

From: Eva M. Zito
Recording Secretary

Date: July 26, 2005

Subject Minutes of the Domestic Preparedness Subcommittee

The following members, alternates, and guests were in attendance.

John E. Aucott	Acting Chair	RIEMA
Robert Johnson	Member	Private Security
Patrick Lynch	Member	Office of the Lt. Governor
Dr. Terrie Fox Wetle	Member	Brown University
Raymond LaBelle	Member	E-911
Janice McClanaghan	Member	RISEO
Aaron Aldrich	Member	Department of Corrections
Candy Cook	Member	DOH
L. Anthony Cirillo, M.D.	Alternate	DOH
Rick Stasiowski	Alternate	Hazmat/Decon Working Group
John Beliveau	Alternate	Veterans Administration
William Sharkey	Alternate	Office of the Attorney General
Todd Manni	Alternate	Providence EMA

Members not in attendance:

RI Dept. of Transportation
RI Fire Chief's Association
Governor's Office
RI Disaster Initiative
URI
US Coast Guard
Lifespan/House of Reps.
RI State Police
NHCNE
Gov's Comm. on Disabilities

RI Police Chief's Association
RI State Fire Marshal
American Red Cross
RICOSH
USAR
Department of Justice
HARI
RI DEM
DOIT

The 45th meeting of the Domestic Preparedness Subcommittee was called to order by Acting Chairman John E. Aucott on Tuesday, July 26, 2005 at 10:10am.

1. Welcome and Introductions-John Aucott thanked John Soscia for being the Acting Chair for the last two meetings. John also welcomed Candy Cook who is taking Greg Banner's place.
2. The minutes of the June 28, 2005 meeting were reviewed, accepted, and passed.
3. **REPORTS:**

HAZMAT/DECON TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP-Rick Stasiowski
Still meeting monthly.

Recently adopted a few new policies and procedures for suspicious envelopes and packages that we worked on with the Department of Health very closely developing new ways and techniques to actually take samples for these particular incidents. Steve Preston worked hard with the DOH to get a very current type of procedure with which to handle these procedures. We started a Hazardous Materials Technical Assistance Team. A lot of the communities that do not have a Haz/Mat Team in their community were having difficulties with responding to small incidents. This team will consist of two technicians that will go out and give them assistance in properly handling the incident and letting them know where they go from there. We had found out that a lot of the communities did not want to call out a full-blown team for a small incident. This Assistance Team will still follow the Mutual Aid Protocol as a full-blown team does. We would like to get this information out to all the fire departments. John Aucott stated that he will work with Chief Warren and develop some kind of a memo to fax out.

COMMUNITY WMD PREPAREDNESS WORKING GROUP (IN ABEYANCE)

EMERGENCY LEGAL ISSUES WORKING GROUP-not present

COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP-not present

VOLUNTEER WORKING GROUP-"Citizens Corp Council-not present

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION WORKING GROUP-not present

HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS PLANNING COMMITTEE (DOH/HARI)-Dr. Cirillo

Finishing up the grants for this past fiscal year

This morning at the Health Department we are having a demonstration of radiation detectors by three vendors to look at issues of portals, wands, and more specific identification stuff for radiation.

We received an 18% reduction in the Hospital Preparedness Grant

Tom Kilday, Candy, and I will be going to Boston to a DHS Meeting in September.

John Aucott stated that EMA would be interested in the equipment that is selected for the portals. Because we have folks coming here from the outside, we should have one here when we stand up the EOC. Dr. Cirillo stated that Tom Kilday did a good job setting up a technical working group with a hospital-based physicist along with Jack Ferullo from Health.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE CRISIS MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
(MHRH)-not present

URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE GROUP-Rick Stasiowski

Still meeting on a monthly basis.

Doing a great deal of training

We will be deploying to Camp Varnum the weekend of August 20th

As far as equipment goes, we are only waiting for a few things.

Two trucks are both up and running and have been lettered and are full of equipment.

MCI WORKING GROUP-Nathan Rodgers

Met last month to discuss the major incident protocol to be passed by the Rules and Regulations Subcommittee of the Ambulance Service Advisory Board.

Nextel Communications Network has been put into all 39 cities and towns

Protocols are being finalized

Once a month we will test this network informally in August and formally in September. It will be tested three ways-(1) a fixed date and time test monthly (2) a test on a night or weekend shift monthly (3) random test conducted with EMA and the local municipal Nextels. There are two groups on the Nextel program-there is an EMA Group and a hospital group.

As far as the MCI trailers are concerned we are finalizing our 2nd generation equipment orders to make sure that the trailers are fully stocked with all of the necessary equipment.

PORT SECURITY-not present

LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING GROUP-John Aucott

Capt. Swanberg called this morning to state that he was unable to make this meeting. Law Enforcement Tactical Working Group has been working very hard to purchase the necessary equipment to bring them up to response capability. John stated that he wanted to thank John Washburn and Ken Baker who are doing an excellent job with this.

BROWN UNIVERSITY-Dr. Terrie Fox Wetle

Completed our meds exercise around the model of Q fever. We now have a formal report evaluation and lessons learned from that. I will be very happy to make this report available to anyone who would like a copy of it.

There has been an e-mail going around with a suggestion of encouraging everyone to put in their wallet, date book, or cell phone the word "ICE" (in case of emergency). John stated that someone has suggested this, and it was a very good idea that we all program into our cell phones the word ICE which would be a phone number of who you would want to be called in case of an emergency. He also stated that this should be included in the training for the general public.

Rick S suggested that it was an excellent idea. Other issues that the first responders have are that people do not speak English. If they had something like ICE, the first responders could contact someone who could translate for us. Dr. Cirillo asked if we could contact some of the Verizon and Nextel people and it would be nice if this "ICE" could be included as a pre-programmed entry into the phone book. He also stated that he would speak to the people at Health so that it could be put on the website. Todd Manni stated that they have been doing this in Providence and the project should be finished with the next two week.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS-Aaron Aldrich

Aaron has a question about the protocols for the white powder substance that was mentioned. The ACI has it's own protocols, but I would like to review either the Health Departments's Procedure List as compared to the ACI's to make sure that there are not any conflicts. Rick told Aaron that he would e-mail a copy it to him. Cindy Vanner is in charge of releasing this information.

OFFICE OF THE LT. GOVERNOR-Patrick Lynch

The next EMAC meeting is on Tuesday, August 23rd at 2:00pm. All updates are filed online with the Office of the Secretary of State. Patrick would like to get involved with as many subcommittee meetings that he can so he gave his e-mail which is patrickl@ltgov.state.ri.us. Went to Pictometry training and it was very impressive what the State has done with the four cities.

PRIVATE SECURITY-Bob Johnson

On August 17th and August 30th from 9:00am-3:00pm there will be two 6-hour training sessions that John Enright is putting on for police officers and private security people. We are hoping to fill the room at URI, which holds 400 people, with private security people.

PROVIDENCE EMA-Todd Manni

John Aucott welcomed the City of Providence as a member to this Committee. He also stated that Providence EMA has hired Todd Manni, who is the EMA Director for Smithfield, as a new member of their staff. Deputy Director Peter Marinucci will be the primary member and Todd Manni will be the alternate. We are at the beginning stages of working with some folks to bring some enhanced EMI type of web based training. Todd stated that Providence is implementing a city-wide ID system for all city employees which will take some time to complete.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH-Dr. Cirillo

Have been speaking to Stu Friedman from the EDC, and we may make the patient tracking one of their initial pilot projects. Nextel people have agreed to give us the software to use in the pilot.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION-Jack Beliveau

John Aucott welcomed Mr. Beliveau who is a new representative from the VA.

E-911-Ray Labelle

Formal Pictometry training for 45 people was done for the four selected cities of Providence, Cranston, Warwick and Newport. We also had the folks from the Department of Health and Department of Environmental Management. For the fourth year in a row Ray stated that he put in a Capitol Budge Request to set up a backup location for E-911. He also stated that he is now moving forward towards the Varley Building at the Pastore Complex. Had a meeting this morning with the finance people and everyone seems to be excited about it and feel that it is a good idea. This will be the primary location for E-911 and use North Providence as the backup. Ray also feels that "ICE" is an excellent idea.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL-no report at this time

RI STATE ENERGY OFFICE-Janice McClanaghan

ISO New England hit a peak last week and they expect another peak today.

Prices are extremely high which is a concern for us for the winter.

Gasoline is 19% higher for self serve

Heating oil is 31% higher than last year

There are no companies giving out contracts

Last year in emergency fuel costs was over 1 million dollars

There is a meeting at 12:00 today

4. OLD BUSINESS:

John Aucott stated that in looking over the minutes last month he saw that a motion was passed to form a Disabled Working Group, and stated that we need to find a Chairman for this group. Dr. Wetle stated that there is a physician by the name of Dr. David Dosa, in their geriatric's program who has done research on the nursing home population in Pennsylvania, and he is now residing here. He would certainly be a good resource.

John Aucott stated that the Mobile Command Post will be commissioned on Tuesday, August 2, 2005 at 2:00pm.

In regard to the FY06 grant which will be coming out this fall, the House has passed their version and the Senate their version. Senator Chafee and Senator Reed worked very hard to change the distribution formula and it now stands at .55. Therefore, I don't think that the cuts will be as severe as we thought, and John will keep you posted on this.

The 03 and 03 Supplemental Grants are due to expire in the next few months. This primarily applied to local entities. There is probably about 5 million dollars remaining that is still sitting in accounts at the local level. They have to the end of August for the 03 grant and end of September for the 03 Supplemental Grant. Very shortly, I will be sending out a letter to the locals asking for projects in the event that we have to reallocate money from one community to another. Tying into this, I would like to have the Community WMD Preparedness Working Group back into action. One thing we have to look at for FY06 is how we allocate funds. The last couple of years we have allocated funds to communities based upon a formula. Based upon our experience with communities this past grant cycle, there were some communities who were struggling to spend money. Maybe we need to address some other issues elsewhere. I would like to see the Community WMD Preparedness Working Group look at these issues and come back with a report.

MOTION IS MADE, SECONDED, AND PASSED TO REACTIVATE THE COMMUNITY WMD PREPAREDNESS WORKING GROUP.

HOMELAND SECURITY EXERCISE PROGRAM-Nathan Rodgers

USCG will be running an oil spill full-scale exercise here on September 21-22 2005 in coordination with Washington.

TSA will be having a WMD exercise with a tentative date of 10.20.05. We will be hosting here most of the day.

There will be a full-scale exercise at Bostitch in East Greenwich with a tentative date of 10.12.05

Special response teams have been drilling regularly.

Several LTEP exercises have been done already including Coventry, Pawtucket, Exeter, Westerly, and Barrington which will be held tomorrow.

Coming up this fall will be Charlestown, Providence, and Burriville and others that will be scheduled for the half day exercise.

Amtrak exercise will probably be scheduled for early next spring.

Update on CHEMPAK-Candie Cook mentioned that the CDC is coming August 22nd and 23rd to go the four hospitals Rhode Island Hospital, Landmark Hospital, Newport Hospital and the Navy Hospital.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.

**NEXT MEETING WILL BE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2005 @
10:00AM.**

