

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY

COORDINATING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held at Chief State's Attorney's Office, Rocky Hill
August 9, 2007

ATTENDEES: Cheryl Assis, CRCOG; Bill Austin, CRCOG; Brenda Bergeron, DEMHS; Michael Berry, New Britain FD; Dave Brown, DEMHS; Carmine Centrella, CRCOG; Scott Devico, DEMHS; MaryRose Duberek, DEMHS; Ivy Francis, FEMA; Rich Fournier, DEMHS; Tom Gavaghan, DEMHS; Libby Graham, DEMHS; John Gustafson, NH CMED; Betsy Hard, Bloomfield; Bill Higgins, CFPC; Don Janelle, Manchester; Bob Kenny, DPH; Samantha Kopp, YNHHS; Tim Kradas, DPS; Phil Marino, New Britain; Virginia Mason, COGCNV; Katherine McCormack, Hartford; Phil Moberg, DOT; Jeff Morrissette, CFPC; Jim O'Leary, COST; Doug Pesce, DHS; Roy Piper, DEMHS; Bill Podgorski, DPS; George Pohorilak, DPS; Elizabeth Rivera-Rodriquez, Bridgeport; Dan Ronan, USCG; Wayne Sandford, DEMHS; Vito Savino, USAR; Tony Schirillo, DPS; Steve Scorzato, CTNG; Gary Stango, Hartford 911; Carl Stephani, CCRPA; James Thomas, DEMHS; Lee Toffey, DEMHS; Keith Victor, CRCOG; Steve Walsh, POSTC; Roy Walton, CTNG; Dan Warzoha, Greenwich; Jen Walters; Ed Wilds, DEP and Rich Zaccagnino, DEMHS.

I. WELCOME AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- A. Meeting called to order by Commissioner Thomas at 0905 hours, and Pledge of Allegiance.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A. None

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- A. Motion made to accept the minutes of the July meeting by Gary Stango; second by Betsy Hard; approved unanimously.

IV. COMMUNICATION RECEIVED

- A. Commissioner Thomas received an email naming Michael Varney Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year.
- B. Letter from Hunter Ambulance Service saying Thank You for the CERT exercise.

V. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Interoperability Committee – Reported by Deputy Commissioner Sandford in the absence of Michael Varney and Bill Hackett. Information handed out in agenda package regarding the PSIC Grant. George Phorilak advised that the consultants have been hired and regional meetings were held, one for each region and one for state agencies. The surveys have been sent out and are being collected by the consultants. The \$12,989,000 grant will have a 80%/20% split and follow regional initiatives.
- B. Citizen Corps Advisory Council – Bill Austin reported that CERT Weekend will take place Sept. 8 & 9th, the Citizen Corps Annual Conference will be held on Nov. 20th (a change from the Oct. 18th date), and the Campus CERT Training will be held at

UConn, a change from Fairfield University. He also handed out the minutes from the last subcommittee meeting.

- C. Credentialing Committee – No report in the absence of Mike Spera.
- D. Training/NIMS Committee – Jeff Morrisette gave an overview of the training given last month. All courses trained 105 people in July. Deputy Commissioner Sandford reported that DEMHS and DEP visited the shoreline communities to discuss debris management and extend NIMS training to the Public Works sector which has the least participation at this time. Meetings will be held for inland communities in the coming months.
- E. Incident Management Teams – Gary Stango reported in Tim Baldwin’s absence. The committee met last month and was involved in a conference call with Steven Foley from the US Fire Administration, who has indicated their support in our work. We also reviewed the work to date, and have begun the process of placing the committees work into a workable plan. This plan is intended to be reviewed at the August 30th meeting, and will be shared during the month of September, with informational meetings planned for October. DHS has been changing their guidance over the last few months, and as such, we have been forced to review these items to develop their changes into our models that have been developed.
- F. Child Safety & Crisis Response: Deputy Commissioner Sandford reported that the group has been working on reaching out to day care centers and pre-school programs. DEMHS will be working with DPH to send out training and information charts to all licensed and hopefully the un-licensed day care centers. Also advising EMD’s to reach out to the centers and at home care facilities in their towns and include them in emergency planning. A survey will be conducted through the superintendents to determine the current security levels at schools around the state. Also, Tom Gavaghan ran two highly successful seminars last year that were overwhelmingly received. Two more will be offered this year, one in Litchfield and one in Montville.
- G. Regional Collaboration Committee – Libby Graham advised that the committee met in July and the next meeting is tentative for Aug. 23rd. The grant application is being refined and the subcommittee will most likely serve as a cross communication vehicle for the regions. The purpose of the next meeting will be to provide technical assistance for the grant application which is being released tomorrow (8-10-07).
- H. Medical Reserve Corps – In Mary Duley’s absence Deputy Commissioner Sandford reported that the bylaws have been approved and that more medical Reserve corps will be coming onboard in the 5 regions. The next meeting will be at the end of August.

Motion to accept committee reports was made by Betsy Hard, second by Bill Austin, unanimously approved.

VI. UPDATES

- A. Grant Program – Libby Graham gave a Strategic Plan Update which is attached at the end of the minutes. The grant updates are as follows:
 - FY03 - spent down
 - FY04 - \$41 million spent or obligated - 98.5%
 - FY05 - \$21 million spent or obligated – 89%
 - FY06 - \$1.2 million spent or obligated
 - FO07 – In house and will report on the budget reduction soon.

Libby showed the Mark 1 kit, a delivery of which has just arrived in the state. Bob Kenny discussed the Mark 1 program, the Mass Casualty trailers, and the SMART Tag system. Discussion and questions ensued.

B. CTIC – Commissioner Thomas advised that the TIPS Hotline posters were distributed and to please take them back to police stations and town offices to be hung on walls. The information can also be found on our website as well the Governor’s and Lt. Governor’s sites. CTNG has assigned Capt. Johnson to the CTIC and DHS has assigned an analyst. The Commissioner also reminded the group about the HSIN and its many benefits.

C. Urban Search & Rescue – Reported on by Sgt. Vito Savino.

The following is a task force update for the Emergency Management & Homeland Security Coordinating Council Meeting on August 9th, 2007:

August Component Training:

- ❑ Completed the Rescue Component-Confined Space Technician (refresher) Urban Search and Rescue Training Pile, Windsor Locks.
- ❑ Completed Confined Space Awareness/Operational, open to the entire Team at Brainard/Hartford. Training was conducted by the CT Fire Academy.

August Admin Training:

- ❑ Completed the Confined Space Awareness/Operational and Technician refresher with a practical exercise.

September Training: All components shall be participating in Trench Rescue. This training shall be held at the Operating Engineer’s facility in Meriden, CT.

Pub Ed Events:

Upcoming:

- ❑ NEACOP (Law Enforcement) Conference, September 9-11, Old Saybrook, CT.
- ❑ CT-TF1 equipment presentation during CT Day at the Big E on September 19th.
- ❑ Connecticut Hospital Association, Trauma Coordinators presentation in September, Waiting for exact date and details.

Training:

- ❑ Paperwork has been submitted to host a FEMA Equivalent Search Canine Course at the CT Fire Academy. We have met with CFA officials to discuss this course. If this is approved, this class will be open to other State Urban Search and Rescue Teams to attend.
- ❑ NJ-TF1 to host a FEMA Equivalent Medical Course in September. Offered CT-TF1 to participate. There is no charge for the course.
- ❑ Members of Rescue Component to attend the Structural Collapse Technician School in Virginia Beach, VA in October. Paperwork has been submitted.

Misc.:

- ❑ Waiting to for the details of the US&R budget for the next two fiscal years. Once this is received, we will hold a budget workshop to plan for this time period. Training budget will dictate what areas of training we will concentrate on.
- ❑ Assistant Administrative Coordinator, Detective. Edgar Rodriguez has retired from state services. Will remain as a member of the team in the Law Enforcement Component.
- ❑ Submitted updated US&R Strategic Plan to the Deputy Commissioner
- ❑ Paging system or team deployment has been updated.
- ❑ Still waiting for MOU’s for stipend positions. These vacancies need to be filled as soon as possible to support the team’s mission.

D. Legislation – Commissioner Thomas advised that next year the Reverse 911 issue would hopefully be addressed, allowing for municipalities to get the information needed free of charge. he reminded everyone to contact Scott Devico if they had questions or needed anything.

E. Other – none.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Presentation by Ivy Francis of FEMA on Long Term Recovery & ESF 14.
- B. Handouts: Information Bulletin #257 – Extension Requests for FY02, FY03 and FY04 Grants.
- C. Discussion on hosting of a 2-day event at Camp Rell in September or October to be hosted by Vincent Doherty of the Naval Postgraduate School.
- D. Discussion of the School Security Education Grant with a 20%-80% reimbursement depending on where the community is ranked in the state.
- E. Discussion of the media campaign.
- F. Ed Wilds commented that the Sub base would also be having a drill on Sept. 6, same day as the Coast Guard Maritime Drill.

IX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. Evaluated Host Community Drill at UCONN, Storrs – August 18
- B. US Coast Guard maritime Security Exercise – September 6
- C. NEACOP Conference, Old Saybrook – September 9-11
- D. Citizen Corps Annual Conference – November 20

X. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Motion made to adjourn by Gary Stango; second by Betsy Hard; Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 1041 hours by Commissioner Thomas.

XI. NEXT MEETING – September 13, 2007 at 9 am, at the Chief State’s Attorney’s Office, Rocky Hill.

State of Connecticut Homeland Security Strategy

Update on Selected Goals and Objectives (8/9/07)

GOAL 1: Improve the abilities of emergency responders to identify and respond to an all hazards incident, man-made or natural.

Objective 1.4: (1) Facilitate the presence of a viable local or regional Emergency Operations Center (EOC) encompassing 100% of the communities by September 2007. *High Band Radios*

GOAL 2: Develop a comprehensive CBRNE incident response and contingency plan.

Objective 2.13: (6) Continue to provide agencies and organizations, responsible for WMD mass casualty response, with appropriate personal protection, decontamination, and communications equipment. *Mark 1 Kits*

Objective 2.4 (6) Following consensus standards, equip, train and bring to operational status the municipal, regional and state Hazmat teams by September 2007 *Standardized list developed, trailers, response vehicles, command trailer and vehicles ordered, Salamander system.*

Objective 2.7(6) Maintain personal protection equipment for Hazmat Responders *Level A suits replaced*

Objective 2.8(6) Maintain overall chemical and radiation detection capabilities of the Hazmat responders *contract with vendor for maintenance and onsite calibration and training*

Objective 2.9 (6) Maintain mobile mass decontamination capabilities in Connecticut *Contract for decon maintenance, inspection and repair*

GOAL 3: Improve critical incident management and response through the implementation and use of the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Objective 3.7: (1) Develop statewide (FEMA level 3) Incident Management Team by September 2007 *Report from Committee*

Objective 3.8: (2) Develop collaborative regional planning process. *FY07 HLS Regional Collaboration grant application kit going out 8-10-07 to regional planning organizations.*

GOAL 4: Maximize utilization of all available funding through coordinated leveraging, pooling, and disbursement of budgetary resources.

GOAL 5: Enhance the existing statewide communications systems.

Objective 5.4: Prepare Tactical Interoperable Communications (TIC) Plan for the 5 DEMHS Emergency Preparedness Planning Regions by January 2008. *Consultants for PSIC – due by Nov. 07*

GOAL 6: Enhance public safety through hardening of critical infrastructure sectors.

Objective 6.1: (3) Compile a detailed inventory of critical assets within the state by June 2007.

GOAL 7: Develop a self-sustaining training program for all hazard preparedness.

GOAL 8: Enhance capabilities to conduct proactive interdictions and investigations to prevent and mitigate terrorism incidents.

GOAL 9: Develop a comprehensive all hazard recovery plan.

GOAL 10: Engage the general public, educational systems and private sector in all hazard prevention, planning, response and recovery.

Objective 10.2: (4) Create and implement a public awareness campaign aimed at engaging the general public in homeland security awareness. *Media Campaign*