



REGIONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, March 31, 2016

ACRD Boardroom

PRESENT:	Russell Dyson	ACRD Chief Administrative Officer
	Dan Holder	Emergency Coordinator
	Maggie Hodge Kwan	Emergency Assistant
	Al Winney	Arrowsmith Amateur Radio Club
	Wes Patterson	Deputy Fire Chief, Port Alberni Fire Department
	Linda Myers	Bamfield Community Emergency Coordinator
	David Hewson	Hupacasath First Nation
	Lisa Gallic	Tseshah First Nation
	Mike Cann	Chief, Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department
	Mike Carter	Port Alberni Port Authority
	John McNabb	ACRD Director Beaver Creek
	Pam Reardon	IH
	Stephanie Bruvall	IH
	Bruce Patterson	BC Ambulance
	Dave Preedy	Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources
	Charlie Starratt	Chief, Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm.

The CAO recognized the meeting was held on the Traditional Territories of the Hupacasath and Tseshah First Nations.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were conducted around the table.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED: C. Starratt

SECONDED: W. Patterson

THAT the minutes of the Regional Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting held January 21, 2016 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

4. REPORTS

a. Training Update

Dan Holder gave an overview of training that has occurred through the emergency program since January:

- EOC Essentials: 50 attended
- Emergency Social Services Level 1, via Red Cross: 10 attended
- Emergency Social Services (included Reception Centres, Group Lodgings, Registration and Referral, and Documentation): nearly 100 total attended over 4 days
- Social media and emergency communications: 14 attended
- Response Claims (Finance): 25 attended

More training will be offered, including:

- Rapid Damage Assessment, May 6, 8:30-3:30 (nearly full, please let Dan know if you're interested in attending)
- EOC Communications test with Alberni, Bamfield, Tofino, and Ucluelet, April 12
- EOC Communications test and training with local first responders, April 16, 12:30
- Section chiefs training being produced and delivered in house

b. EOC Updates

The present focus of the work in the EOC is on Exercise Coastal Response. Dan is currently confirming section chiefs, scheduling, and staff for the event. We are working with other agencies on various ECR committees, including Mass Care. There will be multiple Reception Centres during ECR, and one Group Lodging, at the Athletic Hall.

c. Reception Centres and ESS

ESS Level 1 was down to 2 volunteers; dedicated volunteer Suzy Vanherwaarden was thanked at a Bulldogs game in January and will retire from the program. Red Cross has been contracted to recruit and train volunteers for Level 1. Currently, there are 10 volunteers.

Laurie L'heureux is responsible for Level 2 and 3 responses, including Reception Centres and Group Lodging.

d. Exercise Coastal Response

Please see attached update. There has been a lot of involvement from external agencies. We look forward to working with many organizations in June. During the exercise, the EOC will be staffed from 8am-5pm (2 shifts that are 5 hours each). Most staff will be local, with some support coming from mid-Island.

ECR is a great opportunity to showcase the community and to be good hosts. On Monday, June 6, Erica and Ken Watson are coordinating a welcome barbeque for volunteers, visitors, etc. Tseshaht has offered to provide food.

e. Shake Zone, May 31

Shake Zone is an 8.0 magnitude earthquake simulator that is coming to Port Alberni on May 31. It will be parked at Echo and members of the public will be able to climb aboard and safely feel what an 8.0 magnitude earthquake feels like. This is a great tool to encourage personal preparedness. In addition to the earthquake simulator, fire trucks from all 4 departments, BC Ambulance, Search and Rescue, and ESS Level 1 will be on hand. The generator will also be given away at the event.

Shake Zone will happen at Echo Centre. Exact time TBD.

Round Table Reports

Lisa Gallic, Tseshaht, reported that the Tseshaht community has new tsunami signs up. They will test their alerts in the first week of April. On April 13, the Tseshaht are hosting an Emergency Preparedness fair at Tseshaht Market.

Tseshaht's participation in ECR will be to open, with the assistance of Laurie L'heureux, a Reception Centre on Thursday, June 9.

Mike Cann, SLVFD, noted that they would be participating in ECR via tabletops. They are also looking at staffing the firehall for one day during the exercise. Also looking at installing a tank filling station.

Wes Patterson, CPA, reported that the City's FD will be working with HUSAR during the exercise and will offer some support to the EOC.

Charlie Starratt reported that BCVFD will also do tabletops during the exercise, and plans to staff the hall for 24-48 hours.

Stephanie Bruvall, IH, noted that she is awaiting instructions on her participation in ECR. IH may practice emergency call-outs.

David Hewson will remain involved with the Hupacasath for Exercise Coastal Response, leading a tabletop and a walkout exercise with 40 people. After that, David Hewson will return to work at EMBC.

John reported that the ACRD board approved funds for ECR and hopes to recoup some of the costs from the province.

Mike Carter, PAPA, working with Kirk Heaven and HUSAR for emergency operations at their terminals during ECR. They will bring in derelict vessels to deal with.

Bruce Patterson, BCAS, will be participating in ECR with both tabletops and field participation. BCAS is going to pretend that their building is damaged and will be utilizing the Rescue Hall as a back-up location.

Linda Myers, Bamfield EPC, Bamfield will set off tsunami alarm and run their EOC for all 4 days of ECR. Staunch Maple and locally developed exercises will be their focus.

Al Winney, AARC, reported ongoing training. Buying new equipment with ACRD grant. Comms going to be testing EMBC with their participation in ECR.

Pam, WCGH, working to get staff trained in advance of ECR.

7. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.
8. Next meeting will be held Thursday, May 26, 1:30.