

**From:** Eva M. Zito  
Recording Secretary

**Date:** June 26, 2007

**Subject:** Minutes of the Domestic Preparedness Subcommittee

**Members, alternates, and guests that were in attendance:**

<b>Robert J. Warren</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>RIEMA</b>
<b>L. Anthony Cirillo</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>DOH</b>
<b>Capt. Jim Swanberg</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>RISP</b>
<b>Joseph Salter</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>TSA</b>
<b>Carol Kent</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>MHRH</b>
<b>Paul Tencher</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Lt. Governor's Office</b>
<b>Raymond LaBelle</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>E 9-1-1</b>
<b>Brian Pires</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>US Attorney's Ofc.</b>
<b>Rick Stasiowski</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Haz-Mat Decon</b>
<b>Brian Glancy</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Comm. Working Grp.</b>
<b>Klaus O'Neil</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Governor's Office</b>
<b>Tom Kilday</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>RIEMA</b>
<b>Kim McLeod</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>RIEMA</b>
<b>Robert Thorne</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>TSA</b>
<b>Todd Manni</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Providence EMA</b>
<b>Rik Papagolos</b>	<b>Guest</b>	<b>Narragansett Indians</b>
<b>Al LaMothe</b>	<b>Guest</b>	<b>Civil Air Patrol</b>
<b>Amanda Milkovitz</b>	<b>Guest</b>	<b>Providence Journal</b>
<b>Maryann Medeiros</b>	<b>Guest</b>	<b>USDOL/OSHA</b>
<b>Doug Pesce</b>	<b>Guest</b>	<b>DHS</b>
<b>Tony Purvis</b>	<b>Guest</b>	<b>Purvis Systems</b>

The 65<sup>th</sup> Domestic Preparedness Subcommittee meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert J. Warren.

**REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE MAY 22, 2007 MEETING**-the minutes of the May 22, 2007 meeting were read, accepted and passed.

**REPORTS:**

**HAZMAT DECON RECHNICAL WORKING GROUP-Rick Stasiowski**

The Hazmat/Decon Working Group continues to meet on a monthly basis. Training schedule is all set for the year. We are participating in the joint effort for the Tall Ships this weekend starting tomorrow and running until Sunday. This is my last meeting. I am moving down to Clearwater, Florida and joining the Clearwater FD as the Assistant Chief. Director Warren will be appointing a new successor for me.

**COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP-Brian Glancy**

We continue to meet twice a month. With the passage of the State Budget it appears that the money for the maintenance of the 800 MHz system and some of the positions are there as well as some of the capital money which will pay for some of the improvements to the microwave. At the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the last meeting we had some motions to consolidate the 800 MHz licensing to one agency and it will be determined at a later date which agency it will be. We are looking at writing procedures for the emergency use of the 800 MHz system probably copying what they have in CT and MA.

**VOLUNTEER WORKING GROUP-“Citizens Corps Council-Bob Warren**

We are putting the Citizens Corps Council together and we are asking people to serve on that. State is broken down into different regions. Vin Marzullo will be the Chair for this group. Vin, Rick Andreano and Joe Cournoyer having been working very diligently on this project. Hopefully we will have it all together by fall.

**EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION WORKING GROUP-Mike Mulhare**

**HAZMAT teams are doing very well with mutual aid. Post hurricane when we are dealing with a state disaster, I will have the responsibility of doing triage and how we set priorities. We will start working with the HAZMAT Teams and hopefully will coordinate this through ESF 10. We are just starting these discussions. We also have had meetings on debris management. We had a workshop this week working with ESF 3 which is DOT finalizing the Debris Management Plan.**

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

**We are still waiting for our grant guidance to come in. Our grant year starts on August 31<sup>st</sup>. We are awaiting the guidance for (1) the Hospital Preparedness Program (2) the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant and (3) the tag on to that is the Pandemic Flu money. We have been told that there may be a press conference tomorrow with Secretary Levitt where he will announce the amounts of money that has been allocated to the states. We have been told by CDC that our major grant, the PEP grant, will not be coming for another month. What they are going to do is a prerelease of about 20% of the allocated funding with restrictions on what you can do with it. We are also working on the Hospital Capacity system including the training and exercise calendar. When we get that we will open that up to the first responder and first receiver communities so that people can post exercises and ask for volunteers and ask for agencies to support. FEMA Region I would like to do a Pandemic Flu exercise and they are looking at how the FEDS would react and how they would organize and respond and not so much what we would do in the states. Last June we had all the New England states come together in a 2-day meeting in Boston to look at where we were as a region in things like community containment. There has been a call to do that again. What we are proposing is that in September and October those groups would reconvene and go over the guidance that has come out and get back together again at the end of October in anticipation of an exercise run by FEMA sometime in November. Bob Warren stated that at the last NESEC meeting the directors of that group voted that there will be an associate director from each state that will come from the DOH. Dr. Cirillo will fill that position from RI.**

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

We have completed our training with the hospitals for this year and 123 hospital staff went through one of 6 trainings that we offered. We added about 87 new people through our 2-day training. A few hundred people also went through our surge training. What we did is target what hospitals, during a surge effort, need to think about where they need Behavioral Health. Because of flooding in our office, we are in the process of moving our office to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the building in August. Two months ago I went to a training in Maine that was run by Western Oregon University. It was a free 2-day training for volunteer groups which was excellent. If anyone is interested in this program I have some information with me.

**URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE-Rick Stasiowski**

USAR is still training on a monthly basis. They are still receiving equipment and getting ready for the hurricane season. We are also going to be deployed on Aquidneck Island for the next four days for the Tall Ships event. Bob stated that he and Tom have been very active in the USAR group. Chief Seltzer, Chief Cusnick and I have agreed to sit on the Oversight Committee which is the Committee that gives them guidance. The team is working on updating their Hurricane Plan.

**MCI WORKING GROUP-Tom Kilday**

The group has not met but we are planning to organize a meeting. Bob stated that we are working on the MCI protocol and trying to get pharmaceuticals and PPE out to the various ambulances in the state.

**PORT SECURITY-not present**

**LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING GROUP-Capt. Jim Swanberg**

We are continuing to meet monthly. This past month I went down to meet with the HAZMAT/DECON Working Group. We are trying to increase our training with the HAZMAT Group. This past month we trained at URI at one of the dorms there. We will have some equipment staged at the Tall Ships event but our members will not be activated during the event.

**SPECIAL POPULATIONS WORKING GROUP-Bob Warren**

This group has not met. Paul Choquette has a new job and will no longer be the Chair for this group. They will be meeting on July 16th. The group that is working from the DOH is making progress. Dr.

**Cirillo stated that they have established a Special Populations Emergency Preparedness Working Group. There are people within the DOH who interact with special populations. We are thinking about the Federal definition which includes children in school, seniors, people with mobility and language disabilities, and chronic medical conditions. It is a very broad umbrella. Carol asked about the homeless and mentally ill population which is not represented. Dr. Cirillo stated that they are on the list. It is a very hard situation to address all of the special population's needs because there are a lot of details. From the DOH we are looking at people with a few medical conditions including insulin dependent diabetics and people on dialysis. Carol asked about the Strategic Health Plan and Kim McLeod stated they came up with a 5-year Plan with a number of guidelines which more than likely will be implemented.**

**TSA WORKING GROUP-Joe Salter**

**Aviation still remains the #1 target. The group had an excellent meeting here last Thursday here at RIEMA. We discussed the Ethanol rail situation where about 80 cars a few times a week will be coming into the state traveling through Providence over to Motiva. In the minds of the professionals, Ethanol it is not one of the big problems of being a threat. We had a speaker from Washington from TSA who spoke regarding proposed rule making. We have some upcoming Pulse operations that will again be looking at the rails and ferries. In case the flag goes up, we have developed a good cadre of people who can go down and set up an operation fairly quickly. We have been at orange since 8.10.06 and feel that this will probably be the new norm for aviation.**

**OLD BUSINESS-Tom Kilday**

**Working on an MOU for critical infrastructure protecting the data related to that. We should be hearing soon on the Non-profit Security Grant Program which was submitted recently. We should get reports from DHS by July 3<sup>rd</sup> and we anticipate that this will be a press conference at the DT level with notification of congressional codes. A few weeks after that we will receive the actual guidance. The UASI grant will also be awarded at the same time. We submitted the strategy last week. We have 60 days to complete the BSIR report for 2004, 2005, and 2006 which is due July 1<sup>st</sup>. We just completed our annual DHS monitoring visit and a lot of folks at this table participated in that. Just finished our Teer II critical infrastructure which was submitted on**

**Thursday. We are closing FY 03 on June 30<sup>th</sup> and also working on closing out FY 04. One of the big projects we will be embarking on is the public safety interoperable communications project. The statewide plan is due in September. Guidance for that grant program is not out. We are trying to get technical assistance to work with us on July 12<sup>th</sup>. Someone from DHS will let us know just what the requirements will be. Working with PEMA and other folks in the Providence area on developing an operational plan for a railcar accident. Working on repositioning of supplies for hurricane preparedness. We have a Land Navigation Class on July 23<sup>RD</sup> and 24<sup>TH</sup>.**

**The Civil Air Patrol's Agreement will be signed by the Colonel and sent to us for Bob's signature.**

**US ATTORNEY'S OFFICE-Brian Pires**

**I was able to put that unified message through and it has been approved by Major O'Donnell and Lt. Layden. I will pass them out here, and if anyone feels that something should be changed please let me know.**

**Bob Warren stated that we have also been involved in the school violence course that was developed by the education people, law enforcement community and RIEMA. This course was very well attended by the police, fire, EMA, and schools and this should be put into the special development procedures in September. The Legislative change was approved and instead of having 15 fire drills a year they will have 8 fire drills, 4 shelter in place drills, and 3 evacuation drills.**

**Doug Pesce said "hats off to Rhode Island" for their Teer II submissions which were submitted on time.**

**NEW BUSINESS-Bob Warren**

**Governor has signed an Executive Order giving the SERC back to RIEMA from the Fire Marshal's Office where it has been since 1999. This program was developed in 1988 to handle industrial accidents. The SERC is an oversight committee and each state is broken down to 9 regions which are the LEPC's. There is also a training committee which is part of the SERC. It has been fairly inactive and needs to be energized and we will do that here. I met with the General and the Lt. Governor today and the Lt. Governor's concern is that the EMAC is losing focus. Now we have to sit down and look at things. I am not sure**

where the SERC is going to go. I do want to get industry and the media more involved. Kim McLeod from my staff is very interested in it. EPA is very involved and FEMA does attend those meetings. I would like to have the ESF's involved also.

**EPA-Maryann Medeiros**

I just received two cases of Pandemic Flu Preparedness pamphlets for Healthcare Workers and Healthcare Employers that OSHA developed with the CDC. Also, we have received direction from Washington to request a meeting with the EMA safety representative. If you could give me some guidance as to with whom we should contact. I think that it probably should be a bunch of representatives including people from USAR, HAZMAT etc. Maryann offered to chair this committee.

**E-9-1-1-Ray LaBelle**

Ray asked if we are going to have exercises to please notify E-911. There was an exercise at the Port of Providence a few weeks ago and I had to call Chief Dillon to let him know that we were getting calls and we had not been notified.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 am.

**NEXT MEETING IS JULY 24, 2007  
AT 10:00 AM.**

