

Department of Emergency Management & Homeland Security
Training Committee
May 23, 2005 Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Kristin Sullivan
Terry Devito
Paul Smith
Steve Walsh
Robert McGarry
Jack Casner
Dan Warzoha
Paul Benyeda
Robert Keney
Rob Grega
Jeff Morrisette
Michael Varney
John Field
Thomas Flaherty
Susan Rainville
Suzanne Vaughn
Adam Piskura
Bob Labanara
Jeff Schaff
Jim Paturas
Gary Stango

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Morrisette at 1:35 p.m. As there were a number of new attendees, participants were requested to introduce themselves and identify the organization they represent. Mr. Morrisette indicated that he expected the Department of Emergency Management & Homeland Security to establish a policy in respect to committee structure and voting privileges. Until the policy is established we will do the best job we can keeping in mind the best interests of the state.

The draft May 9, 2005 Meeting Minutes were distributed for review. A MOTION was made by Chief Jack Casner to approve the Meeting Minutes and was SECONDED by Paul Benyeda, MOTION carried.

STO Paul Benyeda, DEMHS provided a brief overview of information he received at a recent meeting. He stated it was the desire of the federal government for state's to become self-sufficient in respect to basic levels of homeland security training. This will ensure a continuation of training in the future as federal funds dry up. Two major areas that require training support are in the areas of PPE and Metering. Many communities have not provided basic training in these areas so equipment provided in the past is not fully deployed. Training being considered for delivery by any entity cannot supplant current training offerings. Continued discussions regarding the use of CTTrain are ongoing. It appears the federal government may be looking to develop a new database using the Firstresponder.Gov portal. Mr. Benyeda and others provided a briefing from a NIMS Implementation Committee meeting held earlier in the day.

Committee members were asked to provide a general overview of their anticipated training needs. It was reiterated that where possible we should be looking at partnerships and cross training opportunities.

Each committee member provided a general overview of their needs. It was discussed that we still need representation from local public works. Chief Dan Warzoha had some leads as does Jeff Morrisette, CCM through Bob Labanara may also be able to assist in this area.

Further discussion centered around the NIMS Implementation matrix chart that various disciplines have developed. An inquiry was made regarding the need for all designated first responders to be trained, at least minimally, to the I-700 level in respect to NIMS compliance. This is an area that needs to be looked at in more detail.

Mr. Morrisette reminded committee members to keep in mind that we need to have a preliminary report prepared for the DEMHS Coordinating Council by June 9th. Committee members were requested that prior to the next meeting to evaluate their training needs for their particular discipline. Come prepared to discuss specific training deliveries where each discipline can achieve the biggest bang for the funding. Identify the number of expected deliveries, target audience and budgetary needs.

The next meeting date was scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 2nd at DPS HQ in Middletown.