

**CREPC ESF 8 Public Health Subcommittee**  
**October 1, 2010**  
**Mansfield Town Hall**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Dave Boone, Marge Seiferheld, Rob miller, John Degnan, Paul Hutcheon, Judy Torpey, Mary Laiuppa, Steve Huleatt, Tung Nguyen, Charles Petrillo, Carmine Centrella, Janet Leonardi, Juanita Estrada, Chuck Motes, Rick Matheny, Bill Kramer, Maryann Lexius, and Melissa Marquis

- Melissa Marquis welcomed the group to EHHD
- Approval of Minutes- Motion to approve by Mary Laiuppa, seconded by Judy Torpey. All in favor.
- Regional Planning Updates
  - Workgroup Updates
    - Epi support strike team- Marge Seiferheld presented on the draft document that the EPI support team (see report). After Marge's report, the workgroup opened the floor for discussion and comments. Written comments may be sent to Allyson Schulz via email by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Steve Huleatt gave a historical background on how the Epi support strike team concept came about. He said it was during the original PPHR application where the potential need was identified.
      - There were some questions surrounding funding options for this team. Steve thought that perhaps since this is an action item directly from PPHR, we can make the case that this is a corrective action and there may be funding available from the regional contract monies.
      - Juanita Estrada stated the some field epidemiologists from DPH have some questions about this team. They will contact the workgroup and try to set up a meeting to discuss their questions, etc.
- Drills and Exercises Updates-
  - Southington HD had a commodities drive thru exercise a few weeks ago. The AAR has not been completed, but he stated there were some difficulties initially. There were about 100 cars that went through. Objectives were all met. The biggest area for improvement is personnel accountability. They are looking into purchasing the Salamander system to help with this accountability issue. Carmine Centrella said that the region rolled out the Salamander system a few years back and are looking into re-instituting this soon. Paul Hutcheon asked if we could look at this regionally using the PHER money. Steve suggested using the money more towards the patient tracking piece that the EMS section of ESF-8 is investigating right now. Carmine and Dave Koscuk are looking into possibly being able to acquire more

handheld units for the EMS patient tracking unit. More information to follow.

- There was an improvement planning conference this week held by CREPC/CRCOG. There were a few ESF-8 specific items, but mostly there were RCC specific guidance.
- There was a question about volunteer management databases statewide. ESAR-VHP is a statewide program that tracks and maintains medical volunteers. It is intended that non-credentialed volunteers will be rolled into this system at some point, but it currently does not exist. Using MRC and other credentialed and affiliated volunteers is a useful asset.
  
- Local PHP Contract
  - Activities, Concerns, Issues-
  - PHER no-cost extension funding available for MDAs. Budgets need to be sent to DPH by October 8<sup>th</sup>. Funding requests need to be derived from H1N1 activities- improvement action items directly from AARs will need to be shown as justification for specific items.
  - The local and regional contracts have not been sent out from DPH yet.
  - The PPHR time frame has been extended for a year, so we are grandfathered into maintaining our recognition for another year. PPHR app doesn't need to be submitted until 2012.
  
- CRI
  - Contract Year 4 Deliverables and Subcontracts-
    - Subgroups will be gearing up soon- specifically around CRI and PPHR (4 total). Melissa will lead the 2 local groups and Carmine and Dan will lead the 2 regional/state groups as they relate to CRI and PPHR. The DOH will form the steering committee.
  - TAR updates- Melissa provided a short presentation on the draft TAR summary from this past year. More information will follow.
  - Drills & exercises- Need to really get focused on conducting drills and exercises... specifically communication exercises, and pushing them down to the local CRI partners and constituents (see attached sheet). This is pursuant to TAR 2.2 and 4.5. Steve will send out an email to draw volunteers to sit on a training and exercise committee in the next few days to work on this area. Melissa stressed that during regional communications drills that information be pushed down to the MDA level to address the CRI deliverables.
  
- State Preparedness Planning Update
  - Department of Public Health- Matt Cartter will be the representative for the EPI support strike team.
    - Certified in direct alerting via HAN, Everbridge.

- WebEOC vendor having some issues, so training will resume in a few weeks.
  - Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security-
    - DEMHS WebEOC board open for the storm today.
- CREPC Update-
  - Carmine said that CREPC Road Ahead was presented to CREPC and approved. There are 20 actions that will be implemented soon. There are a few that will impact this ESF-8 group. A full-time CREPC coordinator/ESF-5 assistant will be hired. There will be an ESF-5 and ESF-7 full-time coordinator/contractor to mimic how ESF-8 looks with having a full time coordinator. Carmine will become the ESF-7 contractor, and the ESF-5 position is yet to be filled. Report is on the CRCOG website.
  - Steve and Carmine encouraged everyone to continue attending the CREPC meetings. Governance of the committee may be changing due to this report.
- MMRS Update-
  - Funding remains an issue. John Shaw and Carmine recently met with the new Grants coordinator and report that she is very enthusiastic about some new recommendations. Key MMRS people were invited to the White House to discuss MMRS issues.
- Other Business
  - Brainstorm session for regional application of extended PHER funding.
    - Steve provided some background on how the funding amount was chosen and what activities DPH would like to see the money put towards, including:
      - Plan to reach school age children (not necessarily an in-school vaccination plan)
      - COOP plan
      - Equipment
    - We should try to come to consensus on what to purchase, not necessarily what to bid. For ex. If someone has a trailer, you need to know what type of truck to send to pick it up that will work (right hitch, etc).
    - What are some ideas:
      - Are software packages allowable expense? Check with Sue Walden for specifics.
      - Can management/book-keeping expenses be allowed for managing this grant? Check with Sue Walden.
      - Communications plan...
      - Trailers
      - Vaccine refrigerators

Next Meeting –November 5, 2010, *Hosted by Manchester HD*