

Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee Meeting
January 25, 2007
9:30 a.m.
South Congregational Church

Call the meeting to order

Chairman Austin chaired the meeting and called it to order at 9:30 a.m.

Adoption of the minutes and handouts

Don Janelle, seconded by Dr. Goldman, made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 21, 2006 meeting.

Chief Austin reviewed the meeting handouts, highlighting a letter inviting police and fire departments on the Connecticut River to be part of the newly created Connecticut River Search and Rescue (SAR) Council, whose mission is to standardize SAR practices throughout the Connecticut River. Chief Austin he will serve on the Council as the Capitol Region representative.

State Liaison Report

Senator Billy Ciotto, the new liaison from Congressman Larson's Office, described and provided copies of the CRS Report for Congress entitled, "Emergency Communications Legislation, 2002-2006: Implications for the 110th Congress." He also confirmed that Congressman Larson will be speaking at February's CREPC meeting.

Unfinished Business

Emer. Mgt. And Homeland Security Council report of 1-11-07 – Chief Austin stated that the minutes from the January 11th meeting are included in the handouts.

CRCOG HS Funded Projects Update – Cheryl Assis reported that a formal extension was received on the FY 04 funds through April 15th. She stated that the only FY 04 project not yet begun is reverse notification and projects with funds still remaining include training and exercise. She asked that, for planning purposes, towns notify CRCOG before submitting large training or exercise reimbursements.

Ms. Assis stated that an informal extension on FY 05 funds was received through March of 2008. She reported that DEMHS approved the CAPTAIN Fire project and there is signed contracts with two vendors, whom we met with yesterday to kick off the project. She also reported that the Salamander project is moving ahead and that Chris Brewer is looking into extended maintenance plans.

Cheryl Assis also stated that the FY 06 homeland security grant application was submitted and yesterday we were informed that the regional planner grant application is extended until March of 2008.

Election of Vice Chairpersons – Chief Austin referred to the sample ballot, which was included in the meetings handout. He explained the voting procedures and stated that Pat Checko, Bruce Lockwood, and Dan Vindigni were the three official candidates for the two positions of Vice-Chair.

Report of Standing Committees

R-ESF-2 Communications – Keith Victor stated that intercity is licensed through CREPC and CRCOG and that a new repeater will be going up on John Tom Mountain. There will be no down time during the switch over as the original system will remain up until the new one is ready.

R-ESF-4 Firefighting – Chief Austin stated that the Fire Chiefs meeting will be held at the Kensington Fire Department in Berlin.

R-ESF-5 Emergency Management – Chief Austin reported that several meetings have been held for the Regional Coordination Center project, which includes the upgrade and establishment of three centers in Windsor Locks, New Britain, and Manchester. He passed around a rendition of the end product.

Don Janelle reviewed the CREPC ESF 5 Policy on Coordination of Drills and Exercises included in the handouts.

Chief Austin stated that a 36 hour shelter operation exercise is being scheduled for May.

R-ESF-7 Resource Management – Bruce Lockwood stated that we were not selected for the IRIS pilot, but may still get the software. He also said that there are two meetings scheduled for February and evaluating resource typing in relation to NIMS is on the agenda.

R-ESF-8 Public Health and Medical Services – Chief Austin stated that Katherine McCormack was selected as the new Medical Reserve Corps Director and Dr. Buckman will be the Medical Director.

Betty Morris stated that Steve Chapman took a job as the 911 dispatcher in Southington, but will still stay on part time at CMED. She also said that thirteen CMED centers have come together to look at upgrading equipment.

Steve Huleatt stated that on February 22nd the Project Public Health Ready (PPHR) project will receive an award in Washington D.C. Jennifer Kertanis and Carmine Centrella will join Steve in accepting it. He also stated that they will be speaking at the DEMHS Coordinating Council meeting about PPHR on February 8th.

Mr. Huleatt also reminded CREPC members about the Pandemic Flu School Dismissal Tabletop scheduled for the following day.

R-ESF 10 HazMat – Chief Allyn stated that the regional hazmat equipment, including trucks and trailers, are arriving and being stored in Simsbury and West Hartford. He also reported on two recent responses and the that the team is working out alerting issues with RICS.

R-ESF-11 Animal Protection – Dr. Goldman reported on ESF 11 volunteer CERT training and also said that in a few weeks 74 pallets of animal cages will be delivered. The cages are paid for and part of the FY 05 Animal Response homeland security project.

R-ESF-16 Volunteer Management – Chief Austin invited members to the Statewide Citizen Corps Council meeting, scheduled for later that afternoon. He then introduced Dr. Gold of the Youth Health Service Corps and provided an overview of the program. Chief Austin said he looked forward to dovetailing the Youth Health Service Corps into the Medical Reserve Corps.

R-ESF-19 Special Needs Management – Bruce Lockwood stated that the Universal Access Sheltering group is meeting twice a month and expects to have a draft guidance document released in mid-February.

New Business

Election Results – Chief Austin announced that Bruce Lockwood and Dan Vindigni would be the new CREPC Vice Chairs. He thanked Pat Checko and David Watkins for their service and dedication.

2007 HSGP Stakeholder Planning Group Report – Chief Austin reported on the series of DEMHS stakeholder meeting, which have focused on the distribution and expenditure process for the FY 07 funds.

Regional Set Up Sites for DPH Mobile Field Hospital – Chief Austin asked members to contact him if they have a potential mobile hospital site in their municipality. The goal is to have three to five in each region.

Guest Speaker:

“TTX on RED Plan” – BG Dan Scace, CREPC Training Coordinator, conducted a tabletop exercise on the RED Plan activation.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.