

Community Resilience Panel:

Water & Wastewater Standing Committee Meeting

MEETING DATE: April 4, 2016
TIME: 1:00 pm PDT to 4:30 pm PDT
LOCATION: University Place Hotel & Conference Center – Portland, Oregon
ISSUE DATE: April 26, 2016

Attendee	Affiliation
Michael Stuhr (Chair)	Portland Water Bureau
Sunil Sinha (Vice-Chair)	Virginia Tech
Dryver Huston (Secretary)	University of Vermont
Kristen Abhold	Eugene Water & Electric Board
Jennifer Belknap Williamson	Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
Scott Borman	Benton Washington Regional Public Water Authority
Mike Britch	Tualatin Valley Water District
Dan Cox	Oregon State University
Mell Damewood	Eugene Water & Electric Board
Lee Frederiksen	HOR Engineering Inc.
Leon F. Gay	Virginia Tech
Walter Graf	Water Environment Research Foundation
Scott Haskins	CH2M
Catherine Howells	PSU
Ronnie Mompellier	Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
Regan Murray	US Environmental Protection Agency
Charles Scott	Las Vegas Valley Water District, Nevada
Douglas Yoder	Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department , Florida

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NOTES BY: Dryver Huston, University of Vermont

1. Welcome and Initial Charge for the Committee

Michael Stuhr (Chair) led the discussion with an initial charge for the committee. The discussion used an overview of the Oregon Resilience Plan (ORP) as an example. Oregon is in an earthquake zone (Cascade subduction zone), with many important items (energy, water pipes, industry, open reservoirs) in the most vulnerable areas. No law requires compliance with ORP, yet much has been done to bring the system up to current code. Oregon has a very restrictive land-use law and Portland is land-locked. These issues constrain infrastructure projects to increase resilience. Rate funding pays for the resilience upgrades.

2. Discussion of Committee Direction and Action Plans

Sunil Sinha (Vice-Chair) led discussion on possible future directions, proposals, and actions plans for the committee. It was noted that the Community Resilience Panel's mission covers identifying methods and creating a Resilience Knowledge Base (RKB) but not creating standards. The committee agreed to avoid repeating the activities of other groups (DHS, ASCE, EPA, etc.) and instead be a stakeholder-driven effort. Small to medium-sized utilities need practical guidance. Aging infrastructure is important, but can be a distraction for resilience planning. Prioritization and financial implications are important. It may be useful to establish a common vocabulary and identify good case studies. Items of interest include multi-hazard resilience, resilience management, holistic approaches that are more than emergency management, and methods of integrating resilience into asset management and capital planning. The discussion resulted in two proposals:

A. Proposal #1: Scalable framework that works for big and smaller systems, coordinated as part of overall community resilience effort.

The first proposed scalable framework would address the middle gap of knowledge and processes with key items, e.g. level of service. This scalable framework would be a next step in implementing items in NIST Community Resilience Plan (Vol. 1 and 2). The framework would include: 1. Guidance for integrating resiliency into Master, Asset Management, and/or Capital Replacement Plans; growth and regulatory issues; 2. Tools that are translatable as a framework for other utilities; 3. Case studies and example scopes of work; 4. Expert panel workshop approach covering tools, practices and guidelines; 5. Matrix of resiliency risk and corresponding available resources as guide for prioritizing; and 6. Identification of financial opportunities to implement.

B. Proposal #2: Follow-on to #1 with information dissemination and outreach

The second proposal was to conduct leading practice and regional workshops.

3. Next Committee Meetings

The committee plans to meet every month on the 3rd Thursday 1:00 pm EST.

4. Discussion and Preparation of Report Out

Report out slides were prepared that summarize committee discussion, including the two proposals.

5. Adjournment

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m. PDT.