



OIL SPILL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wyman Briggs, Chair
Kevin Fish
Timothy Hendrix

Timothy Kipp
James McCleave
Gerald Morrison

Joseph Payne
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MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Members Present: Wyman Briggs, Kevin Fish, Timothy Hendrix, James McCleave

Dept. Rep.: Barbara Parker

Guests: Dana DeGraff, Sherrie Edwards, Ginger McMullin, Thomas Smith

Meeting Commenced at 10:50

1. **Call to Order and Approval of Meeting Minutes – Wyman Briggs**

Wyman Briggs reviewed the minutes for the previous meeting. Meeting minutes accepted unanimously. Wyman introduced Dana DeGraff, new oil spill biologist for Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

2. **Barge Deployment Exercise – Thomas Smith, MEDEP**

(Presentation available upon request)

Thomas provided an overview of the September 2011 deployment exercise of MEDEP's JBF 420s and Oil Spill Response Barge, *Netepenawesit*.

3. **Geographic Response Strategies and Boom Deployments – Ginger McMullin, MEDEP**

(Presentation available upon request)

Ginger reviewed the successful booming strategy pilot project in the Fore River. Lessons learned from this deployment will aid in the planning for seven additional boom deployment locations. Moran Environmental Recovery in conjunction with Nuka

Research and Planning Group was awarded the contract to test strategies in the Penobscot River, Wells Harbor, Scarborough River, Upper Damariscotta River, and Outer Castine Harbor. The planning team brings together extensive experience, an emphasis on the importance of local stakeholders, the ability to critique strategy design and suggest improvements, emphasis on documentation of the deployment, and flexibility. Further information regarding the deployment can be found at the following web address: www.nukaresearch.com/projects/megrp

As highlighted during the Deepwater Horizon incident in the Gulf, prioritization of response strategies is a critical component of response success. Therefore, Ginger is spearheading efforts to prioritize booming strategies in Maine. The team is composed of Ginger, Barbara Parker, Seth Barker, and Don Katnik at this stage. After reviewing several other prioritization plans within the United States, they have settled on a scoring rubric and will be reviewing raster data to locate natural breaks in the ecological data. Once the ecologically sensitive areas are ranked, additional factors such as cultural and economic resources will be incorporated.

4. NHDES Functional Exercise – Wyman Briggs & participants

On September 29, 2011, NHDES conducted an Incident Command System exercise with over 100 participants. The scenario was a worst case tank ship discharge based on vessel traffic in the Portsmouth area. Strengths identified during the exercise included: good facility set-up, good training opportunity, and unified command worked well together. Areas for improvement included: need for better visuals during meetings, representation needed from the state Emergency Operations Center, and hours elapsed prior to the first press release.

5. Surface Fund Financial Report, Sherrie Edwards MEDEP

Sherrie indicated that compared to last year fee revenue was up \$72,000 and personnel services costs were down \$88,000 with the same number of payrolls. The decreased payroll has to do with position reassignments and not filling vacancies due to retirements. The ending cash balance for FY2011 is up \$285,000 from FY2010. Reduced spending and increased recoveries have helped with the cash balance in the fund and she expects the trend to continue. Sherrie has followed-up with the Office of Information Technology regarding developing a program to facilitate the cost recovery process and they indicated that the cost would be in the range of \$200,000. This cost may be able to be shared with other funding sources as it benefits the entire MEDEP, not just one specific bureau.

6. Administrative Topics - All

Barbara Parker detailed her outreach efforts at different levels including providing presentations at the county level and coordinating with Maine Emergency Management

Agency (MEMA). She would also like ME DEP to host an Incident Command System exercise similar to the NHDES exercise, but wants to make sure that MEMA is integrated. Cumberland County will be the next location she visits to provide a presentation followed by York County. Barbara and Ginger indicated that MEDEP has an expanded spill response web-site (http://www.maine.gov/dep/mosis_dep/).

James McCleave indicated that perhaps in the June 2012 meeting MOSAC should consider developing talking points for the next Sea Grant Opportunity as the next call for proposals will occur in January 2013.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 13:44