



Grays Harbor County LEPC
Wednesday July 9, 2008
310 W Spruce Street, Montesano 2nd Floor
360-249-3911

Chair: Ken Walkington **Co-Chair: Paul Dean** **Secretary: Joy Carossino**

Present

Monica Simpson	GHC Emergency Mgmt	Paul Dean	Hoquiam Fire
Stan Ratcliff	GHPDA	Eric Steilau	SCCC
Ron Wineinger	SCCC	Verna MacDonald	Westport Senior House
Nora LeBlanc	Public Health	Sylvia Markham	Weyerhaeuser
Tony Simone	Grays Harbor College	Anne Sullivan	GHC Emergency Mgmt

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 am.

Introductions took place

There was no meeting in June and the minutes for May were approved as written

Paul Dean acted as Chair in absence of Ken Walkington and Monica Simpson acted as Secretary for this meeting.

Hazmat Incident Review there was a total of 15 incidents that took place from May 3rd to June 27th. The only incident with the most action required was on June 27th. The owner deliberately sank his vessel. 1st responders from Hoquiam and the Coast Guard were on scene. Coast Guard will be monitoring this vessel to see if there is any potential of fluid leaking and if it could have effects during low tide.

Old Business

Appointments & By-Laws: a letter was developed & signed by the Board of County Commissioners inviting specific people from Businesses and the community to participate on the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). This letter should have been received in May. The letter for Jordan Singleton of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary was undeliverable. It was suggested to try to contact him through the Seafair Management since they work closely together.

LEPC Guide has been developed and approved by the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). The guide explains what we do and why. This can be viewed online at:

<http://www.emd.wa.gov/hazards/documents/LEPCGuide2007.doc>

New Business

HMEP is a grant that Emergency Management uses for LEPC operational costs. Funding is available between \$1000- \$9000. Items that could be illegible for this grant would be regulatory or joint activities, exercises based on the response plan or developing a new plan. Anne asked the committee how they felt about developing another exercise. The committee was very responsive to this and would like to have a drill on an annual basis. There is no restriction on the grant as to whether it has to be a table top or a functional. The committee had discussion as to the scenario of the drill including decontamination of public as this was not implemented during the December flooding/windstorm event or to tag on with Hoquiam Fire Department (AFD) and Imperium Renewables.

Incident Management Team (IMT3). Region 3, personnel that consists of Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston counties, is in the process of trying to develop an IMT. The concept of the team is as follows: The Region 3 Incident Management Team Type 3 (IMT3) is a multidisciplinary group

assembled for the purpose of completing and/or enhancing the Incident Command System. The team can also be used for large-scale events that require pre-planning. Members of the team are volunteers drawn from local response agencies, specialized teams, government agencies or the private sector. All though this is a great opportunity the cost to develop and maintain the team is a concern. At this time the outcome is still pending.

Errors & Omissions: All county committees and boards have liability coverage through the Risk Pool.

Drills and Exercises.

All Hazard Alert Broadcast (AHABs) systems continue to be tested the first Monday of every month beginning at noon. During the last test on July 7th the Ocean City AHAB siren did not function and we continue to have problems with the public announcement (PA) on some units. In the event of a real Tsunami Warning, the sirens will activate for 3 minutes. If the siren were to activate and it was not the first Monday of the month around noon you should immediately go to higher ground and listen to a radio that will give you further instructions. As always we remind people that AHABs are only meant to be heard by those who are outdoors. There are too many factors that could stand in the way of someone being able to hear the siren indoors. It is and has always been highly recommended that people purchase a NOAA weather radio and have it in their homes just like they would a smoke detector. These are available for purchase at many electronic stores or online and can range in price from \$30.00 up to \$70.00 depending on what you choose. We suggest a very simple easy to use radio. If you need help programming your radio, Emergency Management can help with that just give us a call.

GHC Emergency Management will be participating in a Tsunami drill scheduled to take place October 22nd. Our EOC will be activated. Tony Simone expressed an interest in being in the EOC. Debriefing or Hot Wash is scheduled for the following day possibly by conference call. This drill will satisfy our 2009 grant. Anne and Dan Prater FD #2 Chief will be attending the day and a half training at Camp Murray on the 20 & 21st. There are two more slots open for Grays Harbor County representatives to attend training at Camp Murray. Contact Anne if you are interested.

Telephonic Warning System (TWS): Please encourage your staff, neighbors, family, and friends to sign up for the TWS. Emergency Management also challenges businesses to encourage their staff to participate. Our office has brochures and flyers available to anyone who needs them. Along with having a NOAA weather radio this is just another way that you can prepare yourself before an event occurs. The TWS can be used to notify people in the event of high winds, flooding, portable water issues, etc...

Discussion:

Sylvia Markham attended training in Portland that focused on Environmental Risk Management and what you can do before an event happens. There were many different speakers covering several issues and she felt it was a great training.

HFD will be holding a Joint functional exercise with Imperium Renewables that will include a Haz Mat scenario. HFD is working to solidify their own emergency response plan. The first week of August will include training with the exercise being held at a later date for this facility.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:15. Next meeting will be Wednesday August 13, 2008 at 10:15am