

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY COORDINATING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Chief State's Attorney's Office, 300 Corporate Park, Rocky Hill, CT
December 10, 2009

ATTENDEES: Chris Baker, ARC; Tim Baldwin, Southbury; William Baldwin, CTIC; Michael Berry, New Britain; Peter Boynton, DEMHS; Sandra Brown, Hart. Hosp.; Kevin Burke, USCG; Harold Decker, DOT; Scott Devico, DEMHS; Doug Dortenzio, Wallingford; Mary Duley, DPH; Tom Gavaghan, DEMHS; Libby Graham, DEMHS; Len Guercia, DPH; John Gustafson, DEMHS; Betsy Hard, DEMHS; William Higgins, CFPC; Lenworth Jacobs, Hartford Hosp.; Peter Kurtz, Southington; Maryann Lexius, Manchester; Mike Maglione, Waterbury; Katherine McCormack, Hartford; Jim Mona, GM2; Jeff Morrissette, CFPC; Jim O'Leary, COST; Bill Palomba, DPUC; Ray Philbrick, DPW; Roy Piper, DEMHS; William Podgorski, DPS; Rita Reiss, DEMHS; Ed Richards, Enfield; Dave Rodriguez, TSA; Eugene Schwartz, YNHHS; Gary Stango, Hartford; Dan Stebbins, USAO; Lee Toffey, DEMHS; Brian Toolan, US&R; Michael Varney, DOIT; Stephen Verbil, DPS; and Rob Ware, CTNG.

I. WELCOME AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. Meeting called to order by Commissioner Boynton at 0905 hours followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. None.

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2009 meeting by Jeff Morrissette; seconded by Tim Baldwin; approved unanimously.

IV. COMMUNICATION RECEIVED

A. None.

V. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Interoperability Committee – Michael Varney reported that since the last meeting, two representatives attended the national State Interoperability Meeting in Boston. CT submitted a presentation on Best practices that included the STOC's boxes. Also, the January 19th meeting will be an all day meeting with the Office of Emergency Communications attending to discuss training and alignment to the National Plan.
- B. Citizen Corps Advisory Council – No report in the absence of Bill Austin.
- C. Credentialing Committee – Bill Hackett advised that the group is working on Phase 2 which includes re-entry into the affected area for private sector personnel.
- D. Training/NIMS Committee – Jeff Morrissette advised that there was nothing new to report.
- E. Incident Management Team – Tim Baldwin reports the Incident Management Team committee has had a subcommittee working with DEMHS staff in addressing the last issues of the manual. They are currently working with version 4. A meeting of the whole committee will occur on Monday December 14, 2009 at 1300 hours at the DEMHS office. The Regional Teams activities include: Region 3 has been undergoing various training this month; Region 4 team assisted with a funeral detail; Region 5 has met and are working on recruitment and a training schedule. It is anticipated that the committee will be before the Council in January looking for approval of the work that has been completed.
- F. Child Safety & Crisis Response: Bill Hackett advised that the October meeting had to be cancelled due to the H1N1 situation and the meeting will be re-scheduled.
- G. Regional Collaboration Committee – Libby Graham advised that the Mass Care Working Group will meet in early 2010. The Regional Collaboration Sub-committee will meet January 11th at DEMHS. Shelter data

has been collected from all but 30 towns and this effort continues with help from the Regional Coordinators. Rita Reiss explained that the information is shared with the National Shelter Database and future changes will come from the Regional Coordinators to DEMHS HQ, then to the Red Cross to be passed along to the National Database. In this way all involved will have the same information. The information is housed on WebEOC to be available for towns in times of need.

- H. Medical Reserve Corps – Mary Duley reported on the very successful 2009 Regions 1 and 2 Training Summit that was held at Foxwoods. Clinic activations continue for the H1N1 pandemic. Also, they are looking to provide H1N1 funding to the regions using second year grant funding.
- I. Transportation Security Committee – Commissioner Boynton advised that the new co-chair for the committee was Captain Dan Ronan, who will serve until his tour is up in Spring or Summer. At that time, the new Federal Security Director of TSA, David Bassett, will take over that position. A letter has gone to Commissioner Joseph Marie of DOT asking him to appoint the second co-chair for the subcommittee. A presentation by VOLPE on the Regional Study on Transportation Modes was presented at the last meeting.
- J. Public Health Advisory Committee – Len Guercia reported that the next meeting will be in mid-January.
- K. Private Sector Committee – Sandra Brown advised that the next meeting will be January 12th at 2pm. They are finding the committee is a prime educational opportunity for the private sector to have a better understanding of state processes. They plan to work with the credentialing Committee on an information exchange to determine if integration is possible. Sandra and Mario Bruno attended the Tri-State Regional Catastrophic meeting on December 2nd and found it helpful with issues such as logistics and inventory of resources.

Motion to accept committee reports was made by Jeff Morrissette, seconded by Len Guercia, unanimously approved.

VI. UPDATES

- A. Grant Program – Reported on by Libby Graham. 1) Statewide Strategy includes the vision and the mission statement. There are 10 goals with many objectives under each and implementation steps. Motion to review and approve DEMHS Statewide Strategy, 2010-2015 by Jim O’Leary, second by Doug Dortenzio. Unanimously approved. 2) Fiscal Year 2010 HLS grant numbers have been released. FY09 grant was 25 million, FY10 is 22 million. Variations include: HLS down \$650,000 to 8.8 million; MMRS down \$4,000 to \$300,000; Citizen Corps down \$30,000 to \$178,000; EMPG increased \$323,000 to 4.7 million; Interoperable Communications increased \$47,000 to \$525,000; BZPP stayed the same at \$400,000; Port Security down 2.2 million to 2.2 million; and UASI – Region 1 up \$500,000 to 2.8 million and Region 3 down \$5,000 to 2.7 million.
- B. CTIC – Bill Baldwin reported that a newly formed CTIC Working Group, which will be headed by DC Hard, will have its first meeting today. A presentation by the CTIC is planned and members include municipal and state police, and representatives from Yale, the FBI and DHS. Information from the group will be briefed to the CTIC Board. DC Hard and Bill Baldwin visited three fusion centers in the region located in Boston, Massachusetts State Police, and NY State Police. There will be an upcoming vacancy with the retirement of one of the RILO’s. An announcement was sent out by Doug Dortenzio and a person has responded with interest in the position. Work continues on the construction of a satellite CTIC office to be located at Sigourney Street in Hartford. Commissioner Boynton advised that the Critical Infrastructure Unit will be relocating to Sigourney Street from Brainard in early January to increase the synergy between the units.
- C. Urban Search & Rescue – Bill Hackett reported that coordination continues with the New England Disaster Center, the Rescue Team received Structure Collapse certification in December, background investigations are being done on new candidates, and the group will receive OSHA training. Brian Toolan reported that one of the Canine Techs and his dog have been trained to FEMA Type 1. See attached report.
- D. Legislation – Scott Devico advised that a copy of the 2010 report was distributed to each member and outlines the work of each sub-committee. Motion to adopt the *Report to Governor M. Jodi Rell and the*

Connecticut General Assembly report by Doug Dortenzio, second by Tim Baldwin, discussion ensued. Unanimously approved with corrections.

- E. H1N1 Update: Len Guercia reported that emergency room visits have decreased for the second week in a row. Also, 849,000 doses of vaccine have been delivered to Connecticut to date, with the receipt of 102,000 doses this week. The next potential surge in the flu may occur in February or March. DPH continues to monitor the situation and the weekly phone calls will be bi-weekly for the time being. So far there have been no confirmed cases of seasonal flu reported. DAS continues to report on absenteeism. Dr. Lenworth Jacobs commended DPH on the job they are doing and stated that they have hit a homerun on educating the public about the pandemic. Alternate systems have been put in place to treat flu victims and help decrease the burden on the hospitals.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Dave Rodriguez spoke on the pilot SPO program that is being used at Bradley International Airport. It is a passive system that measures the energy given off from the human body and detects abnormalities. More information to follow.
- B. Commissioner Boynton spoke about the possible relocation of the Region 5 office to a different location. The cost requirements to complete the necessary improvements and yearly maintenance of the Southbury building have increased while the financial conditions have changed. A meeting was held with the Region 5 Emergency Management Directors to discuss the issue and they are on board that relocation may be a viable option. The three options include: 1) continue with the work started; 2) operate at a reduced level; or 3) relocate. Relocation to the Rowland Government Center in Waterbury, which will incur no cost, may be the appropriate option.

IX. ROUNDTABLE

X. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. Report to Governor M. Jodi Rell and the Connecticut General Assembly – due January 1, 2010
- B. Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) Implementation Workshop , January 19, 2010 Location TBD
- C. WMD/Terrorism Incident Defensive Operations for First Responders, February 2-4, 2010, New Haven Regional Fire Training Academy
- D. Region 3 Full-Scale Exercise – date TBD (Early 2010)

XI. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Motion made to adjourn by Tim Baldwin; seconded by Dan Stebbins; Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 0957 hours by Commissioner Boynton.

XII. NEXT MEETING – Thursday, January 14, 2010 – Chief State’s Attorney’s Office, Rocky Hill, CT



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY
CONNECTICUT URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE
CT-TF1



Current Operational Status of CT-TF1 - DEPLOYABLE

December 10, 2009

From: Brian J. Toolan, US&R Coordinator

Subject: DEMHS Coordinating Council Meeting

Events:

- Coordination with the New England Disaster Center is ongoing to meet the task force training needs.
- The Rescue team is continuing to train for Structural Collapse Technician level certification.
- The US&R December training continued to focus on the Structural Collapse Technician. Training focused on shoring and an 8 hour Engineering Lecture was presented to Task Force Members by Spec Rescue.
- New applicants have been selected to join the task force, background checks need to be completed in order to officially join the team.
- Two Structural Engineering firms have expressed interest in having representatives from their firms as Task Force Members.
- December 3rd 2009 US&R presentation to the Enfield Fire Department Chief's and Special Ops Division.
- December 17th 2009 US&R presentation to CREPC
- January Admin Drill Day will focus on completing OSHA required courses.

Advisory Board: TBD

Equipment:

- The Task Force trucks remain in a deployable state and are 98% compliant to the FEMA standard Cache.
- Cot containers are stocked and ready to be deployed if needed during the winter months.
- Engineering equipment has been received and put into service.

Future Items:

- The five part time positions are still vacant and awaiting approval.
- Planning has begun on a structural collapse 24 hour drill in May/June of 2010
- The Task Force has requested certified training in Wide Area and Wilderness Search capabilities to incorporate the 36 GPS units we have.
- A course in FEMA disaster markings is being developed by Task Force Members to be presented to Municipal Departments to establish consistency among responders during a disaster. The course is estimated to be available during the summer months of 2010 leading up to the hurricane season.

To Activate CT Urban Search and Rescue at your incident scene, call:

DEMHS at 860-566-3180
24/7 Duty Officer Pager at 860-708-0821
Or
CT Public Safety Message Center
1-800-842-0200