HMSC Management Committee Meeting
October 10, 2012  2:00pm
Library Seminar Room, HMSC

Attending: Renee Albertson (HMSC-HsO), Demian Bailey (Ship Operations), George Boehlert (HMSC), Maryann Bozza (HMSC), Rick Brown (NMFS NW), Carol Cole (COMES), Brett Dumbauld (USDA/ARS), Dave Fox (ODFW), Dawn Grafe (USFWS), John Lupton (NOAA-PMEL), Walt Nelson (EPA), Candace Rogers (HMSC), Janet Webster (Guin Library)

Not represented: CIMRS, MMI, Oregon Sea Grant, USGS

INTRODUCTIONS

Interim Director position: George Boehlert explained that his official retirement date as HMSC Director was 9/30/12. He is now interim director until the end of this year. If the new director is not on board by then there will likely be another interim selected for 2013, until the new director arrives at HMSC.

OLD BUSINESS

HMSC Estuarine Trail and Erosion: George Boehlert reported that the revetment done on the 260’ of shoreline along the estuary trail in 11/2011 has been working well. In comparison, the 240’ control area that did not receive revetment work has experienced extensive damage and erosion since that time. He explained in detail the reporting process required by the permit. The Director’s Office will start the application process soon for a permit for revetment of that 240’ area. Details are still being worked out with the City of Newport for possibly incorporating the trail into the city’s trail system. He opened the subject up to discussion.

Q: Cliff Ryer asked if the erosion nearest to the pump storage tank has been controlled.

A: Walt Nielson responded that it mostly has been. There is still some on-going, minor erosion. The control has been best where the heaviest rocking was done.

NEW BUSINESS

Tsunami Evacuation Drill: Maryann Bozza explained that tomorrow’s, annual HMSC evacuation drill will be very much like last year’s. There were no questions.

Tsunami Supplies proposal: Maryann Bozza briefed the group on a proposal being written by Sue Graves, Lincoln County School District Safety Coordinator, for a FEMA grant. The proposal deadline is 10/26/12. If awarded, the grant would finance disaster supplies for 2000 LC schools’ staff and students and 1000 South Beach people. The South Beach supplies would be stored at the Oregon Coast Community College campus, which is out of the tsunami inundation zone. Sue is asking for grant partners to commit to a match of $5000 total. George Boehlert has offered $1,000 from HMSC with the balance to be supplied by the other partners. He asked each agency head to see if they can
secure emergency funding from their group to help with the match. If that cannot be managed, he suggested they instead write a letter of support to be submitted with the proposal.

Dave Fox requested that an email be sent with details that can be used as talking points or when writing the letter of support. George Boehlert asked if it was best that individual letters of support be written or just one letter with the signatures of those in support?

**Action Item:** Maryann will check with Sue Graves to see which format for the letters is preferred. Also how far ahead of the proposal deadline she would like to receive any HMSC inclusions.

**Action Item:** Maryann will send an informational email about the proposal to this committee’s members.

**HMSC Signage:** George Boehlert explained that the new signage at HMSC is a two-phase project:
- Short-term: Directional signage. Mainly to help the public find their way around HMSC. Sea Grant staff will design, HMSC facilities will install.
- Long-term: Promotional signage. Aimed at educating the public on the various agencies located at HMSC. Some cost sharing might be necessary. A possible location is the SW corner of our property. Might include an informational kiosk.

Maryann Bozza gave a PowerPoint presentation on mock-ups for the directional signage. The following input was given by the committee:

- Giving the ODFW parking lot entrance the official name of “West Entrance” is a good idea.
- Should acronyms be used for agency names or is it better to spell out for those unfamiliar with the acronyms?
- Should the West Entrance become the main agency entrance to avoid safety issues caused by cars driving through the Main Parking lot?
- A sub-sign “Fishing & Hunting Licenses Here” to direct the large number of people looking for ODFW directly to that building would be helpful.
- The orange lettering on a dark blue background is not highly visible. White on blue might be a better option.
- All agreed that the shorter sign was better than the taller one with more entries, which would be a challenge to read while driving past.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Demian Bailey: On 10/18/12, the RV Wecoma will depart Newport for the last time. She is being towed to Mexico to be scrapped. There is no ceremony planned to mark her departure.