

DRAFT MINUTES
HMSC Safety Committee Meeting
January 13, 2011

Present: Bill Hanshumaker, Rick Brown, Dave Jacobson, Randy Walker, Kelly Corbett, Katie Marko, Carol Cole

Lab Protocols and Standardization of Emergency Signage:

As follow-up to an earlier incident, discussion focused on standardization of responses to emergency situations within labs on this campus. There are protocols in place for each of the lab; lab staff should be trained in these, and expected to adhere to them.

Action to be taken by individuals who do not work in the labs and have no lab/chemical knowledge or training would be based on instructions posted outside each lab. It was noted that there is inconsistency in the signage for the labs – HMSC does not have a universal policy. Concern was focused on the clarity of the signage, with an emphasis on who should be contacted in an “emergency” situation.

- Current “Emergency” procedures in ODFW and EPA suggest calling 911 first, especially in response to an after-hours incident. (Both ODFW and EPA have Lab Safety Officers on-site.)
- NOAA signage contains both daytime and after-hours contact numbers for Lab personnel, lists the OSU 270-0101 number [“After Hours Emergency Number Until 1:00 a.m., 541 270-0101”, bordered in red], as well as phone numbers for Police, Fire/Ambulance/Major Chemical Spill, Natural Gas, and other organizations, adjacent each lab entrance. NOAA also has 3 Safety and Environmental Compliance officers stationed in Seattle, and available by cell phone.
- OSU signs contain “Emergency Contact Information” (one number only; most frequently a daytime phone number) for lab PI and staff contacts. Separate from, and below, are three additional numbers: Fire-Police-Ambulance, Campus Security (OSU, located in Corvallis), and Environmental Health & Safety (also OSU, also in Corvallis). The OSU signs do not reference the OSU 270-0101 number, nor do they mention the HMSC facilities department. OSU does not have a Lab Safety Officer on site. (A five-minute review of the HMSC web site did not reveal any links to emergency information, procedures, or contacts.)

During discussion, Randy noted that the 270-0101 number was not to be used on the OSU signs, given that the Facilities staff has not been trained to handle hazardous materials.

ACTION: Carol will work with Randy on redoing the OSU lab labels, eliminating any ambiguity.

FOLLOWUP: Dan Kermoyan gave an OK to the adjustment in signage for OSU signs as worked out by Randy and Carol.

Sea Grant Chemical Storage Containers:

The storage containers that had been used previously by SG had been relocated to OCCC. Bill Hanshumaker will purchase a new storage container for his area.

Retirement:

Hollis has submitted her retirement request. She will not be returning to HMSC.

CERT Training:

Questions arose about who might take the lead on this, as well as what CERT actually is, and what the expectations are for this training.

ACTION: Katie will obtain a description of the training, and will send it out to the committee.

ACTION: Randy will contact George Boehlert re employees taking time out for this training.

ACTION: Safety Committee members will compile a listing of staff who might take the training, and bring this list to the next meeting, so we'll have an idea about numbers.

Parking Lot Lighting:

Randy noted that the indirect lighting is cheaper than the LED lighting: HMSC will run a test of the induction lighting. Rick asked whether Randy had inquired about the lighting that NOAA will be installing, given that NOAA has been consistent in incorporating environmentally-friendly features? Randy has not spoken with NOAA representatives about this.

Dredge Pipe on the Bay:

Katie noted that one of the small boats had hit a pipe in the bay. The committee was informed that a dredge pipe has been installed, and currently extends across the bay; it's marked in part by orange buoys.

Estuary Trail:

There has been no final resolution to the erosion situation; HMSC has been unable to obtain a permit from ODFW for a dynamic revettement. The end solution might be installing riprap along the shoreline if the bay encroaches upon the water storage tank.