



Oregon Emergency Management Association

Oregon Emergency Management Association
Membership Meeting
February 10, 2004
Portland, Oregon

Members Present:

Mary Davis	Washington County Emergency Management
David Gassaway	American Red Cross, Oregon Trail Chapter
David Harrington	Portland Transportation & Maintenance
Chris, Herrman	OCEM, Volunteer
Patty Hopkins	Portland Emergency Management
Sharon Kennedy	Hillsboro Emergency Management
Bert Kile	American Red Cross, Oregon Trail Chapter
Charles Knapp	939 th Air Rescue Wing
Tom Manning	Tillamook County Emergency Management
Doug McGillivray	Multnomah County Emergency Management
Les Miller	US Army Corps of Engineers
Pat Mulligan	Canby Fire – CERT
Michael Mumaw	City of Beaverton Emergency Management
Scott Porter	OCEM, Director

Presentation:

Jeff Rubin Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Bert Kile at 10:00 a.m.

Introductions:

Introductions were made around the room.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the membership meeting of December 8, 2003 were distributed.
There were no corrections or deletions to the minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes by Scott Porter.

Seconded by Jeff Rubin.

The minutes were approved unanimously.



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Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report ending December 31, 2003 showing a balance of \$33,540.10 was distributed. There were no additions or corrections to the report.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Chris Herrman.

Seconded by David Gassaway.

The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously.

Presentation – "Mt Hood: New Coordination Plan & Warning System":

Jeff Rubin discussed the Mt. Hood Coordination Plan and the process for developing it around this identified volcano hazard area. Three major areas were incorporated in the plan including a tiered system of alerts, command organizations and public information. A team of geologists and emergency managers worked together to develop the plan, taking into consideration the different characteristics of other volcanoes. The greatest danger to communities around the Mt. Hood area is from lahars (flows of rock, mud, debris and water) that surge down the river valleys, sweeping away or buying objects in their paths. Lahars can form in many ways and can occur even when the volcano is not erupting. Moving to high ground is often the best strategy for avoiding lahars. The group worked to overcome several challenges including; the Bull Run watershed, FEMA reorganization, USGS warning system revision and addressing internal issues of the planning group. The Planning Team worked together to learn about the geology of the area, emergency management and how each agency will fit into the ICS structure. The coordination of public information was also a challenge. The plan incorporates staged alert levels that include; information statements, notice of volcanic unrest, volcano advisory, volcano alert and aircraft advisories. The USGS is in the process of refining the volcano alert stages; future changes will be incorporated into the Plan. The Plan identified jurisdictional responsibilities, plan maintenance and an exercise schedule. The Plan was distributed for review in November 2003 and after the revisions are complete is expected to be signed by all parties in spring of 2004. A tabletop exercise is planned for fall of 2004 or spring of 2005.

OEM Report:

Ken Murphy was unable to attend but provided a variety of handouts on various topics. The handouts will be posted on the OEMA website. Bert pointed out the NEMA position paper regarding EMGP funding. The President is proposing a 25% cap on the use of EMPG funds for personnel. This could have a devastating impact on state and local emergency management programs.



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The President also suggests that terrorism should be emphasized in the EMPG program, with less emphasis on the all-hazards approach. Bert suggested a letter to your congressman, voicing our concerns regarding this change would be appropriate

Committee/Liaison Reports:

Training: Patty Hopkins, Chair

Two OEMA sponsored classes have been announced. ICS Planning class will be held in Eugene March 15-16 at a cost of \$50 per student. The PIO course will be held in Roseburg April 5-7 at a cost of \$75 per student. A request for bids was posted on the OEMA website. One bid for each class was received. We will reopen the bid advertisement. We must have 20 students registered for each course in order to hold the class. The current registration is well below that number. Patty will send an e-mail to members hoping to recruit students. Registrations for the OEMA sponsored courses will be coordinated through Mary Davis, OEMA Secretary.

The Training Committee will review the other suggested training courses. There was some discussion of providing on-line training. It was decided it would be expensive and students would miss the networking and interaction aspect of a standard class.

Communications: Tom Manning, Chair

Tom discussed the 700 MHz radio plan. Tom stated the State has some responsibility for developing standardization in the communications area. This would be helpful when preparing grant requests. Scott stated that a role for the Association would be to discuss with the state their responsibility in communicating with the emergency management community regarding this issue. Les mentioned there must be some linkage to the federal level. The role of the FCC was discussed. The FCC is the controlling force with regard to issuing frequencies. There are several groups trying to address the interoperability issue.

There was discussion regarding ARES. Sharon Kennedy stated that direction from the State Coordinator is that ARES members should not have response preferences. Sharon and others disagree. The benefits of developing a relationship with the agency an ARES member serves was discussed. Sharon requested OEMA establish a position regarding this issue. She would like to deliver it at the Simulated Emergency Exercise the weekend of February 14th.



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Motion by Mike Mumaw:

OEMA encourages the development of close working relationships between ARES members and served agencies to the point of making specific response assignments.

Seconded by David Gassaway.

Motion passed unanimously.

Sharon and Tom were encouraged to inform the OEMA membership of this decision before sharing with the State. Mike suggested the national policy should also be researched to assure the exact intentions of it.

Health Preparedness Advisory Committee (HPAC): Jeff Rubin

Jeff discussed the Health Alert Network (HAN), a secure password protected website with a variety of alert information posted by the CDC. If you are interested in subscribing to this website contact Eric Stewart of State Public Health for subscription information. The HRSA implementation group is still working with the hospital survey results. The first round of funding will go to bringing hospitals up to minimum standards, e.g., decontamination and isolation. This group continues to meet on a monthly basis coordinating training and exercising. All HPAC meetings are open to the public. For more information contact Jeff at (503) 642-0399, jeff.rubin@tvfr.com. For more on HAN, including Eric Stewart's contact information, see <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/publichealth/preparedness/han/index.cfm>.

International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM): Mike Mumaw

Mike stated that IAEM has begun to have more of a presence on Capitol Hill. The leadership of IAEM has been asked to sit on a variety of committees relating to Homeland Security. IAEM has hired a lobbyist that is working to cultivate partnerships and gain footholds on the national and international level. Information is passed through the IAEM list-serve. You don't need to be a member to subscribe. If you have any questions regarding IAEM please contact Michael Mumaw, 503-642-0383 or by email mumawmj@tvfr.com

Domestic Preparedness Working Group: Scott Porter

FY-04 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP) Grants – The grant application package has been distributed to state agencies and local governments. Applications are due back to OSP no later than February 27, 2004. State agencies and local units of government are eligible for the SHSP grants and state and local law enforcement agencies are eligible for the LETPP grants. Both programs provide funds for equipment, planning, and training. There are slight differences in the eligible equipment for both grants.



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Approximately \$24.8M is available to the state for the SHSP and \$7.3M for the LETPP. The state must pass through at least 80% of the funds to local governments.

FY-04 Citizen Corps Program (CCP) Grants – The grant application package has been distributed to state agencies and local governments. Applications are due back to OEM no later than February 27, 2004. State agencies and local units of government are eligible for the CCP grants. The program provides funds for equipment, planning, training, exercising, and public outreach in support of Citizen Corps Councils or Citizen Corps programs (e.g., CERT, VIPS, Medical Reserve Corps, and Neighborhood Watch). Approximately \$515K is available to the state for the CCP. The state must pass through at least 80% of the funds to local governments.

FY-02 and FY-03 CDC Grants – Funds from both of these grant programs have been distributed to state and local health departments to support bioterrorism preparedness. Much of the money has been spent to hire bioterrorism preparedness planners and epidemiologists. Other funds have been used to develop plans, enhance laboratory capacity, expand the Health Alert Network, and improve public outreach and coordination.

FY-02 and FY-03 HRSA Grants - Funds from both of these grant programs are still being processed. Although some of the FY-02 funds have been spent to improve hospital lab capabilities, most are still in hand and are earmarked to enhance the preparedness of hospitals, health care facilities, and EMS providers for bioterrorism incidents. The State Health Department, working through the Health Preparedness Advisory Committee, recently completed a rigorous assessment of hospital capabilities.

Those capabilities will be evaluated against a set of benchmarks to determine hospital needs. Grant funds will then be distributed to address the highest priority needs.

FY-03 and FY-04 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grants – The UASI grants target the largest metropolitan areas in the country and are intended to address the highest priority homeland security needs of those areas. The Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area was the recipient of approximately \$14.8M in UASI funds from the first two years of the program.

To receive the money, the Department of Homeland Security required the urban area counties to define the urban area, form an urban area working group, develop and submit an urban area homeland security strategy, and formulate a budget for



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use of the grant funds. Additionally, the strategy and identified needs had to be linked to the homeland security needs assessments completed by the urban area counties. The Portland/Vancouver Urban Area strategy has been submitted and is under revision based on comments received from the Department of Homeland Security. A budget for the FY-03 grant funds has been adopted and work is underway to prepare the FY-04 grant budget.

Old Business:

2004 Workshop:

The workshop will be held at the Valley River Inn, Eugene, May 17-20, 2004. The Program Committee is working on speakers and session topics. Some additional ideas were suggested including a speaker to discuss the Fuel Allocation Plan being developed by the Oregon Department of Energy, and also a session on USAR teams. Mary will work on getting information posted on the website.

Registration was discussed and the opportunity to post our workshop information on other websites. If you have potential sites for our posting please send to Mary Davis.

Award nominations can be sent to Patty Hopkins at any time.

New Business:

Officer Nominations:

Les Miller and Laureen Paulsen are leading the nomination effort for new Officers. Nominations are being taken for President Elect, Secretary and Treasurer. Submit names to Les or Laureen by March 1st. Scott remarked on the current diversity of the Board. We have representation from federal, state, county, city and non-profit agencies. He would like OEMA to encourage further relationships with business and non-profits.



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Member Issues/Concerns:

There was discussion regarding how we can better recruit new members. We need to do a better job of advertising what value membership in OEMA brings. This will be addressed by the Membership Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. by President Bert Kile.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Davis
Secretary