Homeland Security and Emergency Management Commission (HSEMC)

14 July 2026
14:00 – 15:00 In Person CC Public Works/Zoom Meeting
Meeting Minutes

Columbia County Homeland Security and Emergency Management Commission Membership Table		
Representation	**Primary Member**	**Alternate Member**
Law Enforcement	Chris Fluellen, Scappoose PD	Ryan Murphy, CCSD
Fire/EMS	Jeff Pricher, Scappoose Fire	Bruce Holsey, Clatskanie Fire
C911CD	Jeremy Hipes, C911	Dannell Hooper, C911
North County	Jeff VanNatta, Rainier	
South County	Mike De Roia, St. Helens	Benjamin Burgener, Scappoose
Mid County		
Public Health	Jaime Aanensen, Columbia County Public Health	
Industry	Tracy Oliver, InRoads	Fran Erikson, Columbia River Nitrogen
Port of Columbia County	Miriam House, Port of CC	Lacey Tolles, Port of CC
Utilities	Kyle Boggs, Columbia River PUD	Sarah Johnson, Clatskanie PUD
Schools		
At Large Position 1	Mike Russell, CC Public Works	
At Large Position 2	Lonny Welter, Retired Public Works	Terry Martin, ARC/SAR
Ex-Officio	Jessica Kosydar, Columbia County Emergency Management	
County Commissioners*	Kellie Jo Smith, Margaret Magruder, Casey Garrett	
Guests	Larry Hill, Kim Karber, Kristi Ward, Mellissa Dueck, Jolene Day	

KEY: **Member Present**
Member Not Present
Chair – Mike Russell
Vice Chair – Mike De Roia
Secretary – Sarah Johnson

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Topic	Desired Outcome
Called to Order	Call to Order by Mike Russell at 14:00 hrs. Quorum met. Quorum needed – 7 Voting Members. Present – 10
Amendments to Agenda	None – approved as presented
Welcome, Introductions, Minutes, and Guest Speakers	Welcome, flag salute, and Introductions - Conducted Minutes of the May 12, 2026 meeting were presented. Upon motion and second the minutes were approved. Motion passed unanimously. No guest speaker.
Emergency Management Updates **Unfinished Business**	• Jaime Aanensen and Jessica Kosydar provided an update on the state of emergency management in Columbia County. Jaime explained that the duties and responsibilities have been transitioned into the Columbia County Public Health Department. Jessica has the emergency management cell phone, and the number stayed the same as when Corey Padron carried the phone. Jamie and Jessica will both continue to just use their Public Health Department emails. Jessica is working with Oregon Emergency Management to access state resources. Jessica will work on a financial report to provide for the next meeting. • Chief Pricher asked if Columbia County had provided an official statement or ordinance announcing the change for emergency management responsibilities to be under the Public Health Department. Margaret Magruder responded that emergency management does legally exist under Columbia County and Jessica Kosydar carries the responsibilities of the EM cell phone 24/7. No ordinance will be provided until the County's attorneys and the State of Oregon create the official ordinance. • Chief Fluellen asked for the county to consider moving some of the emergency response assets to Scappoose. Jessica responded that they are working on the inventory and a tracking system for the EM assets to be able to be checked in and out when needed. • The storage area for some of the equipment will be maintained at Scappoose airport. • The open positions for HSEMC members were discussed. We have one North County, two Mid County, two Schools, and one At Large Position 1 openings. Jessica should be moved to the Ex-Officio role, so there will also be an opening for a Public/Mental Health member. • The IGA Committee report was given by Mike De Roia. They have gone back to basics and will meet with the County Commissioners to clarify the intentions for HSEMC through the IGA and set priorities. Mike De Roia encouraged members to send him comments or questions for the IGA committee work session. • The history of the IGA was discussed. One of the main priorities was to fund an additional position to assist the Emergency Management Director under the Emergency Management Department. Another has always been to provide a way for the HSEMC members to advise the County Commissioners as subject matter experts. • Jessica explained that she is working on the Wildfire Preparedness Plan with the steering committee and will be holding community feedback sessions. This will be a two-year process.

	• Jessica will be working on updating the Integrated Preparedness Plan as well. Alisha Davis from Public Health will also be working to assist with the finances, grants, and other work in the background. • Margaret Magruder complimented the Public Health Team for their good work and knowledge of working with grants.
Member Updates Closing Comments	• Chief Fluellen reported that their new CERT group worked with Public Health and the Scappoose Police Department has another graduate from the police academy. • Jeremy Hipes reported Cowlitz County has given our 911 District radio equipment that they no longer needed due to their recent upgrade. • Mike De Roia shared the City of St. Helens has been navigating the challenging loss of their Administrator, John Walsh. • Jeff VanNatta reported the local loggers maintain a statewide radio network that could be used if needed in an emergency. • Lonny Welter shared that he provided emergency preparedness education on sanitizing water and low-cost MREs for a food source in emergencies. • Jessica Kosydar reported that she was able to attend the Nipon accident in Longview, WA after action meeting. She also helped with the family assistance center. She noted several important lessons learned including keeping in mind the physical and mental toll an incident has long beyond the initial incident. • Terry Martain shared the SAR will be at the fair. • Kristi Ward reported that using Starlink has helped their communications at the GP Wauna Mill. • Sarah Johnson announced that Clatskanie PUD received a $500,000 grant for additional tree trimming for wildfire mitigation. • Jamie Aanensen reported that Public Health received a grant for 400 life jackets. • Dannell Hooper reported the CC 911 site assessment went well. • Ryan Murphy reported that the Sherriff's Department has put the new SAR vehicle to use and their tower maintenance went smoothly. • Chief Pricher shared the recent incident response that was necessary due to the AT&T cell tower outage in Scappoose. • Kyle Boggs reported that Columbia River PUD will not continue their practice of calling customers for tree trimming notice. • Fran Erickson shared that Columbia River Nitrogen outage work was successful, and she announced her upcoming retirement in 56 days. • Larry Hill reported that the Red Cross Cascades Region completed their spring training and are ready for wildfire season.
Meeting Adjourned	Adjourned by Mike Russell at 15:05 hrs.

Next Meeting: September 8, 2026 14:00.