly discussed. She talked about mapping that needs to be done to better represent the flood inundation area from a failure of the Carver Lake moraine dam on South Sister.

Chris passed around information on a series of webinars coming-up related to flood mitigation.

Dave said he just spent a week in St. Louis at the national workshop. He said the workshop was good and that the presentations are all available on the Silver Jackets website. Chris provided the weblink to these presentations:

http://frmpw.nfrmp.us/2017/index.cfm

Josh noted that local mitigation plans may not be saying enough about Silver Jackets as a possible funding source for projects. Dave noted that SJ money cannot be used for structural projects. There was a discussion about how to better integrate SJ into local mitigation planning. Josh gave the example of how RiskMAP is being used to better integrate various resources into local mitigation plans. Josh then mentioned a “process tree” to connect things together.

Chris reminded everyone that the SJ is the Flood Mitigation Subcommittee to the State IHMT.

Chris said that a call is intended to occur before May 2 to discuss projects. She will forward the invitation to Josh, and welcomed others who are interested to contact her. Chris then extended an invitation to Josh and Michael (Howard) to present information at the next meeting of SJ (likely to occur during July).

4) Recent proposal to FEMA; new landslide workgroup

Bill talked about a new homeowners guide to landslides DOGAMI recently published:

http://oregongeology.org/sub/Landslide/ger_homeowners_guide_landslides.pdf

Bill noted that Jed Roberts is the DOGAMI point-of-contact for the two following proposed projects:

- The first aimed at landslide risk reduction in Tillamook County, where there have been a lot of recent losses due to landslides; and
- Multi-hazard risk assessments in natural hazards region #7 (Baker, Grant, Union, and Wallowa counties), similar to the work that has recently been done on the coast.

Bill then talked about a new workgroup that is slowly forming to foster collaboration on landslide risk reduction. They are working on a Charter. This group will be somewhat similar to Silver Jackets and will be a subcommittee to the DAS GEO Hazards FIT. The first meeting is likely to be in the autumn. He talked a bit about the state agencies slated to be partners, including the Governor’s Natural Resources Office.
5) Ashland Natural Hazards, Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development (GI-LID): Community and Environmental Benefits

Josh led this agenda item, utilizing a Microsoft PowerPoint slideshow, covering for two students who ended-up with a school-related schedule conflict. Josh said that this is a pilot project co-funded by FEMA and the EPA. He noted that a second pilot is underway in Huntington, West Virginia.

He indicated that there is a nexus to the update of the Ashland portions of the Jackson County NHMP. He said that Kate Jackson of the Regional Solutions Team is involved. He noted that Ashland has a culture of thinking about this kind of stuff, for example, Ashland has been aggressively accomplishing mitigation against the wildfire hazard for years. Josh displayed cool natural hazard overlay maps of Ashland, and worked his way through several natural hazards that pose a risk to the community. He talked about the typical negative impacts of development on stormwater.

Josh talked about innovative GI-LID projects in the Portland area as examples of what can be done. Bill noted that DOGAMI is currently doing work like this with the City of Portland; he will put Josh in touch with appropriate city staff members. Josh and Bill both talked about the potential conflicts of the GI-LID approach between hazards, for example vegetative slope stabilization versus the fire hazard.

Josh then showed a table of best management practices (BMPs) and typical natural hazard mitigation approaches, noting co-benefits to natural resources and risk reduction. He talked about how the mitigation planning process can be tweaked to accomplish GI-LID.

Chris talked about the challenges of getting natural resource people and public safety people in the same room. Josh said that OPDR has learned a lot about “messaging” thanks to this project.

Josh talked about the involvement early-on of Brett Holt with FEMA Region Ten in identifying funding for this project. Unfortunately, there was an extremely long delay in getting the project actually funded. The deliverables are a report to the City of Ashland, and a lessons-learned report to FEMA and the EPA. Josh asked rhetorically if there will be money from FEMA and the EPA to fund projects that result from this planning, saying “maybe,” but there are many other possible funding sources.

Chris suggested doing benefit/cost analyses in advance, but Josh countered with the STAPLE/E approach noting that it can be done at less cost and produce more varied information about the benefits.

Josh asked the State IHMT to let him know about programmatic ideas and case studies. Chris noted the ASFPM1 “No Adverse Impact” guidance for the flood hazard. Alyssa talked about two funds OWRD has that might apply. Josh noted the possibility of using these as non-federal match to FEMA or EPA funding.

Tricia noted that Ashland is simultaneously involved in development of a Climate and Energy Action Plan.

6) Update on local mitigation planning

Josh noted PDM13 is closed, and said that with the exception of Douglas County, all these plans are finished. Douglas County has gone through one round of FEMA review and is working on revisions (that are no longer being PDM funded). He then talked about PDM14 that included Marion County which was a big lift, and Linn and Polk counties, which are almost ready for state and FEMA review. He then talked about the planning process with the Washington County, Tigard, and Hillsboro plan. He mentioned Multnomah County, which is working on revisions due to the FEMA review, and noted Josephine County’s NHMP is at OEM for review; it will go to FEMA for review by mid-May (Joseph said more likely before the end of April).

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1 ASFPM is Association of State Floodplain Managers.
Josh noted that Michael (Howard) is working with Jackson County. There was a discussion about which city jurisdictions are included. Finally Josh mentioned an “administrative review” that currently exists on PDM Grants that have been applied for, but not yet awarded. Amanda said the administrative hold is a national thing. There was a discussion about what is holding-up the money. Brett suggested Angie talk with Kristen Meyers.

Tricia noted that the Medford NHMP was provided to OEM for review on April 14.

Marian noted that Tillamook County and its cities have a September deadline, and is a pilot project for integrating RiskMAP into local mitigation planning. It also includes a code review and DOGAMI’s multi-hazard risk report. A RiskMAP meeting in April was used as starting point for implementation. Marian then asked Cynthia to talk about that Workshop (see agenda item #7 which follows).

7) Tillamook Resilience Workshop

Cynthia began by recognizing and thanking the various state agencies who participated in the Tillamook Workshop that occurred on April 4. The Workshop focused on code review and the risk report, and how these things could be integrated into the mitigation plan update. Cynthia plugged the Jackson County Resilience Meeting, to which many of the State IHMT members have been invited. She talked about the roles of Michael Howard and Sara Rubrecht in the Jackson County NHMP update. She applauded the Ashland effort that Josh just presented. She said to contact her with any follow-up questions on the Tillamook Workshop. The bottom line goal of these Workshops is to integrate the work done via RiskMAP with local mitigation plan updates and implementation.

Angie noted that she has heard from the Nestucca RFPD since the January State IHMT meeting regarding a possible HMA project. She also directed them to other funding sources.

Dave asked Cynthia, “Have you received community feedback from the Tillamook Workshop?” Cynthia wasn’t sure because it is being collected by Kate Skaggs and hasn’t been shared thus far. Cynthia noted that the Workshop did provide anecdotal evidence of improving FEMA’s image in Tillamook County.

8) Other business

a) Medford Earthquake Summit

Tricia noted this event scheduled to occur on September 26 and 27. She will later provide a “save the date” filer. If Medford can’t figure-out how to do this event for free, there is likely to be a small charge. Larry Masterman with the city is leading this effort.

b) FEMA-4296-DR-OR update

Angie noted that this HMGP pot of money results from the winter storm of December 14 to 17, 2016. There isn’t much money, so she opted to do a short application period for the two declared counties: Josephine and Lane. She distributed a table with information on what has been submitted in the way of proposals for the use of this money. EWEB and Emerald People’s Utility District both submitted ideas. Angie “kicked some of these over” to “406,” namely mitigation funding that can be provided by FEMA’s Public Assistance Program instead. We have about $83,000 available in planning money. All the 5% initiative money has been accounted for. It looks like there will be just over $1,000,000 in money for projects.

Rick asked about mitigation work that needs in Malheur County. Angie noted that work in this county may be able to be done with money from the yet to be received declaration from the January 7 to 20 winter storm event.

Angie mentioned acquisition projects in Portland for which the benefit/cost (b/c) analysis have been accomplished, but grant funding has run-out. Generally the State IHMT members suggested that Angie wait to fund these out of “4296” to see what happens with the request for the January storm.
There was a long discussion about various HMGP proposals that are or were on the table.

Angie said that if we get the second declaration, we can then do a statewide competition for the available funding.

Angie and Chris discussed funding updates to the mitigation plans for Hood River and Wasco counties with the $83,000 noted above. Chris said $83,000 would be enough for those. It was said that both these plans expire during the summer of 2017.

Joseph noted a recent call he had received from the Lake County Emergency Manager about their plan update. Chris said that this is included in their PDM16 Grant, and to have the person who called him from Lake County contact her.

A severe repetitive loss property in Washington County was discussed. Angie noted that some of the money above that might go to Portland as noted above might instead go to this project.

Angie passed around a second handout on PDM, HMGP, and FMA. She noted that she and Frank are up to their elbows in terms of workload.

Angie asked FEMA for an extension on 4258 due to two project that otherwise would not have made the deadline. One is a project in Wheeler County that needs a b/c analysis.

She then talked about FMAGP;² there are seven projects she has a made a goal to get funded. She went through the list of potential projects.

c) Other

Rick noted Juniper Acres in Crook County, about 300 residents who got snowed-in back in January. The unimproved roads are private or part of a homeowners’ association, and therefore the county nor the state could go help-out. Rick wondered from a life-safety point of view, is there reach-out we can do to Crook County to help-out with this situation? Greg talked about things that could be done if and only if an absolute life-safety crisis. Greg noted that the work that needs to be done cannot be done with FHWA nor FEMA money. Rick would like us to cajole the Crook County Commissioners to do something about this situation. Angie mentioned that she has a grant monitoring meeting coming-up on the Crook County-Prineville NHMP update. Joseph noted that this time it happened to be this community in Crook County, but generally this situation exists all over the state.

Josh asked if Regional Solutions was involved. Greg wasn’t sure, but noted that the Governor’s Office was involved. Josh emphasized that resilience needs to be a priority, and that one key tool for preventing these situations is through land use. Josh said a lot of these are “existing non-conforming.” Does the State of Oregon want to prioritize land use as a mechanism for resilience? There was a long discussion about this.

Chris asked if there is any point in mapping these areas so we know where they are. Or, would it make sense during local NHMP updates to identify where these areas are?

Greg brought-up the topic of the Seismic Lifeline Study. He said that the state bridge pieces of this were further studied: The Seismic Lifeline Plus Report resulted from this. The Highway Division has now begun a project to work with local governments to identify roads where the state and local governments can form a partnership to most effectively mitigate road systems of the greatest importance. Tillamook County and the City of Eugene were pilot jurisdictions. Marion County and the City of Salem have expressed an interest. Greg intends to work this progress into his Annual Report for the Oregon NHMP. This work is beginning to produce results.

Bill jumped-in to talk about the mapping of landslide hazards in Eugene-Springfield.

² FMAGP is Fire Management Assistance Grant Program.
ODOT is working with USGS and the State of California on ShakeAlert. Greg talked briefly about what this includes and how it works. For the moment, this work is internal; it isn’t ready for public use.

Darrin talked about the building space that DAS leases around the state. In some cases would it make more sense to own? If so, how can owning buildings around the state increase the resiliency of the community? In addition, DAS is looking to form partnerships with other state agencies and FEMA to make this happen over time. This is a long-term project that arose out of strategic planning. Josh asked if Darrin had seen the Beaverton Schools study? He had not. Josh will send it to him.

Alyssa noted that WRD just released (yesterday) an updated *Integrated Water Resources Strategy*. It includes mitigation actions. This *Strategy* must be updated every five years. It cross references OSSPAC\(^3\) reports, groundwater interests, dam safety, water quality, and other subjects. It is open for public comment through June 19. She encouraged us to review it and let them know what they have missed. State input need not be formal on letterhead.

Rick noted that the Governor is looking for nominees for OSSPAC.

9) Action on draft minutes of January 19 meeting
   Angie, Tricia, and others seemed to think they are okay as drafted.

10) Public comment
    There were no general public present at this meeting.

11) Adjourn
    The meeting adjourned at 11:33 p.m.

\(^3\) OSSPAC is Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission.