

# DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY

## COORDINATING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES Office of the Chief State's Attorney Rocky Hill, CT June 14, 2007

**ATTENDEES:** Debra Arrieta, DEMHS; William Austin, CREPC; William Barry, New Britain Fire; George Battle, DPS; David Brown, AMR; Kristin Dean, CRCOG; Scott Devico, DEMHS; Marion Evans, BHD; Libby Graham, DEMHS; John Hanifin, CDOT-Rails; Betsy Hard, Bloomfield PD; Albert Hoffman, USCG; Don Janelle, Manchester OEM; Bob Kenny, DPH; Melanie Kerr, DEMHS; Samantha Kopp, YNHHS; Bob Labanara, CCM; Katherine McCormack, Hartford; Michael Maglione, Waterbury FD; Virginia Mason, COGCNV; John Mengacci, OPM; Jeff Morrissette, CFPC; Jim O'Leary, COST; Bill Palomba, DPUC; Doug Pesce, DHS; William Podgorski, DPS; Joseph Portereiko, Hartford Hosp.; Eddie Rodriguez, USAR; Capt. Dan Ronan, USCG; Rosemary Salerno, DPS; Vito Savino, USAR; Steven Scorzato, CTNG; Gary Stango, Hartford 911; Mike Stemmler, DPS; James Thomas, DEMHS; Steve Walsh, POSTC; Daniel Warzoha, Greenwich OEM; Ed Wilds, DEP

NOTE: All attendees may not be listed as sign-in sheet did not reach everyone.

### **I. WELCOME AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

- A. Meeting called to order by Commissioner Thomas at 9:03 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

- A. Motion made to accept the minutes of the May meeting by Chief Maglione with second by Gary Stango.
  1. Approved unanimously.

### **IV. COMMUNICATION RECEIVED**

- A. Letter from Virginia Mason – Central Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments.

### **V. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Interoperability Committee – Both Michael Varney and Bill Hackett not present to provide report.
- B. Citizen Corp Advisory Council – presented by Chief Austin. Copies of the May 24, 2007, meeting minutes were distributed. Concerns were raised on the FY08 funding guidance for CERT. Will have to wait and see how DHS addresses this in funding structure. The Capitol Region Shelter Exercise involved 115 individuals working in conjunction with the Red Cross and the medical Reserve Corps from the Capitol Region. Exercise trained CERT Teams across the state and the communications team used the Salamander system. There are currently 849 individuals awaiting training with 325 currently in training and 1,820 individuals who have been fully trained.

- C. Credentialing Committee – Mike Spera was not present. Jim O’Leary attended the last meeting and indicated that the group is working on a plan to have system developed with Salamander in order to share information on internet.
- D. Training/NIMS Committee – Jeff Morrissette reported that at the meeting held on May 29 there was discussion to revise the NIMS Implementation Plan and subcommittee was formed to plan the language. Once completed the draft policy will go to the Interoperability Committee. At meeting Deputy Commissioner Sandford revived discussions of a scholarship committee. This committee will establish a set of procedures in developing a scholarship program to assist individuals looking to receive a degree in Homeland Security.
- E. Incident Management Teams – no report in the absence of Tim Baldwin.
- F. Child Safety & Crisis Response: Next meeting of committee scheduled for July 25. School Safety initiative is pending in the legislature. Once funding is determined, DEMHS will work closely with the State Department of Education to plan and implement this program. More information will be forthcoming.
- G. Mutual Aid Legislative Subcommittee – HB 7024- An Act Creating an Intrastate Mutual Aid System was enacted by the legislature. The compact provides a legal framework for towns to request and provide mutual aid when any member town declares a local civil preparedness emergency. Any town may withdraw from the compact by enacting a resolution to that effect and submitting a copy of the resolution, within 10 days after adopting it, to the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) commissioner.
- H. Regional Collaboration Committee – The next committee meeting will be held on September 25, 2007, at 10:00 AM, at the DEMHS Brainard Field training room in Hartford.

## **VI. UPDATES**

- A. Grant Program – Libby Graham presented a proposed regional funding formula for that portion of the FFY 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program designated for municipalities (specifically the Homeland Security and Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention funds.) Following her presentation, a motion was made by James O’Leary and seconded by Dr. Evans to approve the funding proposal as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. CTIC – Next meeting of the CTIC Policy Board being held on Friday, June 15 at the FBI Office in New Haven. Dan Stebbins from the U.S. Attorney’s Office has joined group. CNG is working to fill the CT National Guard Security Specialist position and received approximately 63 applications which are currently being reviewed. Former CTIC member Eric Kovenda from the Bloomfield PD will receive a special award for his work on CTIC and the development of the CTIC Policies and Procedures Manual later today at the CPCA Annual meeting. CTIC Team will be working at the upcoming SailFest 2007 being held in New London.
- C. Urban Search & Rescue – A rope rescue drill was conducted in June in New Hartford, with the assistance of the New Hartford Fire Department. Updated identification badges have been provided to all new USAR members. A Canine search and rescue course is being designed in conjunction with the CT Fire Academy. The USAR trucks and storage/transport containers are on order and are scheduled to be delivered on September 15, 2007.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. None.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. DPH presentation: Postponed until the July meeting.
- B. Department of Public Safety Grant presentation – Rosemary Salerno presented a proposal for the use of remaining FY03 State Homeland Security Grant Program. They are statewide initiatives which will enhance existing and ongoing homeland security programs in the state. They include:
  - i. Installation of Closed Circuit Television video cameras at various rail platforms, bridges, elevators and lobbies, at a cost of \$1,054,000. Program will be administered by CT Department of Transportation.
  - ii. Upgrade the ICALL channel of the DPS ITAC/ICALL system at 39 sites to simulcast capability, add ancillary equipment and integrate the system into the DPS/CSP control network. This upgrade will provide the ability to move from town to town and region to region and still communicate with other agencies, the State Police and dispatch centers. Total cost is expected to be \$1,227,127.
- C. Informational Items:
  - i. Commissioner Thomas reported that DEMHS will be conducting a Millstone exercise on June 21, 2007. This is not a federally evaluated drill, but a state after-action report will be compiled.
  - ii. Dr. Evans reported that there will be a drill in Region 1 on June 28, 2007
  - iii. Commissioner Thomas reported that the State of Connecticut now qualifies for Federal Disaster Aid (or Individual Assistance) for all counties except Tolland County. DEMHS is in the process of looking for locations to open federal Disaster Recovery Centers. Connecticut residents with property damage can begin the application process visiting those sites or by calling FEMA's toll-free registration number 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or (TTY) 1-800-462-7585 for the hearing or speech impaired. The lines are available 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week. A registration can also be made online at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

## **IX. MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

- A. Motion to adjourn by Bill Palomba; second by Betsy Hard: Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 10:13 hours by Commissioner Thomas.

## **X. NEXT MEETING**

- Thursday, July 12, 2007 - 9 a.m. at the Chief State's Attorney's Office.