



Cooperative Public Agencies of Washington County Minutes for February 16, 2017

Members Present:

Chair, Vance Walker, City of Tigard
Mark Crowell, City of Cornelius
Dave Willer, City of Forest Grove
Secretary, Julia Erickson, City of Hillsboro
Deb Dalenberg, Washington County

Mel Schultz, City of Beaverton
Jim Bateman, City of Lake Oswego
Justin Jensen, City of Hillsboro
Keith Lewis, Washington County

Chair Vance Walker called the meeting to order at 9:05am. The meeting was held at Washington County LUT, located at 1400 SW Walnut St, Hillsboro OR 97123.

Host Presentation:

Dave Schamp, of Washington County, gave a brief overview of progression of his work history. He then spoke regarding a potential Washington County Apprenticeship Program. As Dave mentioned, there is little information in the community to entice young people to want to enter our work fields. This lack of interest will result in difficulties in developing a successful workforce in the future. Dave is developing an apprenticeship program, which he hopes to partner through Washington County, as well as with potential involvement of other agencies within the County. This potential program would offer both classroom and field training, with the intent of preparing youth for joining our work forces. Program applicants would be hired on as "trainees", with a set training wage. They would receive training skills necessary to qualify for utility worker positions, including topics such as safety aspects, fork lift operations, etc. He is hoping to have six to eight such training positions through Washington County LUT. Additionally he would like to encourage other agencies to provide one or two training positions. Dave will share further information regarding this program as it becomes available. Because he retiring, and will then be a contract employee, questions for Dave may be submitted to Keith Lewis or Deb Dalenberg.

Financial Report:

Chair reported the current balance of \$18,529.15. There were \$225 paid for website maintenance since our last meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fleet:

Craig Crawford absent – no report given

RDPO Update:

Keith indicated that the group discussed winter storm response during their recent meeting. The discussion centered on “the right action to take during events, and the right products to use”. Washington County is investigating the option of using salt for future ice/snow events. Keith is in the process of researching the use of salt in regard to environmental impacts, storage needs, costs, and application considerations. He will keep the group apprised of his findings.

Ken also mentioned that the Disaster Sanitation Program in which he has been participating, has been working on messaging for public agencies to share with the public in regard to what to do with waste products after a disaster while agencies assess damage and develop a plan. Ken indicated the message is near completion and will be shared with the area agencies in the near future. He will be attending the upcoming OEM Conference to present this information. The conference is free of charge, and will be held in Sun River. Attendees will need to pay for lodging. However, the State may cover a portion of lodging.

Storm/Sanitary:

Don Januik absent – no report given

Fall (Spring) Workshop:

The Conference is scheduled for April 13th, at the Hillsboro Civic Center. The theme for the Conference is “Leadership and Developing Leaders.” A preliminary copy of the conference flyer was shared with the group. The flyer should be finished and distributed next week.

Old Business: There was no old business for updating.

New Business:

- There are a few openings remaining on the meeting hosting schedule for the year. Vance will send a message to the CPAWC members regarding the openings.
- Per discussion, Vance agreed to continue as the Chairperson for another year. Dave Willer presented Vance with a plaque in appreciation of his service as Chairperson this past year.
- Julia is stepping down from the Secretary position. Vance indicated that an Admin from his office has agreed to take over this role. Vance will arrange for her to meet with Julia to review the duties of the position.

Topic of the Month: The group discussed their response to the recent snow and ice storms. The following were the primary challenges faced by the agencies during the event:

- Equipment failures
- Minor vehicle incident
- Mag-chloride shortages
- Sanding rock tended to freeze over
- Difficulties plowing snow/ice that had packed and frozen to the road
- Large number of trees downed
- Personnel shortages
- Several agencies experienced an increased number of calls from citizens with increased expectations in regards to response

- Follow-up sweeping of sanding rock is time consuming, and increases costs. Additionally the costs and locations for disposal of sanding rock were discussed.
- Large number of pot holes developed and now need repaired

Positives noted during the event included the following:

- Setting up DOC's and taking proactive measures to keep roads cleared
- Setting up shifts to allow for 24/7 response
- Outreach personnel provided good information via social media
- Some agencies had satellite locations for sanding rock
- Monitoring local weather forecasting agencies
- Ability to borrow sanding rock, or mag-chloride from each other, as well as ODOT

Several agencies noted an increase in the number of complimentary phone calls received from citizens who were thankful for their efforts to keep the roads clear and safe.

Ken reminded the group of the Web EOC and asked that agencies remember to keep them updated regarding the status of DOC/EOC's being opened, problem areas, etc. during events.

CPAWC AT WORK:

Equipment Sharing:

- ODOT assisted Forest Grove by plowing their main route as they passed through the area.
- The City of Beaverton borrowed a wood chipper from Tualatin Hills Parks & Rec District (THPRD). They loaned a compressor to THPRD. They also provided a dump site for THPRD for their catch basin waste material.
- The City of Gaston has put out a request for assistance with cleaning their storm lines. Both the City of Forest Grove, and the City of Beaverton offered to assist with this program. Additionally, because Gaston pays SWM fees, there should be assistance via Clean Water Services. This option is being investigated.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.

Next Meeting:

March 16, 2017
 City of Tigard
 13125 SW Hall Blvd
 Tigard OR 97223