

Logistics Section Training/Workshop

December 13, 2019

Multnomah County has around 6,000 employees. Yet only a small fraction of these employees have been actively involved with the County's disaster response efforts in the past.

The lack of involvement was regarded to stem from a lack of information regarding opportunities, and so with this in mind, the County organized an event for employees to meet other County staff who work in emergencies in a variety of roles. The goal of the event was to identify County staff who are interested in getting more involved in supporting the County in an emergency.

The first annual **Disaster Readiness Fair** was held on June 25, 2019. The Readiness Fair, along with an informational [website](#) and an online [interest form](#), led to the expansion of the County's disaster response sections, including the Logistics section.

The Logistics Section cadre has been heavily involved during past large-scale response efforts including the Eagle Creek Fire and the Northwest Metals Fire, along with participating in a regional effort to develop a common Resource Request Process. The cadre, similar to other county Emergency Operations Center sections, needed to improve their numbers to allow for consistent section progress to occur.

On Friday, December 13th, twenty-four people attended the **Multnomah County Logistics Section training** on the Resource Request Workflow presented by Jasmine Avgerakis. After a lively warm up exercise, Jasmine provided an overview of each of the three branches of the Logistics Section: the Support branch, Services branch and IT branch. She went on to ask the group "where do you fit in" to these branches or "what role would you like to play" on the team.

Jasmine engaged the attendees to provide examples of how they use logistics in their "everyday" lives. Afterwards she reviewed the seven units (Facilities, Ground Support, Supply, Medical, Food, Communications and IT Service) located in the different branches and defined the roles of the unit leader in each unit. Following that discussion she shared lessons learned from the August 17th protest and told the group to mark their calendars for the **May 20, 2020 Port of Portland Exercise**.

She went on to show the team the position specific binders that she had spent the past six months refining. The attendees split into small groups and reviewed the binders and were told to suggest changes and mark up the pages with post-it-notes for the next edit and future actions. After that exercise Jasmine provided some history about the Resource Request form and how it was intended to be used and provided examples of completed forms for everyone to review.

She closed the session by sharing the agenda for the next (first quarterly) meeting scheduled for **March 30 from 1:30-3:00 PM** hosted by Barry Zimmerman titled "WorkDay and the EOC" where he will demonstrate how to shop for resources and manage contracts in an emergency using our current enterprise system. The group picked a date for the second quarterly meeting scheduled for **June 2, 2020 from 2:00-3:30 PM** as a "de-briefing" from the May 20th exercise.

For more information and to get involved, please see visit the website and fill out the online form:

County Disaster Service Worker Info: <https://multco.us/em/multnomah-county-employee-disaster-service-worker-information>

Logistics Section page: <https://multco.us/em/logistics-section>

Online interest form: <https://multco.us/em/webform/disaster-service-worker-interest-form>