



Oregon Emergency Management Association

Oregon Emergency Management Association
Membership Meeting
November 18, 2004
Lowell, Oregon

Members Present:

Mary Davis	Washington County Emergency Management
Rose Gentry	ODOT
Patty Hopkins	Portland Office of Emergency Management
Bert Kile	American Red Cross, Oregon Trail Chapter
Tom Kulick	UCG Retired
Mark McKay	Lane County Emergency Management
Les Miller	US Army Corps of Engineers
Pat Mulligan	Canby Fire/Western Shelter Systems
Scott Porter	OCEM, Director
Patty Rueter	Portland Office of Emergency Management
Chuck Solin	City of Eugene
Wayne Stinson	Douglas County Emergency Management
Gene Strong	Clatsop County Sheriff's Office

Guests:

Dustin Bengtson	US Army Corps of Engineers
Donna Disch	Oregon Office of State Fire Marshall
Judy Stromquist	US Army Corps of Engineers

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Les Miller at 11:00 a.m.

Introductions:

Introductions were made around the room. Les introduced our hosts from the Army Corps of Engineers in Lowell. Judy Stromquist, Department Operations Manager, gave a brief overview of the Willamette Valley Projects. She talked about the thirteen facilities the Corps is responsible for including water resources recreation and flood control. There will be an afternoon tour of the Willamette watershed including Dexter Dam for OEMA members wishing to participate.



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Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the membership meeting of September 17, 2004 were distributed. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes by Scott Porter.

Seconded by Patty Rueter.

The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report ending September 30, 2004 showing a balance of \$39,310.31 was distributed. There were no additions or corrections to the report.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Bert Kile.

Seconded by Gene Strong.

The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously.

Presentation:

Donna Disch, PIO & Special Projects Coordinator, Office of the State Fire Marshal, gave a short presentation on Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Donna is available to provide technical assistance to those agencies required to write wildfire protection plans. Donna is a member of the National Fire Plan Strategy Team. The team includes representatives from federal wildland fire agencies, state forestry, county commissioners, extension foresters and the State Fire Marshall's office. Members of this Team are also available to meet with your agency to discuss Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Donna encouraged members engaged in this task to contact her for further information. Donna can be reached at Donna.Disch@state.or.us.

Bert suggested that those affected agencies be alerted to the mandate and timeline for writing this plan.

Old Business:

2005 OEMA/APWA Joint Conference:

The OEMA/APWA joint conference will be held April 26-29 at Seven Feathers Casino in Canyonville. Rose gave an update on the progress of the workshop committee. The OEMA committee met with the APWA committee in October in Welches at the conclusion of the fall APWA conference. The group discussed topics for sessions that would appeal to both public works and emergency management. The conference will combine activities from both groups, including a golf tournament and fundraising opportunities. The joint Committee will be meeting today, directly following the OEMA meeting.



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Strategic Plan Questionnaire:

Very few questionnaires were returned to the committee. Les suggested the committee meet with the Board prior to the February membership meeting to discuss how to proceed.

NIMS Compliance:

The membership is looking for direction regarding NIMS compliance. While this is a developing issue from the Federal to the local level it appears the State is responsible for providing guidance to the locals. Some direction is needed regarding who should take IS-700 (FEMA on-line NIMS course), the development of a draft ordinance for adoption by local government and resource typing issues. Les will share the association concerns with Ken Murphy and push for direction from the State to the local level. Scott shared that a group from the metro area is working on these issues. This is an opportunity for OEMA and OEM to partner on developing guidance for this national directive.

Committee/Liaison Reports:

Les mentioned that we are still in need of Committee Chairs for Membership and Training. Gene Strong volunteered to participate in the Membership Committee.

Patty Rueter will schedule a meeting of the Membership Committee to follow-up on several ideas suggested by Jim Howell including looking at student, business or corporate memberships and how to implement a mentorship program.

Patty Hopkins agreed to schedule a meeting of the Training Committee.

Bylaws – Scott Porter, Chair:

Scott reviewed the Bylaws and stated the committee structure is now aligned with language in the Bylaws.

Domestic Preparedness Working Group – Scott Porter

The Association members are encouraged to review Scott Porter's article in the recent OEMA newsletter regarding tips in writing the DOJ First Responder and the DHS State Homeland Security grants. The newsletter can be found at the OEMA website www.oregonemergency.com. Scott said that no specific information is available regarding how much money will be available in the '05 grants from the federal government. One change being made by the State is that only one grant application per county will be accepted. Grant requests must be itemized and prioritized by need. Awards will be broken out by jurisdiction. This change will reduce the number of applications the committee must review and improve local and regional planning and coordination.



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The review committee will also look at a county's risk rating. The higher the county's risk rating, the higher the county and its local agency applicants are in the pecking order for application review.

New Business:

IAEM Conference Highlights:

Rose Gentry attended the IAEM conference representing OEMA. Rose will put together a report for the membership. She stated that there were several excellent sessions and appreciated the opportunity to attend. Highlights included a session by Florida Emergency Management Director Craig Fugate discussing the 2004 hurricanes his state experienced. Another excellent speaker was Jeff Arnold, Deputy Legislative Director, National Association of Counties who spoke on "How to Influence Legislatures (Congress) Without Leaving Home." Several others attended from Oregon and came away with great information, plus ideas for future OEMA conferences.

Legislative Letters:

Rose stated that letters were sent on behalf of OEMA to Oregon Senators Smith and Wyden asking for their support of EMPG funding.

Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission (OSSPAC) – Government Obligation Bonds:

OSSPAC has gathered a task force to develop implementing legislation for general obligation bonds which were authorized by the Oregon Legislature in 2002. The bonds are for funding of seismic rehabilitation for schools and emergency facilities such as fire stations, law enforcement facilities, hospitals and emergency operations centers. The task force will identify a way to conduct assessments of these facilities and identify those at highest risk. Les will ask Jim Hawley to keep the membership advised as to progress of this group.

There was no further business. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Davis
Secretary