

From: Eva M. Zito
Recording Secretary

Date: September 26, 2006

Subject: Minutes of the Domestic Preparedness Subcommittee

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

Nathan Rodgers	Acting Chair	RIEMA
Dawn-Marie Lewis	Member	HARI
Chief Peter Brousseau	Member	RI Police Chief's Assoc.
Chief Robert Seltzer	Member	RI Fire Chief's Assoc.
Candie Cook	Member	DOH
Carol Kent	Member	MHRH
Nancy Bailey	Member	DOC
Robert Patton	Member	VA Medical Center
Tom Kilday	Alternate	DOH
Meredith Arnold	Alternate	HARI
Jim Benz	Guest	US Secret Service
Geof Milner	Guest	RI-Saturn
Marybeth Ouellette	Guest	RIEMA
Bob Thorne	Guest	TSA
Nancy Smith Greer	Guest	US Dept. of HUD
Douglas J. Pesce	Guest	US Dept. of Homeland Security
Jason Hernandez	Guest	Office of the Lt. Governor
Marianne Medeiros	Guest	EPA

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

<i>RI DOT</i>	<i>Office of the Attorney General</i>
<i>RISP</i>	<i>RI State Fire Marshal</i>
<i>RI DEM</i>	<i>Governor's Office</i>
<i>HazMat Tech Working Group</i>	<i>DMAT</i>
<i>American Red Cross</i>	<i>Ambulance Services Advisory Board</i>
<i>RICOSH</i>	<i>Brown University</i>
<i>URI</i>	<i>E-9-1-1</i>
<i>Communications Working Group</i>	<i>Providence EMA</i>
<i>RI Energy Office</i>	<i>USCG</i>
<i>Lifespan</i>	<i>Private Security Association</i>
<i>Gov's Comm. on Disabilities</i>	<i>Naval Ambulatory Care Car</i>

The 57th Domestic Preparedness Subcommittee meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman Nathan Rodgers AT 10:01am.

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS- Nathan Rodgers

Nathan mentioned that this is the last meeting for Meredith Arnold. He thanked her for all of her sincere efforts. He also welcomed Dawn-Marie Lewis who will be taking Meredith's place here at these meetings. He welcomed Nancy Smith Greer from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Nancy Bailey who will be taking Aaron Aldrich's place, and Jason Hernandez who is temporarily taking Chris Albert's place.

REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 22, 2006 MEETING

The minutes of the August 22, 2006 meeting were read, accepted, and passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

HAZMAT DECON TECHNICAL 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)-Meredith Arnold and Tom Kilday

The HPPC last met on September 19, 2006. At that meeting we had a 30-minute demonstration of the State Surveillance System. That system should be implemented in all acute care hospitals in October and completed statewide in June 2007. As far as NIMS compliance is concerned, we are now looking at all hospital employees and establishing a baseline for who is prepared in which ICS program. We looked at aggregate data on hazard vulnerabilities from hospitals after they have reported into Health regarding what they thought were the 1, 2, and 3 priorities for hazards to their well being. They came out to be (1) natural disasters (2) loss or failure of power or communication and utility systems and (3) infant and child abduction. Hospital evacuation plans were also looked at, and we are going to pursue some training initiatives and exercises for evacuation in hospitals.

Tom Kilday stated that all of the hospitals have plans for evacuation. We have discovered that a lot of the hospitals have not exercised their plans. He stated that we need to exercise more interaction at the state level with the current evacuation routes and the evacuation efforts and work out the details as to how those patients would be moved out of their facilities and into other locations.

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISASTER RESPONSE NETWORK (MHRH)-
Carol Kent**

On September 14, 2006 we had a trainer come to present the foundations for mental health for Red Cross so now we have about 15 behavioral health responders that are Red Cross certified. On October 19th and 20th we are doing a one-day refresher course. We now have about 450 people now who have been through a 2-day behavior health responder training. It is our goal to offer an annual refresher course to those people. New people will be trained on November 2nd and 3rd. In addition we are developing 1/2 day hospital-based training program that will address where behavioral health support would be needed.

URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE-Chief Robert Seltzer

About three weekends ago there was a drill in North Providence involving the USAR team. I was speaking to a few of the team leaders, and they were very happy with the results of this drill. Friday I met with Curt Varone, the team leader, and we are just finalizing some of the FY05 purchases. Director Warren and I sit on the Stirring Committee for the USAR Team and we are working with the team leader to get a meeting set up shortly with all of the team managers.

Marybeth Ouellette mentioned that on October 1, 2005 the USAR Team is also involved in the Providence drill. She also stated that they had just done Swift Water Rescue training.

**MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT (MCI) WORKING GROUP-Nathan
Rodgers**

The Mass Casualty Support trailers are at a ready status. We have not met since our last DPS meeting here.

PORT SECURITY-not present

LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING GROUP-Not present

Discussion by Jim Benz

Jim's boss, who is the resident in charge of the Secret Service in Providence, received an e-mail from a gentleman who is a retired agent who works for National Infrastructures (NI-2). He is reaching out stating that he has

developed a method for states and localities to handle critical infrastructure security measures, and Jim is looking for a contact in the State.

SPECIAL NEEDS WORKING GROUP-Carol Kent

The group met yesterday. They are working on the registry that will be based here at RIEMA. We also discussed apartments that have inter-facilities for special needs people. We have been asked to furnish basic information of their address, contact number, and the number of people who reside there. Steve Sawyer will be the one that will be mapping this.

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER WORKING GROUP-Nathan Rodgers

September 28, 2006 will be the initial meeting of the Family and Survivor Resource Center Working Group. This working group will consist of members from the previously established Family Assistance Center group plus representatives from RI Health and Human Services, the Division of Information Technology, and other areas of RIEMA to include Donations Management. Our goal is to develop a RI Family and Survivor Resource Center Plan to accommodate survivors and their families in the intermediate to long term post disaster period.

4. OLD BUSINESS-Nathan Rodgers

Yesterday Governor Carcieri along with the Congressional Delegation were here to announce the Homeland Security FY06 budget of 7.8 million dollars. Nearly half of this years grant allowance is allocated to the continued roll out of the state wide communications system. Priority for this project is the infrastructure (towers/ sites). Any questions that you may have regarding the FY06 Homeland Security Grant, please direct them to our Homeland Security Grant Manager, Amy Grzybowski here at RIEMA.

5. DISCUSSION

Candia Cook: The Regional Hospital Preparedness Plans for pandemic flu are due October 1, 2006. They will be working documents. There will be a TTX on November 21, 2006.

Candie Cook: I met with Newport Hospital and they are looking to coordinate with RIEMA and HEALTH on stockpiling supplies to include food and water. Nathan Rodgers noted that RI (EMA) has received trailers from FEMA with food, water, blankets etc and most of them are in Scituate. We did bring one to Block Island a few months ago.

OSHA-Marianne Mederios

RI Workers Compensation Unit along with Federal OSHA and RIEMA along with other groups have developed Seminar for Business for All Hazardous Preparedness which will be held on Thursday at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet from 8:00 to 1:30. We have about 340 people registered. If you want to register please call 462.8125 or 462.8000. Marianne also wanted to

mention the video at coughsafe.com which is a 5-minute video showing everyone how to cough. This would be a great video for schools.

TSA-Bob Thorne

Rail Security: On 10.6.06 we will be hosting a Rail Security Working Group meeting. This will be a kick-off/ executive level meeting in our effort to establish a working group for rail. Congressman Langevin has agreed to attend and a number of speakers from Washington. Amtrak representatives will also be attending. We have invited all the heads of government from the cities and towns that encompass the passenger and freight rail lines.

Primarily we are looking for law enforcement representatives for the working group but certainly also looking for representatives from the fire service and other public safety disciplines. The initial thought for the focus of the working group is prevention; to detect and deter an incident on the rails rather than responding to one.

Air Security: We had a great meeting here at RIEMA on Friday for the law enforcement/ MANPADS group. Chief Seltzer sent someone from his department to represent them. There are 12 police department that actively do ground patrol for MANPADS. (MANPADS: MAN Portable Air Defense System)

Nathan Rodgers mentioned that he wanted to commend Joe Salter, Bob Thorne and the team at TSA (PVD) for their efforts on the MANPADS Mitigation Plan; it has been noted by many as being the best in the country.

Public/ Private Sector: Nathan Rodgers reiterated the notice of the upcoming seminar for disaster preparedness and the private sector on Sept 28th. He noted that Rhode Island has established a Public and Private Sector Working Group focused on bringing gaps and building relationships between public and private sectors. Much of our efforts in this working group involved information management and the incorporating of the private sector into state emergency management activities to include planning, responding, and recovering. A primary oversight group for our efforts is the NorthEast Disaster Recovery Information EXchange or NEDRIX. NEDRIX is a non profit organization working with states to develop statewide working groups that combine public and private sector representatives on topic of disaster preparedness. The RI Public and Private Sector working group is developing its administrative structure but currently meets on a monthly basis.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON
OCTOBER 24, 2006 AT 10:00 AM