

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY COORDINATING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Chief State's Attorney's Office, 300 Corporate Park, Rocky Hill, CT
May 14, 2009

ATTENDEES: Cheryl Assis, CRCOG; Bill Austin, CREPC; Brenda Bergeron, DEMHS; Dave Brown, DEMHS; Sandra Brown, Hart. Hosp.; Wayne Dailey, DMHAS; Scott Devico, DEMHS; Doug Dortenzio, Wallingford; Libby Graham, DEMHS; Len Guercia, DPH; John Gustafson, DEMHS; Bill Hackett, DEMHS; Betsy Hard, Bloomfield; Al Hoffman, USCG; Lenworth Jacobs, Hart. Hosp.; Don Janelle, Manchester; Mike Klarman, YNHH; Maryann Lexius, Manchester; Walter Lippincott, Military; Mike Maglione, Waterbury; Virginia Mason, COGCNV; Jim Mona, DOT; Don Moore, Bloomfield; Chris Nolan, CTIC; Jim O'Leary, COST; Doug Pesce, DHS; Roy Piper, DEMHS; Daniel Ronan, USCG; Gary Ruggiero, DEMHS; Wayne Sandford, DEMHS; Dan Stebbins, USAO; James Thomas, DEMHS; Lee Toffey, DEMHS; James Trainor, Meriden; Michael Varney, DOIT; Stephen Verbil, DPS; and Dan Warzoha, Greenwich.

I. WELCOME AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. Meeting called to order by Commissioner Thomas at 0911 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 April 9, 2009 meeting by Doug Dortenzio; seconded by James Trainor; unanimously approved, one abstention.

IV. COMMUNICATION RECEIVED

A. None

V. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Interoperability Committee – Mike Varney advised that the next meeting will be Tuesday, May 19th at the DOT Central Lab in Rocky Hill. There will be a two day workshop for the TICP in Regions 4 and 5. The group will be hosting the SCIP workshop on June 15th, more information to follow. Mike Varney and Keith Victor attended the Conference of Communication sponsored by DHS. And lastly they will be hosting the FEMA Region 1 work group meeting for Regional Communications in July.
- B. Citizen Corps Advisory Council – Reported on by Bill Austin who advised that 3000 people should be trained by the end of the year. Also the Region 1 Conference will be held on May 20th. There was another rescue on Case Mountain. Don Janelle advised that three people were reported lost. Search dogs and communications unit were dispatched to the area and four persons were found 4 ½ miles from where they thought their actual location was. Next meeting will be held on May 21 at the West Hartford Town Hall.
- C. Credentialing Committee – Don Moore sent the following report by email: Over the last month CT-IMT 3 deployed to 2 training missions and 1 activation: 1) Training mission to Middletown High School for the “Safe Haven” sheltering drill; 2) Training mission with CT-IMT 4 at Camp Rell to observe and assist with “CONN-EX 09” a regional, multi-state, multi-agency exercise; 3) Activation at the request of ESF 8 Health & Medical to plan for H1N1. The team completed an IAP during this activation.
- D. Training/NIMS Committee – Wayne Sandford reported that the last meeting was held via conference call. The group continues to move forward. No new initiatives were released this year and we are fully compliant at the state level and have completed the NIMSCAST submission.

- E. Incident Management Team – Wayne Sandford advised that the group will meet with Brenda Bergeron next week to review the final draft of the IMT plan.
- F. Child Safety & Crisis Response: Wayne Sandford reported that there was a meeting last week. Fourteen school districts have applied to participate in the STEP program this year which incorporates approximately 3400 students. Currently negotiating with FEMA to ascertain what supplies they will cover and by how much they can provide. Some grant funding has been set aside to augment what FEMA supplies and allow all student participants to receive a starter kit and backpack. Also Peggy Friedenfelt of DPH continues with their home Day care training program. Funding has run out and DEMHS will provide 70 kits so the remaining centers on the waiting list can be trained.
- G. Regional Collaboration Committee – Libby Graham reported that the next project will be to update the sheltering data using an excel spreadsheet. A letter will go out in June to notifying the towns of this initiative and will be coordinated by the Regional Coordinators. Once the data is verified it will be shared. There will be a meeting on July 14th to draft the bylaws and discuss 2009 grant funding to the Regions and how to better use the dollars and establish a big picture.
- H. Medical Reserve Corps – Len Guercia advised that Mary Duley was attending the IEMG Conference so there was no report at this time.
- I. Transportation Security Committee – Jim Mona reported that the next meeting will be May 20th at DOT in Newington and will focus on true transportation projects. Also presentations from CT Bus Way on security measures; Brenda Jannotta to review the Rail Project and rail security; and a tour of the DOT Operations Center. This committee continues to grow and add new partners.
- J. Public Health Advisory Committee – Len Guercia advised that two grant applications (HRSA and Public Health Preparedness) are due on June 10th and the allocation, while decreasing, should allow them to keep the existing programs in place.
- K. Private Sector Committee – Sandra Brown reported on a Private Sector Seminar hosted by Pitney Bowes which included presentations and was well attended. She also spoke regarding a May 11th conference call with DPH that focused on the H1N1 issues and updates. They group will have representation at the InfraGard meetings.

Motion to accept committee reports was made by Doug Dortenzio, seconded by Jim Mona, unanimously approved.

VI. UPDATES

- A. Grant Program – Libby Graham advised that they are in the process of the FY2005 grant closeout. There will be upcoming budget briefings with the REPT's to present the FY2008 budgets. The FY2009 HLS grant policy and funding award should be released soon. The Region 1 and Region 3 strategies have been Conditionally Approved which means small changes need to be made for final approval. EMPG guidance is being developed. The Severe Repetitive Loss Grant, though very complicated, is moving forward and stands at \$3 million dollars. Work continues with the USCG and mitigation plan contractors for the Port Security Grant, which should be complete in September. The Regional Catastrophic Planning Grant is a tri-state initiative and DEMHS went to New York to meet with our partners and discuss Regional COOP planning and the Infrastructure Protection Plan. Work continues on the creation of an omnibus MOU that will allow towns to acknowledge that DEMHS is using certain funding for Regional purchases. And lastly, the Resource Typing data is almost completely collected and continues to be entered into WebEOC. Training on the resource management tool is tentative for June 18 & 19th. More information to follow.
- B. CTIC – Chris Nolan advised that the group received open source training from DHS and VCC will be provided through the FBI. Also, Andy Weaver assisted Middletown PD regarding the murder at Wesleyan and assisted with information sharing across the country to help apprehend the suspect.
- C. Urban Search & Rescue – Bill Hackett advised that Vito Savino had sent in a report. See attached.
- D. Legislation – Scott Devico reported that two bills have passed both the House and the Senate and are awaiting the Governor's signature. One bill remains on the House calendar (School Crisis Response) and one on the Senate calendar (E911) at this time.

- E. Other: 1) Commissioner Thomas advised that Advisory Bulletin 2009-4: *Guidance Regarding the Creation of Municipal Volunteer Programs* was attached to the meeting packet that was handed out. This includes guidance for Municipal Groups to be covered under title 28. Discussion ensued to include the requirement of swearing in CERT members and Emergency Management Directors on a yearly basis.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Report by Len Guercia on Novel H1N1 Influenza A in Connecticut to include history, response and outlook. Topics included that the WHO and CDC began tracking this flu on April 22nd; the first CT case presented on April 24th; daily conference calls held by DPH; and continued monitoring of the spread of H1N1 in the Southern Hemisphere. He also advised on seasonal flu vaccines (4-5 months to develop); 51 confirmed cases in CT as of May 14th; lab guidance is evolving and current testing is being limited to hospitalized persons. The Governor has released a one 10-day course to meds to each of the 31 acute care hospitals from the State stockpile; there will be a distribution exercise in Region 2 next week; and DPH plans to host a day long seminar with Superintendants of Schools to focus on planning and responding to these types of events. And lastly, flight protocols are in place at Bradley International Airport, the TSA and CSP.
- B. Commissioner Thomas wished to thank everyone who works so hard in the Coordinating Council group and a special thank you to the members who are retiring in June/July.

IX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. Blue Mass – May 17, 2009, 11 am – St. Joseph’s Cathedral, Hartford
- B. NE Spring Mitigation - May 20 - 22, 2009 - Newport, RI
- C. NESEC Board of Directors Mtg. - May 21, 2009 - Sheraton Bradley
- D. EMD Conference - June 2, 2009 –SCSU
- E. Reg. 3 Autumn Storm and Pandemic Functional Exercise – July 15, 2009
- F. New Haven Host Community Drill Rehearsal – July 18, 2009
- G. FEMA REP Evaluators Course – July 20-24, 2009
- H. New Haven Host Community Evaluated Drill – August 6, 2009
- I. Reg. 3 Autumn Storm and Pandemic Full-Scale Exercise – September 23, 2009
- J. Debris Management Exercise – date TBD

X. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Motion made to adjourn by Doug Dortenzio; seconded by Jim O’Leary and Betsy Hard; Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 1017 hours by Commissioner Thomas.

XI. NEXT MEETING – Thursday, June 11, 2009 – Chief State’s Attorney’s Office, Rocky Hill, CT

CT URBAN SEARCH & RESCUE (CT-TF1)

May 14, 2009

From Sgt. Vito F. Savino

Subj.: DEMHS Coordinating Council Meeting

Events:

- Command Staff meeting was held on May 6, 2009 at 0900 hours at Brainard. Discussions were held on the economy relative to MOU's equipment and training.
- Additional Command Staff meeting will be as follows for 2009, 6/3/09, 9/2/09, 11/4/09, and 12/2/09.
- **April Training** – Rescue completed Air shoring exercises at Brainard.
- **May Training** – Rescue to complete Breech and Break exercise at Brainard.
- **May 11, 2009** – US&R member assisting with Confine Space Rescue at the Fairfield County Fire School.
- **May 12, 2009** – CCM Conference attended in Cromwell.
- **May 14, 2009** – Meeting at the New England Disaster Training Center with the Military Department, and DPH.
- **May 14, 2009** - State Trauma Meeting at Brainard. US&R and DPH to display exhibits.
- **May 18, 2009** – Assist DPH in a SNS exercise at Brainard.
- **June Training** – Breeching and Breaking exercise at Brainard.
- **June 2, 2009** – Hurricane Conference at SCSU in New Haven.
- **June Fire School at the Ct Fire Academy** – US&R Members to assist at June Fire School with shoring.
- **June 24, 2009** – US&R Recruitment seminar at Brainard.

FEMA Equivalent USAR Training for 2009: Date and funding to be determined

- Safety Officer Course taught by the CFA.
- Task Force Leader Course taught by the CFA.
- Planning taught by the CFA.
- Info Tech Course taught by the CFA.
- Structural Collapse Technician Course taught by the CFA.
- Operating Engineers Local 478 will be holding a Forklift class for approximately 12 USAR members. Date to be determined

Advisory Board: - Next meeting, Date and location to be determined.

Equipment:

- The trucks are loaded and ready to roll out the door. They are about 99% stocked. Local 478 Operating Engineers is approximately 98% complete with the building of a steel racks for our lumber truck.
- Delivery on 4 more Roll-Off compatible container used for Lumber and Western Shelters in our Base of Operations should arrive by May 30, 2009.
- Team Physical through Concentra Medical Centers began on March 5, 2008. 59 team members have completed their physicals in the first round.
- MOU's between DEMHS and Team Member handed out and returned signed by August 1, 2009.
- See Deployment Numbers Listed Below.

**To activate CT-TF1 to assist at your incident scene, call:
DEMHS at 860-566-3180 or 860-708-0821– Pager 24/7
CT Public Safety Message Center at 1-800-842-0200**

Future Items:

- ✓ MOU between DEMHS and DOT is being worked on for use of the pile at Bradley.
- ✓ Recruitment Drive and informational meeting for new members to occur tentatively in June.
- ✓ US&R working with DPH and Connecticut National Guard to review team needs for the New England Disaster Training Center