

Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee Meeting
October 18, 2007 9:30 a.m.
South Congregational Church, Hartford

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

Keith Victor, seconded by Ed Lescoe, made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 20, 2007 meeting.

Federal and State Liaison Reports

Senator Billy Ciotto stated that notification was received from FEMA regarding the Fire Prevention and Safety grants. The grant period is from October 22 – November 20, 2007, and Paul Mounds, Grants Coordinator for Congressman Larson, asked CREPC members to contact him for a letter of support if applying for the grant. Paul Mounds also discussed legislation proposed by Congressman Larson that aims to protect the tax abatements of volunteer firefighters and other first responders.

Tom Gavaghan reported on: the November 2nd and 8th Emergency Management Director's meetings with Commissioner Thomas; the resource typing work being done within the fire, law enforcement, health and public works disciplines; the completed emergency planning for schools workshops; the school safety grant process; and the pet annex for emergency operations plans, slated to be complete by the end of November.

Unfinished Business

Emer. Mgt. And Homeland Security Council report – Katherine McCormack gave a report on the October 11th DEMHS Coordinating Council meeting, providing an overview of the committee reports and speakers.

Training Coordination Project Report – Dan Scace, CRCOG Homeland Security Training Coordinator, gave a powerpoint presentation, which included information on NIMS compliance, training data, the EMS training program, and AHIMT Training.

Regional Collaboration Sub-Committee Report – Carmine Centrella reported that Stage 1 of the FY 07 Regional Collaboration grant application was submitted.

Regional Planner Report – Carmine Centrella reported on CTWARN workshops in November and the hazmat response annex. He reported on his work with the ESF-8 group regarding a recent RFP by DPH, which he would discuss under new business.

REPT By-Laws – Carmine Centrella provided an overview of the REPT by-laws, stating that the CRCOG Policy Board and legal counsel both accepted them. Keith Victor, seconded by John Shaw, made a motion to accept the by-laws. All in favor, so voted.

Report of Standing Committees

R-ESF-1 Transportation – Karen Olson, CRCOG Transportation Planner, reported that the draft unified response manual is at the State level and reported on workshops held to make comments and revise it. She also reported that ESF-1 will hold its second meeting next month and the committee is seeking members.

R-ESF-2 Communications – Keith Victor reported on the State Communications Interoperability program, reviewing its priorities and thanking Jim Donnelly and Chief Mulhall for participating in the decision-making process.

R-ESF-4 Firefighting – Chief Austin reported that Chief Varney was selected as the Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year by Fire Chief Magazine, emphasizing this was a national recognition.

R-ESF 5 Emergency Management – Chief Austin reported on the FY 05 Regional Coordination Center (RCC) project, stating that a conference call was held on the Manchester RCC and work is being done on the lease process. He also reported on an unresolved request regarding a zoning requirement in Tolland and CREPC's role as the LEPC in that issue.

R-ESF-7 Resource Management – Matt Bruns reported on the committee's research on resource typing software.

Chief Austin announced that Bruce Lockwood is the new Region 1 President of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM).

R-ESF-8 Public Health and Medical Services – Dr. Shaw reported on Mark I Training as well as the West Point project and the related the Alternative Care Facility tool.

Steve Huleatt, clarifying the September 20th minutes, stated that he was an observer in the Boston SNS/CRI drill last month. He also reported on the bi-annual meeting with DPH and that concurrence was achieved for the \$11 million for the State of Connecticut CDC/ Public Health Preparedness agreement. Steve also reported on the Epi-surge training that will be commencing this spring. Lastly, he provided an explanation and recent study results on MRSA.

Janet Leonardi of Middletown's Office of Emergency Management reported on their November 7th drill, comprised of a pandemic flu exercise and flu clinic that will also test transportation systems.

R-ESF 9 USAR – Dr. Peter Vernesoni, Chair of ESF 9, introduced himself and stated that the committee is currently working on clarifying its mission.

R-ESF 13 Safety and Security (LE) – Chief Mulhall reported on completed homeland security FY 04 and FY 05 projects, including the upgrade of the RAFS system, the equipping of two communication trucks, and the purchase of the AFIS machines and current database project to complement it. He also reported on training of the taskforces and the SWAT challenge.

Chief Mulhall stated that projects for FY 06 have been identified and they are waiting for the FY 06 funds to be released to move forward on them.

R-ESF 16 Volunteer Management – Sylvia Dake, Andover’s Emergency Management Coordinator, reported that an inventory of CERT equipment was being conducted and that an application from Windsor Locks for a new CERT team was received.

R-ESF 19 Special Needs Management – Jim Battaglio reported on the results of the survey sent to chief elected officials regarding registration programs for residents with disabilities, stating that it would be sent out again in hopes of collecting more responses. Mr. Battaglio stated that training for those communities interested in starting or enhancing their program will begin after the elections in November.

R-ESF 20 Disaster Interfaith Services – Reverend Pavignano reported on ESF-20 activities, including the committee’s intent to reach out to more diverse faith-based communities.

New Business

Appointment of Ad hoc Nominations Committee – Chief Austin asked the ad hoc nominations committee to continue to serve in the same capacity.

CRCOG Foundation Meeting Report – Chief Austin reported on the September 26th Foundation meeting, focusing on the meeting’s discussion of OPM’s \$8.6 million service sharing initiative.

Annual Connecticut Citizen Corps Council Conference – Chief Austin stated that this conference will be held on November 20, 2007 at the Mohegan Sun Casino.

Public Health Regional Coordination / Collaboration – Carmine Centrella presented a document on Public Health Regional Coordination / Collaboration, which was included in the meeting’s handouts. The document proposed a planning and coordination model in response to the CT-Department of Public Health’s recent RFP and events following. Mr. Centrella stated that CADH, local health directors, and regional health leads supported the proposal. John Shaw, seconded by Ed Lescoe, made a motion to accept the proposal. All in favor, so voted.

Guest Speaker: Robert Kennedy, Connecticut Department of Transportation

Robert Kennedy gave a powerpoint presentation on the DOT’s Role in Incident Management.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.