

Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2018; 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Griffith Building, 4755 SW Griffith Drive, Beaverton, OR



Steering Committee Attendance (Quorum reached: 16 of 25 active positions represented)

1. Christina Baumann, Public Health Representative
2. Roy Brower, Metro Representative
3. Nancy Bush, Clackamas County Representative and Past SC Chair
4. Bob Cozzie, Public Safety Communications Discipline Representative and Past SC Chair
5. Jason Gates, Law Enforcement Representative
6. Rebecca Geisen, Regional Water Providers Consortium Representative
7. Jay Jewess, Private Sector (Utilities) Representative
8. Scott Johnson, Clark County and City of Vancouver Representative (2 votes)
9. Mike Mumaw, Emergency Management Representative
10. Jason Wallis (for Chris Neal), Port of Portland Representative
11. Courtney Patterson, City of Portland Representative
12. Steve Pegram, Columbia County Representative
13. Scott Porter, Washington County Representative
14. Kathryn Richer, Health System Representative
15. Tripp Robinson, Private Sector (Industry) Representative
16. Alex Ubiadas, Program Committee Chair
17. Chris Voss, Steering Committee Chair and Multnomah County Representative

RDPO/PBEM Staff and Other Attendees:

1. Denise Barrett, RDPO Manager
2. Amy Cole, PBEM Grants Program Coordinator
3. Laura Hall, RDPO Sr. Administrative Specialist
4. Laura Hanson, RDPO Regional Planning Coordinator
5. Curtis Peetz, RDPO Regional Mass Shelter Task Force Chair
6. Courtney Ramsey, TITAN Fusion Center
7. Allison Pynch, President of OR and SW WA Section of ASCE
8. Jay Raskin, OSSPAC Chair

1. Welcome and Introductions – Chris Voss, Steering Committee Chair

- a. At 1:01pm, Chair Voss called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, and asked for self-introductions.

2. Administrative Items – Chris Voss, Steering Committee Chair

- a. Chair Voss asked for comments regarding previous meeting minutes. Corrections were offered:
 - i. Page 5 should read “Martin Montalvo” on all references for Roy Brower, except the first instance.
 - ii. Tactical training notes on page 2, section 3b should state that the Law Enforcement Work Group (LEWG) requested two courses for the Portland metro area; another was submitted for outside the metro area. Under section C2, remove “southern” from Columbia County.
- b. Scott Porter moved to approve the minutes with corrections; Alex Ubiadas seconded; all approved.

3. **Mexico City Earthquake** – Allison Pynch, Geotechnical Engineer, Hart Crowser and President of American Society of Engineers

- a. Ms. Pynch visited Mexico City two months after the September 2017 earthquakes. View [her presentation slides](#) for further detail.
- b. On Sept. 9, there was a M8.1 subduction zone quake offshore in the middle of the night. They received a warning 90 seconds ahead of the shaking. There was little damage. About a week later, they had a false alarm.
- c. On Sept. 19 (anniversary of 1985 event), they did a citywide evacuation drill at 11am. At 1:30pm, there was a M7.1 intraplate quake, and there was little warning because it was shallow. Majority of people returned to work the next day; schools were slower to resume. Since the devastating Mexico City quake of 1985, there have been many improvements in infrastructure resilience and community preparedness. The second September 2017 quake demonstrated there is still work to do.
- d. Mexico City was built on a lake bed, so it shakes like Jell-O; different types of buildings were affected depending on type of EQ. Certain heights have a lot of damage due to interaction of soil and shaking. Shorter buildings got worst damage this time. Many of the buildings that collapsed were damaged in previous quakes. They stopped all construction for inspections and possible code changes.
- e. They need to make significant code changes (above life safety, retrofits to older structures) and have better construction oversight (our oversight is already pretty good). Large buildings must have an engineer who assumes liability.
- f. Most of their URMs had already fallen, but they do still have collapsible structures. There were 30 deaths in schools; there would have been more, but they are able to evacuate schools very quickly.
- g. As they tagged buildings, they recorded damage, even for green-tagged ones.
- h. Lessons learned:
 - i. **Building Assessment:** Everyone agreed biggest issue was post-disaster assessment. It must be organized and people must be well-trained to ensure consistent tagging. Must identify who tagged it and create an official record. Must have agreement on what red means (not necessarily ready for demolition). They used ATC-20 but still had different ways of doing it and didn't communicate with the public about what it meant. It wasn't clear whether it's safe to be in a building if the one next to it is coded red. People were camping near buildings to protect their stuff. City gave stipend for rent if residents couldn't enter building. They're now figuring out how to fund demo and repairs. We need to figure this out ahead of time.
 - ii. **Public Education:** You can't expect people to not help. We must accept that and plan for it and figure how to use volunteers. Educate CERT for how to use the public (bucket brigades to remove debris, etc.). There was an entire social media network using a walkie talkie app. They had their own supply chain. Use this to your benefit and be in tune with it.
 - iii. **Public Employees:** They must know what to do. All should have a job and know what it is and where to report. Traffic control, distribution, answering phones, etc. Find a way to have them help close to their homes.
 - iv. **Early Earthquake Warning:** They use <https://sasmex.net/mapa/>. It did work on Sept. 9th, and people were evacuated. It didn't work in crustal quake. The public must understand what to do if they get an early warning vs. when the ground starts shaking. Mexico doesn't use automation much, though a few trains stopped. Shake Alert didn't work well on the first one, has more false alarms in general, not as reliable. They evacuate – and that's how they drill. Should we? They are doing entire city drills – this is how they institutionalize it. Everyone

knows what their alarm sound means. It might create mass panic here. What to do about false alarms?

- v. Ms. Pynch said she would like to bring 4-5 subject matter experts from Mexico City to talk to us about earthquake early warning and show us brochures and other educational materials. They have good equity measures, clear evacuation points, etc. She is not clear on whether drills are mandated for non-city employees.

4. Eagle Creek Fire – Chris Voss

- a. See [presentation slides](#) for details of timeline. Chris was in Botswana when the Eagle Creek Fire began on September 2, 2017. He emphasized that all emergency management directors should make sure they have a well-trained deputy.
- b. Some lessons:
 - i. Keep track of volunteers so you can recoup costs through Stafford Act.
 - ii. It's hard to define all needs of facility for sheltering. Mount Hood Community College agreed to support sheltering, but they weren't ready for people in RVs on their lawn.
 - iii. More animals than people need sheltering. The Animal MAC did amazing work. If it's a regional event, we don't get to benefit from regional support. (Clark was having tough conversations about what to send Multnomah's way because it could have spread to them.) They learned that people may be more willing to help animals than people. The Animal MAC was able to take a role off the shoulders of the County and provide connections to local groups; they will do more training based on the lessons they learned.
 - iv. Community meetings: when people are being affected, they show up to meetings. 110 total homes evacuated, but more people than that attended the meetings. 70% of areas evacuated left at first, but then some snuck back. Sheriff allowed residents in if they understood the risk.
 - v. An entire building is needed for an EOC, not just a room. They chose to be close to fire, which was great from mobility standpoint.
- c. Regional takeaways:
 - i. Every volunteer investment paid off. Do a good job of recording volunteer time.
 - ii. It's hard to manage donations: be very clear about what is needed.
 - iii. Would have used Public Alerts if it could have been targeted. IPAWS doesn't allow targeted alerts.
 - iv. Goal should be Level 6 interoperability.
- d. Policy considerations: New taxes may hit these already damaged businesses. Can we avoid that?
- e. Multnomah County specific lessons:
 - i. Need to 1) find larger spaces for EOC; 2) clarify who pays for what; 3) decide how deep do we go in training for each EOC position.
 - ii. 70% of time the County's time is spent doing county emergency management work; 30% working with city, schools, etc. Need to flip that and spend more time working with everyone else – more of a whole community approach to building resilience. Chair Voss suggested making longer-term plans so we aren't constantly in planning mode. Where does EM responsibility start/stop? Almost all we do is response-based, but we need to shift to consider recovery, mitigation, and prevention.

- iii. It's hard to work with facility partners because at the end of the day, they could say no. We can't define every possible need.
- f. Alyson Perch: there are efforts to increase federal funding for mitigation through legislative changes; please let her know if you have info about where changes need to be made. Steve Pegram noted that the Vernonia flood mitigation dollars were very well spent. A relatively small event like this can highlight interconnectedness of infrastructure and utilities.
- g. Nancy Bush said we (emergency management agencies) need to rely on everyone else for us to get our work done. Clackamas makes sure people sign off to agree to pay their staff to participate in EOC. Ms. Patterson noted the Resource Management Handbook helps provide structure for this. Chair Voss noted that ordering should not be done by someone from another jurisdiction. Transparency is key. Everyone needs to state their needs and limitations up front.

5. **Quarterly Grants Update – Amy Cole**

- a. Ms. Cole provided implementation status for FY'15/'16 grants (link to presentation forthcoming). OEM gave extension for UASI FY'15 through July. All invoices due June 30, 2018. Disaster Sanitation is using some reallocated funds for printing; they are coded yellow in the quarterly report because it hasn't happened yet. Ms. Cole explained why some projects are yellow. All is green for FY'16 because doesn't need to be spent until May 2019.
- b. UASI FY17: We got grant agreement from OEM last week. Will go to council agenda in April.
- c. President's FY'19 proposed Federal budget includes a lot of cuts to UASI, SHSP and EMPG; 25% cuts and 25% cost share or match. Ms. Barrett noted that the RDPO will continue to do advocacy at the federal level, but we still have sanctuary jurisdictions issue. Chair Voss reminded everyone that it has looked bad for the past 15 years. We may have a valid cause for concern because House and Senate don't represent UASI cities for the most part.
- d. OEM is being audited by Office of Inspector General; they will come look at five of our region's UASI grants. Looking at process and equipment, not finances.
- e. Kathryn Richer asked about \$40,000 of available for reallocation. Some is for disaster sanitation printing. \$30,000 left (it's FY16 money). Bring amendment requests to Program Committee. Amy to more formally call for requests in the coming weeks.

6. **DOGAMI Earthquake Regional Impact Analysis – Laura Hanson**

- a. Disaster Messaging Task Force created toolkit to aid in dissemination of RDPO/DOGAMI study results. Link to entire toolkit was sent to everyone this morning. Public release will be on March 15th. Exercise discretion about who you share this with before March 15th.
- b. Ms. Hanson provided overview of toolkit. Cover page explains what's in the toolkit and intended users of each document.
- c. Mike Mumaw asked about Portland Hills fault, which the communications tool kit does not emphasize though it has higher impacts than Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) earthquake in much of the three counties assessed. Ms. Hanson said since likelihood of occurrence is so much lower than CSZ and mitigation/response will be the same, we want to focus on CSZ. Talking points document provides verbiage you can use to explain this. Scott Porter thinks media will go after Portland Hills fault. Be prepared to explain the likelihood.

- d. Chair Voss wonders if it was a good idea to roll out the first phase before study of all five counties has been completed. Ms. Hanson agreed that these three counties will get the media attention, but it wouldn't make sense to sit on these results.
- e. Ms. Barrett announced that RDPO staff will meet with new Policy Committee chairs and discuss the implications of this study. She noted that there are opportunities for the Policy Committee members and other elected leaders in the region to champion preparedness as this report is released to the public. She has arranged with Multnomah County Commissioner Meieran's office to have key messages included in one of the Commissioner's upcoming newsletters.

7. Mass Shelter Workshop – Curtis Peetz

- a. At the February workshop, Counties presented on current capabilities and discussed gaps. Task Force will meet again soon to discuss creation of a toolkit and investment strategy. We're on target to wrap up both this fall. Will aim to reconvene everyone in six months.

8. OSSPAC / Senate Bill 850 – Jay Raskin

- a. OSSPAC will begin writing report after April. It's due in September. Policy Committee would like to be able to make a statement supporting key recommendations. Will convene the PC on April 27, so it would be good to have something for them to read at that time.

9. Good of the Order – All

- a. Next meeting (April) needs to be rescheduled due to emergency management conference. All agreed we can cancel. Next meeting would be a joint meeting with the Program Committee on May 7.
- b. Ms. Patterson revisited the idea of having DAFN advocates involved in our work. City of Portland has a few advocates that we may be able to attend a few RDPO meetings; the City will pay them to attend. We would need to look at venue due to accessibility issues. Ms. Barrett suggested identifying 1-2 meetings/year where we can integrate this topic. Chair Voss suggests talking to advocates to see which of our meetings it would make sense for them to attend. Nancy Bush affirmed importance of having them at our meetings. Ms. Barrett suggested involving them in discussion of our Strategic Plan. Curtis Peetz suggested providing an open invitation to attend all meetings. Scott Porter said they should be involved in planning on mass shelter, transportation, etc., more-so than attending our SC meetings. Ms. Patterson suggested building a relationship with them through the SC as a way to involve them in other projects. Alex Ubiadas said TriMet also has a DAFN advocate who may be interested in contributing, and he can help with transit vouchers. Mike Mumaw suggested sharing the load between them. Nancy Bush noted the importance of having diverse representation.
- c. Ms. Barrett introduced TITAN Fusion Center's Courtney Ramsey. He will provide a full threat analysis update at the June 6, 2018 SC meeting. In the meantime, Mr. Ramsey has completed a rail threat analysis, which Ms. Barrett said she would circulate to the SC post-meeting.
- d. Scott Porter noted the Fueling Anxiety Tabletop After Action Report is entering final draft stage. It will be on April 27 PC agenda.

10. Adjournment – Chair Voss

- a. Chair Voss thanked Mike Mumaw for hosting and adjourned the meeting at 2:57pm.