

Columbia Emergency Planning Association  
Meeting Minutes  
September 1, 2009

Present:

Diane Dillard	CRF&R
Steve Watson	Columbia 911
Terrie Levie	Columbia 911
Jay Tappan	CRF&R
Hyla Ridenour	CRF&R
Michael Cave	Dyno Nobel
Alicia Little	Dyno Nobel
Joseph Errante	CERT
Beth Dudley	Columbia Co. Emergency Management
Roy Barbour	American Red Cross
Marge Murphy	American Red Cross
Mike Sullivan	Portland General Electric
Al Pierce	ARES
Beth Santangelo	Armstrong
Mike Greisen	Scappoose Fire
Cristin Corcoran	Cities Readiness Initiative
Adrienne Donner	Cities Readiness Initiative
Robbie Roberts	Northwest Natural Gas
Chris Greenhill	Department of Homeland Security
Kimberly Johns	Oregon Military Department
Rita Bernhard	Columbia County Commissioner
Earl Fisher	Columbia County Commissioner
Tony Hyde	Columbia County Commissioner
Steve Salle'	St. Helens Police Dept.
Roger Barbour	RSVP
Jim Davis	City of St. Helens - retired
Lonny Welter	Columbia County Road Dept.
Ann Franzen	U. S. Gypsum
Kimberly Johns	Oregon Military Department
Andrew Moyer	Columbia County Undersheriff
Lee Knowlton	Columbia 911
Sally Jones	Columbia 911
Anne Parrott	CHD Public Health
Frank Grace	Chief – Vernonia Police
Norm Miller	Scappoose Police
Mary Lou Busch	Mist-Birkenfeld Fire
Paula Miranda	Port of St. Helens
Gerry Meyer	Port of St. Helens
Larry Lucas	Oregon State Police
Mike McGlothlin	Chief – Columbia City Police
Mark Griffin	Military Sealift Command

The meeting was called to order by Steve Salle'. Jim was absent due to illness in the family. We send our get well wishes to Sue Huff and also to John Shull, Scappoose Asst. Fire Chief, who was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident. Thanks to the Port of St Helens for treats and door prizes.

First time guest – Frank Grace - new Police Chief from Vernonia

Link to our information on the state website:

[http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Local\\_Emergency\\_Planning\\_Committees.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Local_Emergency_Planning_Committees.shtml)

**Transportation** – No representative today

**Chamber** – Diane said the new board president is Ken Gates, board meeting today  
**School** – Laney Coulter said ESD and the school districts are gearing up for a new school year.

**Sacagawea** – Diane no report

**ARES** – good weekend – 72 calls associated with Hood to Coast – entry level technicians class will be held in the near future

**CERTS** Joe noted they will be training soon at Tualatin Valley Fire

**Fire -** Mike Greisen – been busy – 123 emergency incidents  
Jay Tappan – 358 calls which is down a bit from last August – 69% EMS. Quite a few fires – 3 acre grassfire above Pittsburgh Rd. Fire at Multnomah Complex. Big car crash in Clatskanie. Sent one person to Mosier fire.  
Mary Lou - BPSST fire trainer – practiced with other fire districts. Had a little wildland fire – 23 acres. 358 contacts with Hood to Coast runners – went really smooth.

**Chris Greenhill – Homeland Security** – dealing with a fireworks factory in Silverton and monitoring hazardous chemicals. We are on standby now that hurricane season is coming upon us. Also fear of the fires in California that may impact chemical facilities. Went to governor's conference on pandemic flu – may have problems with everyone trying to work from home as the internet gets jammed up. Talked a bit about GETS( government emergency telephone system )– makes sure there are essential government communications going on.

**Public Health** – setting up first aid classes for MRC's ... also ICS 100 and 700. Anne just returned from Atlanta, GA at the CDC – how to manage the strategic national stockpile. We are starting seasonal flu campaign very early this year – flu clinics in Senior centers and in Clatskanie in the school district office – September 8 9 10 11 and 14 – 9:30 to 1:30 p.m. Getting this taken care of first – push is to vaccinate 65 and over, plus pneumonia shots being pushed. We are going to have a long H1N1 vaccination campaign. We are taking walk-ins at the public health department for seasonal flu vaccinations . H1N1 is two rounds – we also have the nasal spray for flu vaccines.

**OSFM** – no representative today

**Cities** – no representative today

**County Commissioners** - Bernhard – spending a lot of time on the housing issue – she is on NOAH board of directors. Intent is to get everybody back on by November. Budget issues – looking for new finance director as Ruth Baker will be retiring soon.

Earl – Microwave Fire in Mosier – Those who used the defensible space precautions around homes were saved.

Tony – last week in Bothell for Region 10 advisory meeting – topic was personal preparedness in America – presenter Nancy Dahlstrom. How do we make groups like CERT teams, MRC, CRI, etc, more integrated in homeland security and emergency management. Without those grassroots organizations we would have been in trouble – how do we institutionalize this. Sally noted there will be an OEC director for each region. Tony said no one has been named yet. We have some grant monies available and the uses are very narrow now. Most for education in forestry and wildland fire safety measures. We are going to be aggressive for getting this money out. Working closely with Mike Simek. Lot of misunderstanding about Hood to Coast – we currently charge \$20-25,000 and that money goes back to fire, police and 911. If the cost is above their deposit, we send them a bill. It is a good thing for tourism. Getting more information on to what is the real story on the diking districts and the levy districts – flood rate insurance maps and how is that impacting us. As you know federal government disallowed Corps of Engineers to do surveying of diking districts – will be bringing stakeholders together.

**RSVP** – no rep.

**911** – Sally noted that the event held at Camp Wilkerson to honor volunteers was great – it was a great venue – Terry Moss and Nancy Harwood planners – special thanks again to our volunteers. If you know of anyone who has wanted to be a 911 dispatcher – we are going to be recruiting soon. Extensive screening process – job involves multi-tasking. Working hard to meet deadline – on public safety interoperability grant. UASI security grant – working on continuity of operations plan among the five counties.

**Port** – Fire seems to be a major topic. Fire at the mill and Jay's folks responded and thank you. Good news is that fire system worked. Negotiations still continue with insurance carrier from damages suffered last December. Cascade Grain at Port Westward today they accepted the reorganization plan and hopefully they will be operating again. We have a new website and are working on a new access road at airport.

**Emergency Management** – thanks to everyone who worked on the Hood to Coast – thanks to Mist-Birkenfeld for the food, Ron Y. from CRF&R. Working on H1N1 tabletop. Discussing a school earthquake exercise. Encourage everyone to take an overview of your emergency preparedness at home – September is Emergency Preparedness Month – private citizens, businesses should do the same. Cowlitz Co. Emergency management director – will be attending their quarterly LEPC meetings. State will be getting ready to announce our homeland security grant.

**Red Cross** Roy noted they had one response in Columbia County to a house fire. As we are moving into late fire and storm season – get kits ready. Go to Red Cross website and find an up-to-date list of preparedness stuff. – did respond to Microwave Fire – we provided food and shelter.

**Armstrong** – nothing to report

**Boise** – Jo Brooke RN – celebrated 2 years without a lost time last Friday – setting production records. Also 1.5 million safe hours.

**NW Natural** – Robbie going to file for rate decrease of 17 to 21%.

**US Gypsum** – over 1.3 million safe hours 1500 safe days – business is still very slow – operation 3-5 days/week. Waiting for housing market to rebound.

**PUD** – no rep

**Dyno Nobel** – working on shipment of hazard materials. Next week begins our two week maintenance outage. Thanks to CRF&R for allowing us to use their training center – 8 hour drill for confined spaces. Contract janitor suffered heart attack and yesterday employee had a seizure.

**Graymont** – no report

**GP** – no representative

**Western Electric** – no representative

**PGE** – 600 days w/o lost time at Beaver. 200,000 hours at Port Westward and 300,000 hours at Beaver. The plant is running with all units on line.

**Knife River,** - Western Oregon, Pacific Stainless, Credit Union – no representative.

**Law**

**Scappoose** - Norm Miller – nothing to report

**Vernonia** - Chief Frank Grace from Vernonia – He came from Gladstone in October – glad to be in Columbia County – about 30 years in law enforcement. Prefers maple bars. We are pleased to have him join us at CEPA.

**OSP** - Larry – August was fairly busy for us – quadruple fatal at Clatskanie due to largely to driver inexperience. Another MV near Dyno Nobel – just by grace was not a fatal – 5:45 a.m. – was able to find out who provided alcohol to this 19 year old male and will look to prosecute. Hood to Coast went really well. A past problem was biggest bottlenecks Hwy 30 and Church Road – thanks Sheriff's office in putting out no left turn. Did have another investigation in the Vernonia area involving a resident who was driving jeep with three children – no seatbelts and he was arrested. Child lifeflighted into Emanuel.

**CCSO** - Andy Moyer – Lifeflight came to get a person who was involved in boat explosion. His condition has been just upgraded. For the Hood to Coast - used 14 VIPS volunteers and 5 reserve deputies – adequately able to help out with traffic. Only one intoxicated walker. His team replaced him for that leg. We are having a rash of stolen vehicles in the South County area – 3 to 4 a week. We have two persons of interest. Seems like they are stealing and dumping. Talking about preparations for H1N1 outbreak how to staff jails. Can we get certified corrections deputies to help us out.

**Columbia City** - Mike McGlothlin – thanks for your warm welcome – do appreciate your help. Lots of restructuring in Columbia City. We would like to invite everyone Saturday, Sept. 12 beginning at 9 a.m. with a pancake breakfast – a day for showing off our community and other community outreach functions.

**SH PD** – normal routine

**Oregon National Guard** - Kim Johns – full swing with re-construction of armory – expecting to be done by December/January. We are trying to keep sure there are adequate resources during the remodel. Steve noted the City might be interested in finding an area for a backup EOC.

**County Road** – Lonny Welter reports - Overlay project on Scappoose/Vernonia Highway nearly complete – Beaver Falls Road scheduled to be done by end of month.

Mark Griffin – glad to be back in the country.

Hyde - Richard K – officially hired as Region 10 governmental advisor.

**Executive Committee** – no report

**Membership** – talked to Terry Wolfe – Ann did that – and will review current membership and began to fill in.

Information Management – good graces of Dyno met with Northwest Directories - Dyno is buying a Shelter in Place ad for CEPA .

**Finance** – no report

**EHS** – have met once

**Resource Development** –

Chief Jeff Johnson – he was named to president of *International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC)* – a big honor and a great thing for Oregon. Should be a great year

**Jay introduced guest speakers** - Adrienne Donner – CRI – and Cristin Corcoran – CRI and coordinator of the Push Partner program. --- Partnering to Prosper – funded through CDC – anthrax attacks of 2001 shed some light on our unpreparedness.

**Public Health Emergency Preparedness** – anthrax release – one region in Oregon – 100% population needs prophylactic material within 48 hours of exposure. About 2.1 million people in Portland and 48,000 in Columbia County. Now have a 7 county region. We need help – Anne is the Public Health – Exercise – Push Partner Registry –

**POD's** – public points of distributing – you are one of the best partnering counties. Cristan – every single one of your agencies should be at the Push Partner Registry – there is an enrollment form – this helps get medication out quickly. Provide us with a list of primary, backup and second backup contacts

Use provided material

Keep contact list and dispensing plans

During emergency pick up medication and dispense it to staff and family

Return unused medications to Public Health.

Website – [www.CRInorthwest.org](http://www.CRInorthwest.org)

Northwest Natural Gas signed up and going to have a test this fall.

**Anne Parrott from Public Health –**

H1N1 Update – Columbia County is going to have to depend heavily on the PUSH registry. Influenza is a respiratory illness – symptoms temperature, body aches, cough, stuffy head, runny nose – may have vomiting/GI problems.

Still only one confirmed case in CC. There have been 105 hospitalizations in 12 counties. The largest majority of deaths are people who have had other problems. There have been 12 deaths in Oregon.

The schools are getting geared up – meeting with school nurses later this week.  
Meeting with law enforcement on Tuesday.

The US is the only country in the world designating target populations for the vaccine. Target groups, pregnant women, caregivers of persons under 6 months, health care and emergency services, age 25-64. Protect the people at risk as those likely to transmit influenza.

**Next meeting is Tuesday, October 6, 10 am at the 911 center.** American Red Cross will be presenters and provide treats and door prizes.