

Safety Meeting for Earthquake Preparedness

July 21, 2004

Those Attending; Lori Parker, Randy Walker, Steve Ferraro, Don Bodenmiller, Sean Matson and Dave Johnson

A meeting was called to discuss lessons learned from the last earthquake on July 12, 2002 and what we could do to help prepare ourselves for the next earthquake. Last week, after the earthquake there was some confusion and concern on what is the proper course of action during and after an earthquake. Adding to the confusion, not everyone felt the earthquake, and as a result reaction ran the range of nothing, to near panic. An important lesson learned from this is; There needs to be an understanding of procedures to follow and drills often enough to make the procedures easy to follow even if folks are in a state of shock, or panic. All agencies at HMSC should adopt the same procedures as much as practical, so there will be little confusion over what to do regardless of what agency's building a person is in.

General procedures, during an earthquake:

- 1. Do not rush out doors. Stay inside since most injuries occur from falling glass, plaster, bricks, debris and electrical lines as people are leaving the building.*
- 2. Cover your head with your arms and stand against an inside wall or doorway, or take cover under a desk, table, or bench in case ceiling or office furniture should fall.*
- 3. Stay away from all glass surfaces including windows, mirrors, etc.*
- 4. Do not attempt to restrain falling objects unless they endanger your life.*
- 5. If you are outdoors, remain there. Move into the open. Do not stand under overhangs on the outside of buildings. Move away from power lines, trees and stay in open areas away from all structures.*
- 6. Immediately after the ground stops shaking, head for a Tsunami high ground area. The evacuation area for HMSC is the area around the base of the South side of the bridge and the hill on the other side of 101 near the Old Cemetery on Abalone Street. It must be assumed that a tsunami will follow an earthquake until given the all-clear signal. Remain in the evacuation area until given the all clear. If you are unable to make it to high ground, the place to go is the second story of the Barry Fisher Building. This building was built to seismic zone 4 standards and is the safest place to be onsite after an earthquake and during a tsunami. The area by the bridge to evacuate to is outlined in the OSU Emergency Procedures Manual. The Barry Fisher Building is not marked in the manual. If you feel this is the place you would go in an emergency, please familiarize yourself with the building location.*

During the general discussion at the Safety Meeting items discussed were;

1. The need for information to be dispersed. It was felt that emergency information radios should be purchased for different building at HMSC. OSU plans to purchase at least two emergency information radios and a portable AM radio. One radio will be in the HMSC Director's office and one located in the Facilities Managers office. The AM radio should be carried to the evacuation site in

addition to at least one of the emergency information radios. It was also felt it would be desirable to have external NOAA emergency load speakers through out HMSC on the outside of buildings. These speakers would be activated in case of an emergency.

2. The need to have volunteers to sweep buildings after an earthquake was mentioned.
3. The biggest area of concern is the necessity to conduct an Earthquake/ Tsunami drill as soon as possible. The Safety Committee will work with the Management committee to schedule a drill at the earliest possible time. The consensus of opinion of the Safety Committee is, employees should be given the procedures for earthquake and Tsunami events prior to the drill and a complete drill including evacuation should be carried out.
4. Randy Walker should walk the route and report back on the time it takes to reach high ground and how difficult the walk is.