

Policy Committee Meeting

October 9, 2015

9:00 – 11:00 am

Metro Regional Center [Council Chambers]

600 NE Grand Ave, Portland, OR



RDPO

Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization

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Meeting Minutes

Policy Committee (PC) Members Present: [Quorum met: 12 of 14 members]

1. Tony Hyde, Commissioner, Columbia County and PC Chair
2. Steve Novick, Commissioner, City of Portland and PC Vice Chair
3. Rich Allen, Councilor, City of Troutdale
4. Catherine Arnold, Councilor, City of Beaverton
5. Brian Cooper, Councilor, City of Fairview
6. Karylinn Echols, Councilor, City of Gresham
7. Kathryn Harrington, Councilor, Metro
8. John Ludlow, Commissioner/Chair, Clackamas County
9. Dick Schouten, Commissioner, Washington County
10. Larry J. Smith, Councilor, City of Vancouver
11. Loretta Smith, Commissioner, Multnomah County
12. Jeanne E. Stewart, Councilor, Clark County

Steering Committee Members Present:

1. Carmen Merlo, SC Chair and City of Portland Representative
2. Nancy Bush, SC Vice Chair and Clackamas County Representative
3. Jerry Allen, City of Beaverton Representative
4. Bob Cozzie, Immediate Past Chair and Public Safety Communications Representative
5. Jason Gates, Law Enforcement Representative
6. Mike Mumaw, Emergency Management Representative
7. Scott Porter, Washington County Representative
8. Paul Slyman, Metro Representative
9. Chris Voss, Multnomah County Representative
10. Craig Ward, City of Troutdale Representative

Other RDPO and Guests:

1. Denise Barrett, RDPO Manager
2. Emma Stocker, RDPO Planning Coordinator
3. Anna Pendergrass, Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency (CRESA)
4. Axel Swanson, Policy Analyst, Clark County
5. Daniel Nibouar, Disaster Debris Planner, Metro
6. David Gassaway, Washington County Emergency Management

7. Kelle Landavazo, Gresham Emergency Management
8. Stuart Farmer, Multnomah County
9. Todd Felix, NW Natural
10. Angela Carkner, Multnomah County Drainage District
11. Timur Ender, Commissioner Steve Novick's Office, City of Portland

1. Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Review – Tony Hyde, Chair

Chair Hyde opened the meeting at 9:05 am and asked for self-introductions. He followed with a brief review of the meeting agenda. Before proceeding, he offered the floor to Councilor Harrington, who welcomed all to Metro.

2. Administrative Matters – Chair Hyde

Chair Hyde asked if members present had reviewed the May 8, 2015, Policy Committee meeting minutes and if there was a need for changes. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Ludlow motioned for the minutes to be approved as written; Councilor Harrington seconded the motion. Members present approved the motion unanimously.

3. Napa Earthquake Recovery – Diane Dillon, Chair, Napa County (Calif.) Board of Supervisors

- a. Chair Hyde welcomed Supervisor Dillon and referred all to her bio at the back of the agenda to learn more about her. He shared that he had recently testified before the Oregon Senate Veterans and Emergency Preparedness Committee on the state of preparedness and EMPG funding in our region. He mentioned the RDPO and what an important initiative it is but that we still have a long way to go in the region on preparedness, especially for seismic events.
- b. Supervisor Dillon gave a thorough PowerPoint presentation, entitled "What Elected Leaders Need to Know About Recovery from the South Napa Earthquake," which is available on the RDPO.org website @ <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/rdpo/article/551770>
- c. The following points provide presentation highlights, as well as Policy Committee member questions and Supervisor Dillon's responses:
 - i. Supervisor Dillon explained that she decided to talk about both the recovery efforts following the August 24, 2014 South Napa Earthquake and more recent wildfire emergencies, as they both provide pertinent information for elected leaders and first response agency executives in the room.
 - ii. She explained that she participates on the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), a collaborative regional planning organization comprising nine county governments and around 100 cities/towns. In addition to elected leaders, representatives from the Sierra Club, the building industry, Silicon Valley, and affordable housing advocates participate. She described the organization as an informal structure by which disaster planners (the technicians) keep members apprised of the need to connect and coordinate, so when the "big one" (i.e., like the 1906 San Francisco earthquake) happens, they can all work together more effectively.
 - iii. She said that Napa was always planning for a big influx of people – up to 300,000 -- from the Bay Area following the "big one." Not much preparedness planning had

- been done on Napa itself experiencing a devastating earthquake event. Last big earthquake in Northern California was the Loma Prieta 6.9 earthquake in 1989.
- iv. Supervisor Dillon provided an overview of the August 2014 Napa Earthquake:
 1. Surface earthquake, five miles S/SW of the city of Napa; registered 6.0 on the Berkley seismograph.
 2. One death; hundreds injured.
 3. Major damage to homes; some buildings, including the County Courthouse (including jail) and Administration building. Still have some prisoners located at a temporary location.
 4. FEMA said home damages were minor, so local officials recruited congressional delegation to advocate. Took a couple of months to get FEMA to recognize that the earthquake damage was a big deal. Supervisor Dillon emphasized the importance of documenting all impacts and use of resources to ensure FEMA reimbursement. Napa County hired a contractor (Tetra Tech) to complete the documentation.
 5. \$300 million in losses, with the wine industry alone losing \$80-100 million.
 6. Around \$57 million in impacts to the city of Napa's infrastructure, including 144 water mains and 294 streets/sidewalks. A major water tower had to be removed.
 7. There were power outages, with some 600 poles knocked down, but PG&E worked fast to make repairs. She noted that they had an enormous encampment for workers.
 - v. Supervisor Dillon emphasized the need to think regionally in disaster preparedness, especially because roadways, bridges, waterways and other supply routes/lifelines cross-jurisdictional lines.
 - vi. She said the response and recovery take away from the staff's regular duties, which needs to be reflected in plans. Ensuring the non-interruption of salary payments to essential and non-essential staff is critical.
 - vii. She shared the planning figures/scenario impacts of a large catastrophic earthquake for the Bay Area "big one": 400,000 displaced, 300,000 requiring shelter; 2.9 million households without electricity; 1.8 million households without water (and sewer service); 7,000 fatalities and 50 million tons of debris. Logistical planning is the core of our planning, according to Supervisor Dillon.
 - viii. Regarding the complex fires in Lake County, Calif., north of Napa County, Supervisor Dillon shared:
 1. Lake County is the third poorest county in the state – rural, agrarian.
 2. Third worst fire in the County's history – moved 15 miles in three hours.
 3. One thousand people and their pets and livestock (e.g., 50 goats and horses) were evacuated to Calistoga, Napa County. Due to the Red Cross policy that prevents displaced people from keeping their pets and livestock with them at Red Cross shelters, only 30 evacuees were accommodated at a Red Cross shelter. More than 770 people with pets and livestock were accommodated at the local fair grounds. Napa County moved its EOC there to support the operation. Operation lasted for 11 days.

4. Important to plan for health and safety issues related to joint people-pet sheltering. More donations of food and other items for pets than for people.
 5. Encourage cash donations over donated goods, as this helps support the local economy and recovery.
- ix. In terms of Napa EQ damage assessments: 1,500 buildings were yellow-tagged. Primary EOC was damaged, but there were other options (example of COOP planning). Fear from both businesses and homeowners of having their structures red tagged.
 - x. Got to get the services for people with disabilities and others with access and functional need right – Do you know where to order ADA-compliant showers?
 - xi. For both the earthquake and wildfire evacuee events, volunteer and donations management were critical elements. Many partners in donations management, including Goodwill and the Salvation Army.
 - xii. Noted that debris management and other reporting to obtain FEMA reimbursement has changed since Super Storm Sandy – more technical and complicated. Must have a debris management plan to get reimbursed.
 1. Chair Hyde interjected: so important to be specific about all resources used. Not just a backhoe, but a specific type of backhoe was used. FEMA is looking for how it can reduce the reimbursement.
 - xiii. Unreinforced masonry buildings: those that had been reinforced did not fall.
 - xiv. Councilor Harrington asked: What role has the visitor's bureau played in ensuring visitors return to Napa, since tourism is a big component of your economy? Supervisor Dillon said they had robust ad campaigns and used social media to encourage visitors to return to Napa.
 - xv. Councilor Larry Smith asked: How can we make changes in the Red Cross? Sounds like some of their policies are not current.
 1. Chair Hyde said since the Red Cross is a federally mandated humanitarian relief agency, most of the advocacy for policy change has to be done at the federal level. He also shared the need for the Red Cross to demonstrate greater transparency and accountability on the expenditure of funds raised through public fundraising drives post-disaster.
 2. Councilor Larry Smith suggested we could work through the League of Cities and Association of Counties to build robust advocacy to promote policy change in the Red Cross. Councilor Stewart said she had concerns the Red Cross was looking more corporate and would be happy to participate in any advocacy towards positive change in the Red Cross.
 3. Others shared positive experiences of collaborating with the local Red Cross in Oregon and SW Washington.
 - xvi. Closing points and exchanges centered on the importance of building resilience at the community level, both with formal programs, such as those under Citizen Corps (e.g., Neighborhood Emergency Teams/Community Emergency Response Teams, Volunteers in Police Service and Medical Response Corps), as well as household level readiness and resilience efforts. There was also a brief discussion on providing more preparedness training for elected leaders.

4. **RDPO Strategic Planning** – Note: due to Agenda Item #3 running over, it was decided to postpone this item until the next meeting.
5. **RDPO Updates** – Denise Barrett, RDPO Manager
 - a. For her brief update, Denise drew the Policy Committee’s attention to two handouts, the RDPO Key Messages for October-November 2015 and an updated RDPO Flyer:
<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/rdpo/article/549208>
<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/rdpo/article/549205>
 - b. She made special mention of the newest contributing members to the RDPO since the last meeting, namely, the cities of Troutdale and Fairview. The addition of these two cities brings to 20 the numbers of jurisdictions that have signed the RDPO IGA and to 14 the number of signatories that have appointed representatives to the Policy Committee.
 - c. Denise thanked all of the jurisdictions that have contributed to the organization and shared that around \$70,000 in project contributions will be programmed in the coming few months.
 - d. She said the UASI FY2014 projects are well underway (five are highlighted in the “Key Messages” document) and the UASI FY2015 grant will come online in early 2016 (contract between Oregon Emergency Management and Portland Bureau of Emergency Management under development).
6. **Policy Committee SOP (Bylaws) Revision and FY2016 Local Cost Share Methodology Development** – Scott Porter, Washington County Representative to the Steering Committee (SC) and Past SC Chair
 - a. Scott explained that he and Denise were working to update the Policy Committee’s Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to ensure alignment with the RDPO IGA.
 - b. Current SOP adopted in June 2013 prior to formalization of the RDPO.
 - c. The RDPO IGA adopted in January 2015 contained a few organizational and procedural elements that need to be incorporated into or more fully addressed in the SOP:
 - i. Membership
 - ii. Voting privileges
 - iii. Responsibilities
 - d. Updating the SOP to address these points provides an opportunity to address other issues and make other editorial improvements. Some of those issues include:
 - i. Eligibility to hold office
 - ii. Terms of office
 - iii. Committee decision-making (voting and consensus)
 - e. Issues for Committee Consideration:
 - i. Should the position of chair and vice chair be open to any member organization representative or limited in some way (e.g., Core Group member representatives, Participating Jurisdiction representatives, Contributing Member representatives)?
 - ii. Should the terms of office (currently two years) be changed?
 - iii. Should ascendancy to the chair position be automatic for the vice chair?

- iv. Are changes in the decision-making process needed beyond those required to reflect the IGA changes? SOP currently calls for 2/3 majority to amend SOP, simple majority to elect officers and simple majority to resolve issues when consensus cannot be reached.
- f. Councilor Harrington thanked Scott and Denise for working on updating the document, but said she preferred spending a bit more time reflecting on the questions. Other members agreed. Councilor Harrington recommended, and it was agreed, to postpone decision-making to the next Policy Committee meeting.
- g. After some additional discussion, Chair Hyde asked Denise to conduct a Doodle poll, with the aim of identifying a date in December for the next committee meeting.

7. Good of the Order – Chair Hyde

No items.

8. Adjourn – Chair Hyde adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.