

DEMHS Region 3 ESF-8 Public Health Subcommittee Meeting

Minutes: 12/5/2014

New Britain EMS/ NBHD

Attendees: Michael Caronna, Marge Seiferheld, Charles Brown, Judy Torpey, Wendy Mis, Allyson Schulz, Maryann Lexius, Francine Truglio, Bill Kramer, John Degnan, Mary Rose Duberek, Tom Gavaghan, Janet Leonardi, Steve Huleatt, and Melissa Marquis

Welcome- Steve welcomed everyone to New Britain and thanked them for hosting.

Approval of minutes- Motion was made to approve the minutes of the October and November meetings by John Degnan, seconded by Charles Brown. Charles noted his name was incorrectly spelled on the minutes. Melissa will correct. Minutes were approved with that noted change to be made.

Regional Status Updates

ORR Tool- Melissa discussed awaiting feedback from CDC on the State, Regional and Local reviews.

Melissa will be presenting at the Preparedness Summit with CDC and 2 other States on our findings of how the ORR tool worked for us.

Steve discussed regional response to Ebola. The Region 3 ESF-8 has stood down, although situation status will be monitored continuously and information will continue to be shared as appropriate.

Kudos were given to Dave Kosciuk for his leadership and efforts to provide timely information during this whole response. His leadership on the statewide ESF-8 chairs meetings was also noted.

There was a discussion clarifying the various emergency preparedness meetings for Region 3 and meeting schedules. There is an upcoming quarterly meeting convened by DPH for ESF-8 and healthcare coalitions on Dec. 15th. Melissa will share this email as not all in attendance received it.

CREPC

Steve discussed Regional Planning Funds- \$30,000 for Region 3.

The State wanted to keep \$5,000 for Ebola response. ESF 8 chair declined.

DPH now wants to add the money to local plans.

Steve's recommendation is to give the money to CRCOG to support a regional drill or exercise.

The membership was asked to submit suggestions to Steve, Melissa or Dave.

State Updates

DPH-no representation

DPH has rescheduled full scale exercise to next grant year.

DEMHS

Tom reported regarding school emergency preparedness plans.

40% of the schools have reported.

A point of concern is planning for students with mental health issues.

Mary Rose reported that local health concerns will be addressed moving forward on the school emergency plans.

Melissa provided feedback regarding the standards to include local health. She also suggested changing the focus from pandemic to public health concerns.

Schools are resistant to having all staff receive ICS structure. DEMHS to develop abbreviated program for ICS structure.

The regulations also apply to schools of higher education.

Contact Tom with any suggestions.

Local Health Public Preparedness Contract

Steve reported that there was no cut to the Federal Preparedness budget, but we still don't know if there will be a cut to our local budgets.

Notes from the Field/Other Business

Melissa attended the N95 train the Trainer course and is available if needed for fit testing.

She discussed the life of N-95 masks. They have no expiration date but the straps on the masks may wear out and break, please check your inventory. Stock replacement plan ideas were discussed.

The group acknowledged Melissa's many contributions regarding Ebola.

There was a discussion regarding the Governors emergency declaration regarding Ebola.

Next month's meeting will be held January 9th probably in Manchester, confirmation to follow.