**RADIATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Minutes**

**February 14, 2018**

**Call to Order – Public Session**

Donna Stevens, Chair, called the Radiation Advisory Committee (RAC) into public session on February 14, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room 1E of the Portland State Office Building.

Members Present:

Bremner, DMD, Fred

Cyman, DVM, Juliana

Franco, Janet

Reese, PhD, Steve

Smith, Barbara

Stevens, Donna

Young, Scott

Henrikson, Mandy

OHA Members Present:

Howe, David

Carpenter, Todd

Wendt, Rick

Villamar, Glenda

Lind, Lee

Mynes, Tom

Leon, Daryl

Smith, Judy

Riven Leigh, RPS/OIS

Martin, Michelle

Guests

Ourso, André, Administrator, JD, MPH

Wollan, Gene HPNW

Breazeal, Luke, OR Imaging

Spratt, Kyle T, Tidewater Contractor

Clayton, Jon, OSRT

Brien, Matt, HPNW

Willis, Norm, Rad Oncologist

Peck, Christopher, Columbia Memorial Hosp

Miller, Bob

Fishman, Kal, Sensus

Sardano, Michael, Sensus

Profitt, Brenda, Colbee N.A

**Introduction of Members and Guests**

Radiation Advisory Committee members, Radiation Protection Services (RPS) personnel and guests introduced themselves.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the October 11, 2017 meeting were sent to the members for their review, prior to this meeting.

Barbara Smith moved and Dr. Fred Bremner seconded the motion to approve the October 11, 2017 Radiation Advisory Committee minutes as written. The motion carried unanimously.

**RPS Staffing**

David Howe (RPS Program Director) reported that 2 inspectors have submitted their resignations since the October 11, 2017 RAC meeting –

1. Eric Packard’s last day was on January 4, 2018. Eric was a certified Health Physicist with RPS for almost 2 years. Recently Eric received an offer to serve as a health physicist at CH2M Hill in their radiological services group which he accepted.
2. After 10+ years, Sudhir Oberoi, Health Physicist, announced that his last day will be January 31, 2018. Sudhir accepted a position as an Emergency Manager for State of Washington Department of Licensing, regulating state buildings.

David shared that recruitments for two Health Physicists have been completed and the hiring process is in progress. The prospective candidates have been selected and interview dates have been set for February 23rd and March 9th, 2018.

He shared that it is a challenge to lose two outstanding staff members but, on the other hand, he is happy to see people move on with their professional growth.

**2017 RPS ANNUAL SUMMARY**

**RPS Budget**

Todd Carpenter (RPS Licensing Manager), presented the RPS budget overview from July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. This includes revenue from our user fee accounts (X-ray program, Tanning program, Radioactive Materials program); federal contracts (MQSA) and interagency agreements (Oregon Department of Energy, CGS and Metro). He presented how the budget will look at the end of the biennium with the revenue projections showing RPS will be solvent.

**Electronic Products Program**

Glenda Villamar (EHS- RPS Electronic Products Lead Worker), presented the Electronic Products Program Annual Summary. She reported on the scope of the X-ray program and noted the top noncompliance issues. She said last year was demanding because there were more devices to inspect than the prior year, yet it was successful due to everyone working collectively. In addition to X-ray and tanning facility inspections, there are currently 2 staff who perform MQSA inspections.

Highlights for 2017 include:

* 59 training inspections
* 11 x-ray investigations
* 12 tanning investigations
* Development of paperless inspections
* RPS staff presented on x-ray topics at two professional meetings.
  + Michelle Martin presented new equipment processes at the Oregon Society of Radiologic Technologists (ORST) Mammography Conference
  + RPS staff also presented at a Health Physics Society (HPS) Meeting

Tanning Program

Glenda presented the Tanning Program Annual Summary. She reported about the program scope and shared the top five non-compliances.

* 31 citations: annual timer test not performed
* 30 citations: annual Emergency Stop button not tested
* 19 citations: Trained operator not present
* 16 citations: Lamp equivalency certificate not available
* 13 citations: Tanning device not maintained to manufacturer specification

Rick Wendt, Operations Manager, RPS reported on the incidents for the Tanning Program:

* BOGO Tanning: The multi-facility owner modified UV tanning beds to red light beds which is a FDA violation. As a part of a settlement agreement, the owner will disable and remove all red lights bulbs and/or put the devices into storage as non-saleable.
* Lioness Holdings/Tan Republic: RPS issued a Civil Penalty for non-payment of registration fees. There was a subsequent Administrative Hearing, with RPS prevailing. RPS is exploring filing for injunctive relief to close the business, since it continues to operate.

Radioactive Materials Licensing/Incidents and RPS Lab

Daryl Leon (RPS RMLEHS) presented the Radioactive Materials Licensing Program Annual Summary. He reported on the scope of the Radioactive Materials Licensing Program and noncompliance issues including:

* Approximately 209 licensing actions
* 88 inspections completed
* Radioactive material incidents included scrap alarms, medical, radioactive material pickup, investigations (non-medical), and waste alarms.

**RPS Staff Training**

Rick Wendt gave a report on training completed by RPS staff including internal Emergency Response Team training.

**2018 RPS Section Focus Areas**

David shared that one of the RPS priorities is to, again, explore the possibility of a Legislative Concept to develop a Laser Regulatory Program. There is an unknown number of Lasers in the State (potential Registrants). As such, it would be a challenge to create a user-fee funding strategy. A new Laser program would require Senior PHD leadership, Governor’s Office and Legislature support/approval, and creation of new administrative rules. RPS has already drafted rules with a focus on operator training/education and safety.

Another RPS priority is the need to enhance program funding through increasing existing/creating new user-fees (e.g. license amendments, incident mitigation/recovery fees, etc.) The last time RPS increased fees was 2015. A new strategy would be to integrate any proposed new fees into the PHD’s 2019-2021 biennium “Agency Request Budget” for Legislature approval.

Lastly, creation of a new RPS radiological emergency drone fleet is being explored. It would offer enhanced radiological emergency response capabilities and mitigate staff vulnerability from entering “hot zones”. One of the RPS staff, Tom Mynes, is a certified drone pilot and could serve as the program coordinator.

End of 2017 Annual Summary

**Proposed Rulemaking**

Todd reported that all our rules are current.

**Radioactive Materials Licensing**

Todd shared that RPS’s primary licensing reviewer is on maternity leave for next couple months. With two open positions for inspectors, the group is short staffed –

cross training efforts are underway.

ONA Effort to Broaden APRN Scope of Practice

David gave an update regarding a 2017 Oregon Nursing Association (ONA) proposal to allow Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN’s) to perform unrestricted diagnostic imaging procedures, including fluoroscopy. This has been an on-going issue for a couple of years. The original premise was to allow Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA’s) to coordinate with an Oregon Board of Medical Imaging (OBMI) licensed technologist during interventional pain management procedures that require fluoroscopic imaging. However, Senate Bill 801 (sponsored by the ONA), would allow APRNs to perform all imaging modalities. Agencies and medical groups feel this is a significant over-reach of the nursing scope of work. The Bill was tabled by Legislative and agencies have been asked to attempt resolution.

**BREAK**

Question relating to Speech Pathologists directing barium swallow fluoroscopy

Janet Franco asked about the possibility of having Speech Pathologists direct radiologic technologists (RT’s) for modified barium swallows utilizing fluoroscopy. She has been approached by OHSU radiologists to do so.

Rick Wendt responded that RPS OAR’s and OBMI statutes require Radiologists to be involved as supervisors.

**Updates/Projects**

RPS Lab

Todd reported that the RPS radioanalytical laboratory software has been corrupted and is not operating. It is still in the process of getting repaired.

Pathfinder Exercise June 17-21, 2018

Rick reported that RPS was approached about participating in a joint agency exercise at the Oregon coast. This exercise will involve the 173rd SERV-OR volunteers, a few hundred military and Oregon Disaster Medical Team members. RPS’s role would be to help with radiological safety, screening and awareness.

Two proposed (2) scenarios include:

* Training volunteers to implement a “Community Collection Center” which are used to screen large a number of people for radiation contamination.
* Conducting a “turn back” exercise for first-responder teams entering a radiation contaminated raised building.

Donna Stevens inquired about RPS’ communication plan with emergency responders, for events involving hospitals.

Rick shared that Tom Mynes has introduced RPS staff to “GIS Map” software which can incorporate radioactive material licensee (RML) contact information for use by emergency responders.

Todd also added that there is a regulation for all facilities to include hazardous material and/or radioactive material information into a central database which is accessible to emergency response command personnel.

**Drone Program Update**

Tom Mynes gave a briefing including that, after graduating from Rutgers University in 2012, he worked as a Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Hazmat Technician for County of Morris, NJ. He was responsible for overseeing incidents including radiological threats as well as facility inspections and investigations relating to hazardous materials.

Tom joined RPS as a Health Physicist in 2016. He shared that he is a licensed drone pilot, after becoming a drone enthusiast from having opportunities to handle various drones and personally seeing the benefits of what/how the drones can be utilized during emergency situations.

Tom’s presentation covered “Drone usage in emergency response”. Tom’s Power point presentation was based on Drones and various applications to emergency response including footage of drones being used on actual emergency trainings. Drone regulations and their applicability to Public Agencies was also covered.

Tom presented the unique characteristics of drones, as well as their cost, air space authorizations, and basic regulations pertaining to owning and flying a drone. He ended by doing an in-room demonstration flight of a toy drone to show the technology.

**Lunch Break**

**VARIANCES**

OHSU Variance/Exemption (Janet Franco):

OHSU requested an OAR 333-106-0055(3) variance to allow a non-physician researcher (Ph.D.) to operate a c-arm at OHSU’s Dotter Institute.  The researcher has been operating c-arms for animal trauma and vascular research for a decade and has radiation safety training from three institution including: Radiation Safety Training - 24 hours - University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine; Radiation Safety Training - 4 hours portable x-ray-specific training - United States Naval Medical Research Unit-San Antonio; and Radiation Safety Training - 8 hours, with 4 hours fluoroscopy-specific training - United States Air Force 59th Medical Wing.

The researcher’s experience includes operation of portable x-ray machines and c-arms for research (large and small animals) -10 years using live and dead tissue and practical hands-on use of c-arm/fluoroscopy – approximately 200+ experiments.

Research Parameters

Typical fluoro use will be less than one-minute total during each experiment and 24 experiments per month maximum are expected.  The experiments will be done on swine. All work will be performed at Dotter Institute’s animal research building where interventional radiologists do animal research. No human imaging is performed at this facility.

Either the researcher or the Dotter Institute x-ray staff will set up the c-arm.  The researcher’s technical staff and surgery residents will be in the room during procedures. The technical staff will have fluoroscopy awareness training provided by OHSU’s clinical RSO. Surgery residents at OHSU are required to pass the written, state-approved fluoroscopy training during their first two months of residency.   The researcher and others will wear dosimeters and appropriate PPE.

RPS Recommendation:Fred Bremner moved and Steve Reese seconded the motion to approve a non-physician researcher (Ph.D.) to operate a c-arm at OHSU’s Dotter Institute. The motion carried unanimously.

Sensus Healthcare Proposal to Allow dermatologists to be operators of the Sensus Superficial Radiation Therapy SRT-100 device

Based upon a prior Sensus Healthcare October 11, 2017 RAC presentation, a Rules Advisory Subcommittee was convened on January 18, 2018 to evaluate the adequacy of the Sensus Healthcare radiation use and safety/applications training program for dermatologists. The recommendation to the RAC was delivered by Barb Smith, which read:

*In the interest of patient and operator safety the Rule Advisory Committee suggests rejecting the proposal that Dermatologist be allowed to operate the Sensus SRT – 100. We propose that any such treatment be administered under the direct supervision of a Radiation Oncologist and a Qualified Medical Physicist, as currently required by the state regulation.*

The following key issues and concerns were identified from the State Radiation Advisory Committee and their Rules Advisory Sub-Committee including (but not limited to) in making a recommendation decision:

* Education/Training: After reviewing the 16-hour Sensus manufacturer didactic radiation use and safety training program, the RAC felt it is inadequate to teach needed radiation therapy concepts and interpretation of resulting biological tissue effects from Sensus SRT-100 device treatments.
* The manufacturer training only includes 6-15 initial patient treatments and no follow up treatments to see/learn about the biological effects.
* There are no longitudinal studies concerning cancer reoccurrence rates using the SRT-100 device
* There is concern over the Sensus proposal to have the dermatologist act as their own Radiation Safety Officer (reporting to oneself), versus having an RSO/Radiation Safety Committee overseeing the dermatologist/radiation use and safety program.
* The RAC reaffirmed that existing Oregon Administrative Rules, designed to ensure patient/operator health and safety, should apply.

Barbara Smith moved and Steve Reese seconded a motion to deny the Sensus Healthcare variance request. The motion carried by majority. There was one abstention.

Health Division Update:

André Ourso, (Center for Health Protection Administrator) greeted the RAC participants and then discussed the RPS section responsibilities within the Center. André expressed his gratitude towards the RAC Committee for their involvement.

BREAK

Columbia Generating Station (CGS) Plume Exercise

Rick shared that this year’s CGS dress rehearsal is set for Feb 27, 2018 and the Graded Exercise will be on March 27, 2018. The purpose of the drill is for RPS Emergency Response Team (ERT) staff to practice coordinating and performing environmental radiological monitoring. ERT members will be responsible for field monitoring, dose assessment, and radiological exposure control and decontamination.

RPS Web Database:

Riven Leigh attempted to present a live demonstration of the new function ability of web database but due to technical difficulty, was not successful (to be tabled until the June 13th RAC meeting).

Glenda shared about the test run on the inspection side of the software. When successful, the inspector can log into the database while performing the inspection and enter all the findings right into the database, such as testing data, operator error, device information, and any additional comments. Up until now, all information has been written on paper forms. RPS is excited to have this new tool by March 1, 2018.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

The next meeting for the Radiation Advisory Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13, 2018.

Respectfully,

Lee Lind

(06/11/18)