Present: Frank Hewins, Chair; Lance Talley; Barbara Nelson; Barbara Thurman; Greg Lynch; Lisa Skinner; Loyal Hanrahan; Nancy Bernard; Pegi McEvoy; Randy Town; Scott Black; Tim Garchow; Mike Hubert; Mike Donlin.

Chair Frank Hewins opened the meeting at 9:00 with a welcome to all present and on K20.

Barbara Thurman reported on the Oso mudslide tragedy. As of April 2, in a Presidential declaration, it is now officially called the “SR 530 Mudslide.” It has been described as “an unprecedented event in North America” with currently 30 reported as dead and 12-17 missing. As of that April 2 Presidential declaration, federal funding and cost sharing for state, tribal and local recovery efforts is available across the state. This would also apply to any school which currently has a FEMA mitigation plan in place.

Barbara provided details as to the search, rescue and recovery operations to date. Army and Air National Guard are involved. Long term recovery has begun. In the meantime, there are concerns about contamination for all the recovery workers, human and canine. The Stillaguamish River is high; there is rain in the forecast. This could mean a flood danger.

Mike H. and Mike D. reported on contacts which OSPI had with both the Darrington and Arlington school districts. Both are on spring break this week, which is good.

Barbara ended by recognizing the great work of both Snohomish and Pierce Counties in organizing and coordinating all the rescue, recovery and donations/volunteer help efforts.

The Committee also noted the recent earthquake activity along the coast of South America as well as several “lesser” landslides closer to home. All of this activity underscores to importance of The Great WA ShakeOut in October.

Mike D. shared information on the upcoming Student Support Conference in Wenatchee on April 28-29. The conference is organized around a multi-tiered approach to prevention-intervention, starting with a series of introductory 101 sessions and moving through tier I, II and II efforts for the various programs represented throughout Student support.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION can be found at: https://cm.wsu.edu/ereg/index.php?eventid=85782&. Committee members were encouraged to share with the information with their constituents.

The Anti HIB Work Group is working through their nine mandated areas. Current efforts are focusing on training, in particular, recommendations for pre-service training for teacher certification.
Scott Black updated the group on the status of the 5197 grant process. Over 700 schools in 85 LEAs completed applications. Facilities is sorting through all the applications, putting all the information into a spreadsheet to help that process. He noted that they’d received applications up to 170 pages in length, and that some had included requests for and/or information on materials which are not covered by the grant. It looks like requests for allowable activities will come in within the total allocated resources.

The grant discussion led to a discussion of SSAC activity mandated by SB 5197. There are several things which the SSAC is required to do. The Committee revisited the bill and its tasks. One of the requirements in the bill is for districts to submit a progress report to OSPI on implementation of an emergency response system by December 1, 2014. There was discussion as to what that report might contain and how the information might be collected. Although the bill requires all districts to report, it would seem appropriate that the information gathered would parallel bill-related grant requirements. The Committee also discussed the fact that such a data gathering process could be viewed as baseline information for future planning – and funding - across the state. Frank recommended that we form a subcommittee to begin to develop the emergency response system survey. Several people volunteered – or were volunteered. Mike D. will set up a time for that subcommittee to meet prior to our May 1 meeting.

There was a brief discussion around the earlier inquiry about the availability of sample policies, procedures or protocols on the overall implementation on electronic devices in locks/access, security monitoring, etc. Mike noted that he’d been searching and following initial leads, and that he’d not found much by way of samples for this. He did find a few articles which might be of use in drafting suggestions for developing such [policies/procedures/protocols. They will be posted along with these meeting notes.

HB 1336 requires the School Safety Advisory Committee to develop a model school district plan for recognition, initial screening, and response to emotional or behavioral distress in students, including youth suicide. The draft model plan is posted on the School Safety Center web site. Mike noted that this plan was developed by the Youth Suicide Prevention Program (YSPP) for 1336 using funds allocated under 1163 proviso language. The currently posted draft is complete; however, there is still some ‘tweaking’ to be done for cosmetic/posting purposes. Ultimately, we hope that it can be accesses in whole or by section, as per the safety Planning Manual.

The Committee took a look at the outline of the current Safety Planning Manual with an eye to updating it. (See the 4.3.14 meeting agenda document.) To facilitate the process of updating the manual, we will allocate time at upcoming meetings to work on various chapters. For our May 1 meeting, we will start with Chapters 1 and 2.

In other updates, Tim reported in initial plans for a school safety conference in the fall – October or Nov. The anticipated audience would be school administrators, teachers and facilities managers, law
enforcement, SRO/SSO’s, and legislators. Planners are looking at 3 strands: administration, law enforcement and vendors. More details will be forthcoming.

Nancy noted that the DOH will be sending out a “Mercury memo” soon. Bottom line to schools: if you got it, get rid of it!

Pegi will be attending a DOE school safety conference in DC in May. The agenda should be coming out next week. Details will follow.

Randy noted the WA School Safety Organization training conference in Kennewick in July.

Frank thanked everyone for their participation, both in person and via K20. The next Advisory Committee Meeting: May 1, 2014 at AWSP, Olympia.