

1 Depoe Bay City Council  
2 Workshop Meeting  
3 Tuesday, July 19, 2011 - 6:00 PM  
4 Depoe Bay City Hall

5  
6 PRESENT: Mayor C. Connors, P. Cameron (arr 6:03 PM), S. Hoitink, B. Leff, T. Lewis,  
7 D. Zimmerman

8  
9 ABSENT: D. Goddard

10  
11 STAFF: City Field Superintendent T. Owings, Recording Secretary E. LuMaye

12  
13 I. CALL TO ORDER

14 Mayor Connors called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 6:00 PM.

15  
16 II. REVIEW EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

17 Mayor Connors started the meeting by saying that the responsibilities for each individual on the  
18 EOP (Emergency Operations Plan) team need to be clearly identified, rather than having general  
19 descriptions. Dave Lamb said he has experience with writing EOPs, and has written two for nuclear  
20 plants. He had not reviewed the City's EOP. He said a well-written EOP will give easier access to  
21 FEMA money. It was his opinion that no coastal city is ready to respond to a major geological  
22 event. He noted the importance of detailing what each emergency team member's duties are. He  
23 briefly spoke about sirens, saying they don't work well; and emphasized that NOAA weather alert  
24 radios are the best existing technology for timely notification of geological events, and felt certain  
25 that FEMA would provide funding to put a NOAA weather alert radio in every household, if the City  
26 presents a well-written EOP. Ideally every household should have a NOAA radio, but minimally all  
27 lodging facilities should have one. He said tsunamis can rise over 100', which makes City Hall an  
28 unadvisable location for the EOC (Emergency Operations Center); the EOC needs to be on high  
29 ground and have an uninterruptible power supply. The emergency trailer needs to be on-site or  
30 close by. The EOP should include a provision for security, both to protect the EOC and to prevent  
31 activities such as looting. Security would consist of a group of people who report directly to the  
32 Mayor, to enforce existing laws. He said that the City should work closely with the Coast Guard,  
33 local and state law enforcement, and the Federal government. During an emergency, local  
34 assistance might not be able to get here, and the City would want a working relationship with the  
35 State and FEMA. It was Mr. Lamb's professional opinion that 50% of the people on the EOP list will  
36 not be available during an emergency. The EOP needs to provide for immediate activation of the  
37 EOC. He said that VHF radios are more useful than ham radios, which are low frequency and low  
38 power but make good backups. A satellite radio would be best, but those are very expensive. Mr.  
39 Lamb said a good plan can be used in all coastal cities; it could be copyrighted and the City could  
40 charge a fee for sharing it. He said a major geological incident happens about every 300 years, and  
41 it's been about 300 years since the last incident. He again mentioned NOAA radios as being the  
42 only technology available right now that will provide information as quickly as it's known. If bridges  
43 go out, he said travel will be restored to the north first, because there are fewer bridges in that  
44 direction. He advised holding a monthly drill after the EOP is updated, to include activating the top  
45 three positions in the EOP, and contacting FEMA and the Coast Guard. It was pointed out that the  
46 Neighbors For Kids building, at the same elevation as City Hall, would not be a good evacuation  
47 center for the same reason City Hall isn't a good location for the EOC – it is not on high enough  
48 ground. Mr. Lamb said he has a full EOP for a nuclear plant that could be adapted for the City's  
49 needs, and he'd be willing to work on that if he could get assistance from people involved with the  
50 EOP. Two audience members (Allie Rockwell and John O'Brien) were willing to work on this project  
51 with Mr. Lamb, as was Councilor Cameron. This group will meet at their own convenience, and will  
52 present their recommendations to the Council in three months. Mayor Connors stated that she'd  
53 like to see specific procedural information in the EOP; e.g. a guideline to "communicate with the  
54 County" isn't sufficient – the plan should include methods of communication that can be used when

1 phone service is unavailable. She also wants the plan to clearly reflect each participant's role and  
2 responsibilities. Mr. Lamb said that Depoe Bay is likely to be on its own for at least a week after a  
3 serious incident, and after that supplies may be arriving via helicopter. He also re-stated that any  
4 time after the EOP is finished and ready for activation, FEMA can be asked for money to support  
5 the plan; he was confident that a small purchase such as NOAA radios for residences would almost  
6 certainly be funded. Mayor Connors thanked everyone for their participation.

7  
8 III. ADJOURN

9 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM.

10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20

---

Carol Connors, Mayor

---

Emma LuMaye, Recording Secretary