

Safety Committee Meeting
Minutes for October 4, 2006

Members present:

Randy Walker HMSC/OSU,
Bill Hanshumaker Visitor Center,
Brian Parker FRAM/NOAA,
Alena Pribyl HMSC/OSU/Housing,
Hollis Lundeen, OMI/NOAA,
Faith Cole EPA,
Steve Kupillas ODFW,
Ford Evans COMES,
Monita Cheever HMSC/OSU

Guest: Toby Cole, EMT, Newport Fire Dept

CERT Program

Toby Cole explained the CERT program and how HMSC can participate.
More details on CERT's Web page: <https://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/>

Cole recommended some steps for HMSC to begin a CERT program

- Identify the program goals that CERT will meet and the resources available to conduct the program in our area.
- Gain approval from officials/directors to use CERT as a means to prepare HMSCers to care for themselves during a disaster when services may not be adequate.
- Identify and recruit potential participants.
- Conduct CERT sessions.
- Conduct refresher training and exercises with CERTs.

The CERT training for groups is usually delivered in 2 1/2 hour sessions, one evening a week over a 7-week period. There are 9 sessions in all (Fire in 2 parts) (Medical in 3 parts). Cole was going to check into offering a 3-day session (18hrs) then finishing up with a disaster simulation. Cole also mentioned that a refresher was required once a year to stay active – which could either be a practical simulation or participation in an actual search and rescue.

The CERT training consists of the following: *(list provided from web site)*

Session I, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS: Addresses hazards to which people are vulnerable in their community. Materials cover actions that participants and their families take before, during, and after a disaster. As the session progresses, the instructor begins to explore an expanded response role for civilians in that they should begin to consider themselves disaster workers. Since they will want

to help their family members and neighbors, this training can help them operate in a safe and appropriate manner. The CERT concept and organization are discussed as well as applicable laws governing volunteers in that jurisdiction.

Session II, DISASTER FIRE SUPPRESSION: Briefly covers fire chemistry, hazardous materials, fire hazards, and fire suppression strategies. However, the thrust of this session is the safe use of fire extinguishers, sizing up the situation, controlling utilities, and extinguishing a small fire.

Session III, DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS PART I: Participants practice diagnosing and treating airway obstruction, bleeding, and shock by using simple triage and rapid treatment techniques.

Session IV, DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS, PART II: Covers evaluating patients by doing a head to toe assessment, establishing a medical treatment area, performing basic first aid, and practicing in a safe and sanitary manner.

Session V, LIGHT SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS: Participants learn about search and rescue planning, size-up, search techniques, rescue techniques, and most important, rescuer safety.

Session VI, DISASTER PSYCHOLOGY AND TEAM ORGANIZATION: Covers signs and symptoms that might be experienced by the disaster victim and worker. It addresses CERT organization and management principles and the need for documentation.

Session VII, COURSE REVIEW AND DISASTER SIMULATION: Participants review their answers from a take home examination. Finally, they practice the skills that they have learned during the previous six sessions in disaster activity.

Cole mentioned that the Newport Police department would do the session on terrorism. Walker mentioned possible issues HMSC might have with PETA, and volunteered to contact an OSU specialist who deals with PETA issues.

EVAC Drill

Walker requested that CERT do a presentation in the Auditorium following HMSC's annual EVAC drill. Cole was in agreement. It was also discussed that other groups (Fire Dept, Police, etc) also be asked to attend the presentation in the Auditorium – Walker would contact the groups.

The date for the Tsunami Evac drill was set for Oct 17th Tuesday at around 10am.

Walker will check with the Inn at Yaquina Bay, located on the hill, prior to Oct 17th to inform them of the evac drill. Walker will send out notices to the HMSCers with info of the Evac drill.

Other items of discussion:

Dead birds

Lundeen mentioned Mont Lake's policy on sick or dead birds. Hanshumaker informed that HMSC already had an electronic protocol on this. Kupillas mentioned that ODFW also had an existing policy on West Nile.
Link to Mont Lake's Sick Bird policy: (in PDF format)

Satellite phones

Faith Cole suggested that each agency should share satellite phone numbers. All agreed. As each agency gets a satellite phone, they will send their phone numbers to the other safety committee members.

Spider issue

Lundeen made the following statement:

"In regards to addressing the issue of spiders in NOAA Buildings here at Newport Research Station.

NWFSC plans to enter a service agreement with Swanson's Pest Management with the following instructions to address the situation.

-Dewebbing (by brooming) eaves from ground up 10 feet.

-Distributing spider monitor boards at various locations for 30 days with weekly inspection. These monitor boards are covered, very sticky, and naturally baited with a pheromone-like scent to attract Hobo and indoor spiders and other pests.

-Monitoring will determine any additional plans of action.

Please do not touch or disturb these plainly visible traps. Thank you."

Next meeting

Next safety meeting will be November 1st, in the upstairs foyer area of the Barry Fisher Building at 9:00am.