

From: Eva M. Zito
Recording Secretary

Date: August 23, 2005

Subject: Minutes of the Domestic Preparedness Subcommittee

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

John Soscia	RIEMA	Acting Chairman
Peter Marinucci	Member	Providence EMA
Audra Dolan	Member	VCRI
John Enright	Member	Office of the US Attorney
Cathy Duquette	Member	HARI
Normand Menard	Member	American Red Cross
Chief Peter Brousseau	Member	Police Chief's Assoc.
Nami Moghadam	Member	RIDOT
Raymond LaBelle	Member	E-911
Aaron Aldrich	Member	Department of Corrections
Chief Robert Seltzer	Member	RI Fire Chief's Assoc.
Capt. James Swanberg	Member	RISP
Tim Howe	Alternate	State Energy Office
Darren Delaney	Alternate	RISP
Tom Kilday	Alternate	DOH
Michael DiMascolo	Alternate	RI State Fire Marshal's Office
Robin Winemiller	Guest	Salvation Army

Members not in attendance:

Governor's Office
Office of the Attorney General
Ambulance Services Advisory Board
RICOSH
URI
VA Medical Center
MHRH
Urban Search and Rescue
Governor's Commission on Disabilities

RIDEM
Office of the Lt. Governor
RI Health Center Association
Brown University
Naval Ambulatory Care Center Newport
Communications Working Group
USCG
Lifespan/House of Representatives
Private Security Association

The 46th meeting of the Domestic Preparedness Subcommittee was called to order by Acting Chairman John Soscia at 10:10am.

1. We are happy to welcome Chief Robert Warren as our new Executive Director who will be starting here on August 29, 2005. We also welcome our new member from DOT-Nami Moghadam who will be joining us on a monthly basis.
2. Minutes of the July 26, 2005 meeting were reviewed, accepted and passed.
3. Reports:

HAZMAT/DECON TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP-John Soscia
Continuing with their monthly meetings
Maintaining their equipment etc.

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-Dr. Cathy Duquette
Group continues to meet monthly
They are rolling out the statewide hospital emergency codes. Memorial Hospital has implemented them and others are in the process. They will all be implemented by January 1, 2006.
Trying to computerize the daily diversion tracking and patient tracking
The HRSA grant application was submitted in July, and we are awaiting a response from them.

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

URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE GROUP-John Soscia
This past weekend they had their yearly deployment to Camp Varnum, and they practiced Search and Rescue drills.
No final after action report has been done yet.

MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT WORKING GROUP-John Soscia
They will be testing their municipal MCI hospital Nextel on August 30, 2005 at 12:00 noon. This blast fax has gone out.

Protocol is being finalized and will be discussed at the next HPPC meeting and then distributed.

PORT SECURITY-they are presently having their meeting.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING GROUP-John Soscia

Moving forward with training and equipment purchases

They are behind on their anticipated roll out date

Working hard on getting things up to speed

DISABLED PERSONS WORKING GROUP-John Soscia

We have a list compiled of proposed members to talk about appointing a chairman of the group. Those letters will be going out next week, and hopefully we will have had the meeting before the next Subcommittee meeting.

4. OLD BUSINESS-Tom Kilday

Mass Fatality Working Group will be reconvening on August 26, 2005 @ 11:00am. Dr. Gifford, Director of Health, has requested that the group get back together to look at the Mass Fatality Plan and make any corrections that should be made and move forward. I will be working with a group that addresses internal procedures for mass fatality. We sent letters to different agencies regarding this meeting, and at the first meeting we will identify if anyone is missing in the group that needs to attend.

2005 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS-John Soscia

Finally being mailed. There were some issues with the data base computer company about getting the actual award statements generated. The awards were allocated and approved, and the local awards will be mailed by August 31, 2005. State agency awards will be mailed hopefully by the end of this week but definitely by next week. There will be forms to sign and return, and once they are returned then you will be officially awarded and free to move forward with your actual purchases.

5. NEW BUSINESS-John Soscia

Our new Executive Director will be starting on Monday, August 29, 2005.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION-Nami Moghadam

I can envision that DOT will come as a support group so that the highways, in conjunction with the State Police, can stay open so that emergency people can get to their destinations. In case of a major catastrophe, and we have to move people out, we need to know where the shelters are located and the routes. John Soscia stated that a lot of this information has been done on GIS.

E-911-Raymond LaBelle

Pictometry is up and running in our office, and I invite anyone to come and see it.

We will have a press conference with the Governor in early September, and give the hard drives to the four pilot cities.

RFP went out for the database. We took it from Verizon and over the next five year period, we will be saving in excess of 2 million dollars.

HARI-Dr. Duquette

Had the opportunity to participate last week as a hospital controller evaluator for Alaska Shield Northern Edge. I was in two hospitals. The individual hospital responses were great, their level of integration and coordination among hospitals and among agencies is nowhere near where we are.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS-Aaron Aldrich

Aaron asked about whether the Mobile Command Post is in service and where it is located.

John Soscia stated that it is not in service to respond at this time because there is still a lot of training being done. It is located in Scituate right next door to the State Police Barracks in our warehouse where the Search and Rescue Team stores their equipment and trucks. We are getting the protocols together. We have already received many requests for the Mobile Command Center to appear at events in a PR type role. We will attempt to honor as many of these requests as possible. One of the problems is the amount of people who can operate it. September 1st is too premature to have it in full operation. We do not want to roll it out before we are 100% ready to do so. There are programming issues with the radios that are being done as we speak. EMA staff is also being trained on all the technology. We will do a blast fax notification to let everyone know that number to call. It will be activated through us at a 24 hour number.

Aaron stated that he was thinking about this unit in the event of a disorder, fire, or disturbance at the ACI. It will be a great resource. He stated that he can envision the RI State Police, Cranston Police, Cranston Fire, Warwick Police and Warwick Fire when they see that unit there, all sending their command staff to it. I would also like to arrange a viewing for some of my command staff and administrators that may be assigned to it during an incident. Aaron asked to just let him know when they can view it. He would also like to have it rolled out for one of his quarterly drills.

John Soscia stated that once it is ready and the staff is ready, we want to use it as much as possible. He asked Aaron to let us know the dates of his quarterly drills as soon as possible, and let Chief Paul Wentworth know these dates.

RI STATE POLICE-Darren Delaney

State Police have bought a boat and it has gone out to the Jazz and Folk Festivals in Newport. It also went on an emergency mission to Block Island two weekends ago. There have been several arrests on DWI issues on the waterways in the last few weeks. As far as Amber Alert is concerned, they will be ready to do a PR kickoff around the opening of school. Notification will be on the web and fax.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY-Tim Howe

Heating oil is \$2.43 which is down one penny from last week.
Narragansett Electric put in for a rate increase.
State will be paying about 40% more for natural gas.

VCRI-Audra Dolan

At the Center I have been working on adding internships.
We usually have volunteer opportunities posted, and now we can post internships.
This is good for any nonprofit 501C3.
Working with PEMA and on September 17th they are doing a prepare Providence event at the Station Park which is a place to check out emergency services and preparedness.

PROVIDENCE EMA-Peter Marinucci

June 8, 2005 we had an evacuation drill exercise at the Port of Providence which went very well, and we are ready to adopt the plan that we used at the LEPC meeting in September. We had a chance to exercise our new ID system, and this also went very well. On September 18, 2005 we will have a drill which will consist of a Carbon Monoxide incident at the Providence Place Mall. There will be about 30 victims that will be transported to local hospitals. There will be a tabletop on September 5, 2005. Also will participate in an oil spill exercise with the Coast Guard and the tabletop exercise will be on September 20, 2005 with the actual exercise on September 22, 2005.

US ATTORNEY'S OFFICE-John Enright

Last week the US Attorney's office and other law enforcement people met with the Muslim community. They are very concerned because of what happened in London. We had a good discussion with the Muslim Community about how interested we are in recognizing problems in that community if they exist. Last month we received more suspicious activity reports. Some of them dealt with video taping incidents. There was also an incident on a Newport Harbor cruise ship. URI campus security is sponsoring two terrorism training events this month. The training is being presented by myself and the ATAC group from the US Attorney's office at URI's downtown auditorium. It has been widely publicized. We had 65 people at the first one, and we anticipate more people attending the second one. If you see these notices coming out, I urge people to try to get representatives there.

RI STATE POLICE-Capt. Jim Swanberg

Still acquiring equipment and doing training
One half the team is doing SCBA training today.
Training with the RI Civil Support Team is scheduled for next month.
In October we will have a 2-3 day exercise.
We are about 1/3 of the way getting our equipment.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH-Tom Kilday

Search and Rescue course will be on October 26th and 27th.

Test for the hospital Nextels will be on August 30, 2005 at 12:00.

There is a BT course at CCRI with an 18 credit certificate.

CDC and HRSA grant awards will be awarded on September 1, 2005.

Patient tracking system is making some progress.

Yesterday and today the CDC made some visits at Rhode Island Hospital, Landmark Medical Center, Newport Hospital, and the Navy Health Center, and we will be placing Chempak kits in those hospitals.

HEAR system is finally being installed in the regional dispatch centers.

We just put a bid together to put satellite phones in all the hospitals, regional dispatch centers, and the laboratory.

RI STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE-Michael DiMascolo

Chief Joe Castro has been hired as new director at the RI Fire Academy.

An architect has been picked for the new academy plans.

We are also going to be getting two new bomb dogs.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS-Aaron Aldrich

Corrections has been using the North Air Packs, and we probably have 30-40 of them as well as the filling station in our department. We have gone with the filtrations hoods, and we are removing our North Air Packs from the facility. If anyone has a need for this system, we would like to give it away. It is in mint condition and never seen fire service. It was suggested that Aaron contact Chief Paul Wentworth from RIEMA.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:44am.

**NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON
SEPTEMBER 27, 2005 @ 10:00AM.**

