

Minutes of Region 3 RESF 8 Meeting September 2, 2009

Opening Discussion (Shaw): RESF 8 needs to lead a regional discussion on the region's role in an H1N1 response. That discussion begins here today.

DEHMS Update-Tom Gavaghan:

- New DEMHS Commissioner Peter Boynton
- State Budget:
 - DEMHS funding cut by \$500,000
 - Dems passed budget, Gov. Rell won't veto, but may line item veto

R3 Regional Planner Report-Carmine Centrella:

- Regional Emergency Support Plan (RESP) has been processed through DEMHS- posted on CRCOG website. Essentially replaces the RED Plan in Region 3
 - Please provide comments to Carmine or Dan Scace on the plan by early October
- Autumn Storm FSE postponed till the spring 2010. Improvement plan and AAR should be ready by next week
- RESF 5 (Emergency Management) ConOps being produced as a result of the functional exercise of the autumn storm drill in July

DPH Update-Greg Chiara:

- Greg Chiara will now be evaluating the RESP plans in each DEMHS region to ensure accuracy of DPH statements within the plans.

Bradley Airport Drill Update (Doug Whalen):

- Sept. 26th rain or shine. Approximately 90 volunteer victims; a hangar will be used as a simulated hospital to test the EMS Strike Team concept

EMTALA Modifications (Bob Falaguerra):

- HHS issued guidelines for EMTALA modifications in the event of disasters. Creates several new problems, the most important of which is a directive to prevent EMS from transporting to any site not under the direct control of a hospital, which is not how regional response plans have been written.

H1N1 Update (Steve Huleatt)

- Steve provided a detailed presentation on H1N1, and what a possible vaccination effort might look like (see Power Point online)
- Considerable discussion on region's role in response; consensus: regional role is very limited by authority, money, and personnel issues

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 14 October at East Hartford Public Safety Complex