

**City of Yachats**  
**EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE - SUMMARY**  
**June 6, 2022**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Linn West called the meeting to order at 1:57 pm. Members present via zoom were Jill Asch, Bob Bennett, Tracy Crews, Don Groth, James, Sanders, MaryBeth Selby, Linn West, Chair of Public Works and Streets, Drew Roslund, Heide Lambert, City Manager, Leslie Vaaler, Mayor (11:36) West congratulated Crews and Selby on a well-executed Emergency Preparedness Fair

**II. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS**

**III. REPORTS**

**A. Emergency Preparedness Fair**

**IV. CURRENT BUSINESS**

**A. Resignation of Chair**

**1. Election of Interim and/or Permanent Chair**

(13:59) Tom Fisher resigned as chair and from the Committee. West indicated that Fisher felt that the City was not responding to requests from the Committee and felt frustrated by that. West discussed some of the items involved. West asked if any of the members knew of anyone interested on joining the Committee. Fisher advised West that in speaking with the Committee members no one was interested in taking the position of chair. Since no one volunteered, West indicated it would fall on him and indicated support from the Committee would be needed. West asked for input on Fisher's frustration.

(16:59) Discussion was held among the Committee as to the Fisher's frustrations and getting things done.

(20:23) Bennett spoke about the Cascadia Event and the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and the need for a new one to be signed off on. Groth asked Bennett to explain how the EOP links to FEMA grants.

Bennett explained the EOP being approved the City to get FEMA funds. He continued to discuss Yachats being Tsunami Ready/Storm Ready and keeping up with that and maintaining the documents will ensure Federal help. Discussion about talking with Jenny at Lincoln County Emergency Management regarding the Tsunami Ready/Storm Ready certification. Selby advised she would follow-up on what is needed.

(25:05) Sanders addressed how Fisher admitted not being knowledgeable about emergency management but really read and studied and shared information with the Committee and was very helpful. He shared his own frustrations with moving things along.

(27:08) West asked for a list of action items and asked the City Manager and Mayor for their support with items needing signatures could be taken care of quickly.

1 (27:35) Vaaler advised she couldn't speak for the City Council but did say  
2 she would do her best if the Committee submitted a list of items that  
3 needed to be signed/moved forward.

4 (28:46) Lambert advised that she met with Fisher twice and he never  
5 spoke to her about his frustrations. She went on to say that she had  
6 concerns with sub-committees as they were not following public meeting  
7 laws by submitting agendas or meeting schedules to be posted. She  
8 suggested that the Committee meet quarterly at least until she gets her  
9 staff running smoothly and she is caught up on the "fires". She further  
10 stated she values the work the Committee is doing.

11 (31:05) A discussion was held clarifying the term sub-committee and that  
12 individuals were researching and sharing information with the Committee.  
13 West indicated that two individuals can meet and gather information or  
14 perform tasks without having to meet the public hearing law requirements.  
15 Lambert indicated that having a training for all Commissioners on Public  
16 Hearing Law is being worked on.

17 (40:34) Groth brought up the other item awaiting signatures is the  
18 agreement with the Fire District for the cache. Lambert advised it is with  
19 the attorney and there are some issues to be addressed but she hasn't  
20 had time to discuss what those items are. Discussion continued about  
21 funding and the timeline and the history of the Committee.

22 (50:34) Lambert discussed Waldport's "cache" at public works and went  
23 on to discuss her participation in the wildfires in Otis in 2020 and how  
24 Waldport now includes fire in their emergency preparedness plans.  
25 Discussion continued regarding the EOP needing to include information  
26 for evacuation in case of wildfires.

27 (55:22) Roslund spoke about the various levels of alerting guests in a  
28 hotel. He returned to the cache discussion and advised Lambert that he  
29 attended a presentation at Seaside where the city had caches and a  
30 process to access them during an emergency.

31 (57:30) Discussion held regarding caches and the need be prepared as  
32 Yachats being small will be at the "bottom of the list" when an emergency  
33 hits.

34 (59:06) Asch brought up neighborhood caches as well as having residents  
35 in higher elevations taking in supplies from people in the tsunami zone.  
36 She also spoke about getting the citizenry to contribute to stocking  
37 caches. Discussion had regarding who, where, what and the credibility of  
38 making that work. Selby reviewed all the work that has been done  
39 regarding possible locations of caches, funding and supplies.

40 (1:07:04) Lambert thanked Selby for her drive and passion and spoke  
41 about Representative Gomberg putting forth a bill for transient tax funding  
42 for police and first responders and hopefully caches. She further stated  
43 that in Lincoln County in June, 90% of all 911 calls are from tourists. She  
44 went on to discuss various programs that Waldport used to encourage  
45 emergency preparedness. She also felt the City could do a better job of

1 educating people, especially tourists. She also indicated it would be great  
2 if there were more CERT participants.

3 (1:13:23) Bennett advised a CERT proposal was brought to the Fire  
4 District for a South County CERT which would be Seal Rock, Waldport  
5 and Yachats. Due to staffing and other issues, the proposal hasn't moved  
6 forward. He continued by stating all City buildings are in the inundation  
7 zone and none of them could survive an earthquake. Discussion  
8 continued regarding instructions, supplies and communications.

9 (1:19:50) Roslund indicated he has been a part of this Committee for  
10 some time and he has made it a priority with his staff. He said they are  
11 better prepared than most but are still woefully unprepared for a disaster.  
12 He indicated he does have money in his budget towards a CONEX but  
13 wants to ensure that his staff and guests are taken care of. He feels this  
14 needs to be a public/private partnership and the Overleaf is willing to  
15 participate.

16 (1:23:25) Selby summarized by saying that all the information needs to be  
17 presented to Council and they need to make the decision if this is how  
18 they want to proceed and then how to get the funds.

19 (1:24:45) Vaaler agreed with Selby's summarization and is happy to get a  
20 proposal before the Council.

21 (1:25:58) Lambert indicated she is happy to work on this project as well  
22 but right now she has many things on her plate and she needs more  
23 information before she can proceed. She further stated she sensed the  
24 Committee's frustration and asked for some patience. Selby advised she  
25 is happy to answer questions on any research she did.

26 (1:32:46) Groth explained the funds in the budget for the 22/23 Fiscal Year  
27 covering the Fire Department CONEX. Discussion had on budgeted  
28 funds.

29 (1:37:26) Crews voiced her frustration that every year money is budgeted  
30 for this project and nothing happens. She stated the problem as been  
31 pinpointed and acknowledged but nothing has moved forward that is why  
32 the Committee has lost members.

33 (1:39:50) Groth asked Lambert about the grant received from Lincoln  
34 County for \$2,500. The money has not been used as there is nowhere to  
35 put the supplies. He asked if there was a time limit to use the money.

36 (1:41:01) Selby indicated she asked Morphis to follow-up with Asia  
37 Richardson who is the grant coordinator at Lincoln County to determine if  
38 an extension could be granted.

39 (1:41:15) Lambert interjected that Richardson advised Yachats wasn't  
40 able to apply for this year's grant but the other one rolled over; reporting is  
41 very easy.

42 (1:41:54) Crews indicated she wrote the grant and it specifically was for  
43 \$2,500 for supplies. It was a matching grant so the City would also pay  
44 \$2,500 for supplies. Nothing has been purchased from the grant and the  
45 \$1,400 for utilities shouldn't apply as it wasn't included in the grant.

1 Discussion continued on cleaning up the use of the grant and getting  
2 supplies.

3 (1:45:08) Bennett brought up the need for a list of action items and  
4 suggested that the Committee try to identify a few things to move forward.  
5 Selby said she took charge of two items: contacting Jenny about FEMA  
6 certification renewal process and timeline (she sent an email during this  
7 meeting) and to provide Lambert with the Tsunami cache preparation  
8 guide which she also sent during this meeting. Another item is getting the  
9 feedback from the attorney regarding the agreement with the fire station.  
10 Also advise Lambert what needs to be updated on the EOP. Bennett  
11 advised he will follow-up on that.

12 (1:47:34) Selby then asked if there was anything the City needed to do  
13 regarding the Cascadia Rising event the week of June 13<sup>th</sup>. Bennett  
14 indicated he had no information as there has only been one meeting. He  
15 believes the event is going to center on testing and how the County will  
16 pull things together. Discussion continued on HAM radio communication  
17 and participation in the Cascadia Rising event. Sanders indicated there is  
18 an open house Monday, and table talk on Tuesday and then a field test on  
19 Wednesday. These are all informational events for City staff but no one  
20 registered Yachats to participate. Discussion held on possibly getting  
21 someone to participate if it is possible. Lambert advised she would be  
22 unavailable that week due to litigation.

23 (1:55:39) West indicated all the items Fisher indicated needing discussion  
24 were touched on and he (West) felt this was a good discussion and  
25 meeting and is hopeful that things will keep moving forward.

26 (1:58:02) West thanked the City Manager and Mayor for attending and  
27 participating in the meeting.

28  
29 Next meeting is set for June 27<sup>th</sup> as the first Monday in July is the 4<sup>th</sup>.

30  
31 **V. NEW BUSINESS**

32 **VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

33 **A. From Committee**

34 West adjourned the meeting at 3:45 pm.

35  
36 Meeting transcribed by contractor, L.F. Barrett on 6/25/22

37  
38 *Please note this meeting was transcribed as it occurred – an ongoing discussion rather*  
39 *than following the agenda items as set.*