

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

**Date:** September 25, 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>Brian Glancy</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>RI State Police</b>
<b>Nancy Bailey</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>RI DOC</b>
<b>Robert Patton</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>VA Medical Center</b>
<b>Kate McCarthy-Barnett</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Spec. Pop. Work. Grp.</b>
<b>Joe Salter</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>TSWG</b>
<b>Carol Kent</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>MHRH</b>
<b>Janet Essex</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Office of the Lt. Gov.</b>
<b>Paul Tencher</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Office of the Lt. Gov.</b>
<b>Capt. Jim Swanberg</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>RI State Police</b>
<b>Klaus O'Neil</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Office of the Governor</b>
<b>Kim McLeod</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>RIEMA</b>
<b>William Sharkey</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Ofs. of the Atty. Gen.</b>
<b>Rik Papagolos</b>	<b>Guest</b>	<b>Indian Health Clinic</b>
<b>Adam Tobias</b>	<b>Guest</b>	<b>RIEMA</b>
<b>Geof Milner</b>	<b>Guest</b>	<b>RI-Satern</b>
<b>William Mullen</b>	<b>Guest</b>	<b>TSA</b>

The 67<sup>th</sup> Domestic Preparedness Subcommittee meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert J. Warren at 10:10am.

**REVIEW AND ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 26, 2007 MEETING**

The minutes of the August 26, 2007 meeting were reviewed, accepted and passed.

**REPORT:**

**HAZMAT/DECON TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP-Bob Warren**  
Steve Preston is on vacation this week. I attended their last meeting and there are no issues with this group.

**COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP-Brian Glancy**  
We have been meeting extensively since the last DPS meeting. We are working on two things (1) developing the Statewide Interoperable Communications Plan and (2) the investment justification for the 7.2 million dollar PSIC grant. We have been meeting with Tom Kilday and Amy Grzybowski. The investment justifications will be building out and finishing the 800MHz infrastructure and procuring portables with car mount for all of the first in line fire apparatus, all of the marked and unmarked police cars, and all the municipalities in the state law enforcement agency except for the State Police which will be done out of next year's grant. Also, there will be radios for various Search and Rescue teams, a minimal amount for the college and university security departments, and other important first responders. We are looking to build a site at URI and another one in the northern Rhode Island area to complete the coverage in the state. Some of the other grants will pay for the other sites. We meet again next Tuesday. We have also extended our membership to the League of Cities, Towns and the Narragansett Indian Tribe and others.

Bob mentioned to Nancy Bailey that the dog and swat teams at the ACI will probably get some equipment.

**VOLUNTEER WORKING GROUP/CITIZENS CORPS COUNCIL-**  
not present

## **HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**HARI/DOH-Dawn Lewis-The new grant year has just started. The old HRSA grant has changed its name to the Hospital Preparedness Program. State of RI is slated to get 1.8 million dollars of the HPP grant. We are going to be focusing on exercises and drills for the hospitals and we are tidying up some last minute purchases of evacuation, decontamination equipment and internal-house communication equipment. The Hospital Capacity System has been functional since February and going well. We will do another real-time exercise on September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Midnight Challenge Exercise. It will also be used at the September 30<sup>th</sup> MMRS which is being held in Providence with 7-8 hospitals being involved. We are just about ready to sign on the dotted line with the emergency notification company. We just need to square away some of the technical aspects with Lifespan. We have money from DHS for the patient tracking system and also some money from the DOH for this. We have the prototype all set for the communication calendar where we can enter all of our drills and exercises and all we have to do is put it online. We have applied for Pan Flu money, and this will be used for purchasing ventilators and oxygen-based equipment.**

**Bob Warren stated that November 6, 2007 will be the FEMA Region I Pan Flu Tabletop exercise. On December 11, 2007 there will be a semi-functional Pan Flu exercise where each state will man their EOC and communicate with the FEMA EOC.**

## **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISASTER RESPONSE NETWORK**

**(MHRH)-Carol Kent**

**I have a meeting with our network tomorrow. We are now negotiating with three hospitals to setup surge training. As soon as our training schedule is done, I will share it here. I have been in touch with Brian Pires and we are talking about setting up a training for first responders on emotional inoculation.**

## **URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE-Bob Warren**

**All of the paperwork is done. They have 99 members ready to go. They have decommissioned their old communication vehicle last week. They will be doing a large-scale drill with the Civil Support Team on Block Island in November. We may be activating some helicopters from the National Guard.**

**MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT WORKING GROUP (MCI)-Bob Warren**

This group has been reformulated by Tom Kilday and Greg Noury from Cumberland is the Chairperson. All vehicles are up and running.

**PORT SECURITY USCG-not present**

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

This Sunday we will be working with the City of Providence at the Rhode Island Convention Center where they will be holding an exercise. We have a 2-day exercise in November. Fusion Center is still doing their normal job sending information across our desk.

**SPECIAL POPULATIONS WORKING GROUP-Kate McCarthy-Barnett**

Special Needs Registry was rolled out about one week ago. We had 103 people register in the first week which will be added to the 1800 already in the registry. Kim and I have been meeting over the last few weeks to formulate the requirements for the software. We should get the requirements by the end of today and we would like to have this wrapped up by Monday. This will help EMA to have complete access to the database. Steve and I are going to have our first meeting in the first or second week of October. We have been reading the Federal Guidelines that have come out in regard to special populations. The Special Needs Registry is [www.health.ri.gov/emaregistry](http://www.health.ri.gov/emaregistry). This past week we registered (3) assistive animals which will help when we look at our shelter animal issues. The whole marketing campaign should be launched and signed off hopefully by next week.

**TSWG WORKING GROUP-Joe Salter**

We did a few more VIPER operations We had one at Connelly's Wharf in Providence as well as the Amtrak Station. These events are not announced. I would ask anyone at this table who is participating in the Midnight Challenge and is contacted by the media not to discuss it. Patty Goldstein will be the PIO for this event.

**OLD BUSINESS-none**

**NEW BUSINESS-Bob Warren/Paul Tencher**

**The Governor has reassigned the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) back to us and we are now meeting monthly. Kim McLeod is taking the lead on this project. The Lt. Governor chairs the EMAC (Emergency Management Advisory Council). One of the things that Paul Tencher has spoken about is merging these two Committees. I spoke to the General about it and he is in favor of this.**

**Paul Tencher stated that participation in the EMAC has gone down slightly. We want to make sure that (1) participation is full (2) it was effective. It is the only place in state government where every single person is around a table. Even some people here do not attend the EMAC meeting.**

**We spoke about combining this agenda and the one from EMAC. We have not set a date for the next meeting. We are working with the General's and the Lt. Governor's schedule. We also want to put an educational component into the meeting as well. We would like to do have the one meeting quarterly so that the working groups have time to do things. We will set the date soon, and the meeting will probably take two hours because we have to combine the two agendas. It will include the reports from the working groups and the EMAC reports and to include the education component.**

**The Committee agreed that it was a good idea.**

**Paul Tencher stated that he was trying to set up a date either before Thanksgiving or the first week of December. It will certainly be at another location.**

**Meeting was adjourned at 10:30am**

**THE DATE AND TIME OF THE  
NEXT MEETING TO BE  
ANNOUNCED**

