

Meeting Minutes
DEMHS Region 3
Public Health Preparedness Planning
ESF-8 Harmonization and Standardization Meeting
December 7, 2012
New Britain HD

Attendees: Marge Seiferheld, Judy Torpey, Juanita Estrada, Bruce Lockwood, Nicole Hawley, Dave Kosciuk, Steve Huleatt, Jennifer Kertanis, Mary Laiuppa, Jennifer Sawicki, Francine Truglio, Patrick Turek, Allyson Schulz, Janet Leonardi, Bill Kramer, Carmine Centrella

- Welcome – Steve Huleatt welcomed attendees and thanked New Britain EMS for hosting meeting. Steve distributed local public health contacts sheet for confirmation and updates to list.
- Approval of Minutes – Dave Kosciuk motioned to approve, seconded by Mary Laiuppa. No discussion all in favor.

Workgroup Reports:

- CRI- Local and Regional
 - Steve reported that TAR “season” for CRI deliverable is fast approaching. This year TARs should be more streamlined with focus on areas scoring less than 1, or with any criteria changes. Brief discussion regarding actual site visits by CDC, and the more item by item approach.
 - Review of POD standards worksheets and new metric sheets. Discussion on documenting real world events and Storm Sandy especially for staff/volunteer calls downs, EOC and shelter activations where applicable. Highlight any quality improvements from daily operations.
 - Steve reviewed year two final expenditure reports – all expenses can be entered as fee for service. Will be sending out reports for Project Director signatures from locals as well as updated MOUs. Forms/MOUs are to be completed and returned to Suzette Brown at West Hartford / Bloomfield Health District offices.
- PPHR – The Region has received notification of official recognition of PPHR status from NACCHO. Only one item was listed as partially met regarding roll up into State plans. Melissa completed work on other PPHR applications under CADH following Region 3 template. Applications submitted to CT-DPH for review.
- PHERP – No news to report other than MMRS 3 year contract with CADH to provide standardized training and plan socialization for local public health departments.
- State Reports:
 - DEMHS – N/A
 - CT-DPH – Juanita reported that Jonathan Best has been named as the new DPH Public Health Preparedness and Response Manager.
 - Judy Torpey inquired about any updates to local EOP Annex G – Public Health by DEMHS and if we could have a RESF-8 presence at discussions regarding any proposed revisions by DEMHS. No one had any information regarding any new requirements or formatting for EOP Annex G. Bruce mentioned that he uses the local PHERP as Annex G.

- CREPC Update-
Carmine reported that the CREPC leadership would be changing at the December CREPC meeting. The leadership Nominations committee has submitted a slate of officers consisting of Bruce Lockwood: Bristol Burlington HD – CREPC Chair
Dave Koscuk: New Britain EMS – Vice Chair
Don Moore Bloomfield PD – Vice Chair
Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting, (12/20/2012).

- Other Business:
Carmine reported on Everbridge and current proposed price point of \$2.00 per record for the new Everbridge Mass Notification and Interactive Visibility module. Although this is deeply discounted from current CRCOG rate of \$6.33 it still is over the State and municipal rate of 0.49 per record. Discussion took place regarding the need for the level of sophistication Everbridge offers over other systems. A small workgroup of Dave K. Steve H and Jennifer K. will work with Carmine regarding advisement of local public health contract for mass notifications. Carmine was concerned that if the price point is too high locals will not be able to sustain system once grant funds have expired. MMRS would fund as many years as possible, discussion and decision still needed on whether participating agencies would/could/should pay some fee to avoid future shortfalls.

- Storm Sandy Hotwash
 - Health departments/districts reported a much better response and preparatory actions for Storm Sandy than the two storms last year. NB HD reported they are now part of the New Britain Public Safety Council and was cited as an example for preparedness for other town departments.
 - Bristol-Burlington reported they did well and individuals are seeking more preparedness and response training.
 - W. Hartford/Bloomfield HD reported that things went fairly smooth even though were in a backup location due to power outage. Moved vaccines prior to storm hitting, reached out to grocery stores regarding plans to make sure folks could get food. Use of Pre-recorded phone lines
 - FVHD reported reaching out to restaurants about processes if they had to close and then re-open, etc. and pre-event messaging successes.
 - The Region reported that for all hours the RCC was open they had a liaison embedded in the DEMHS Regional office, proved to be very effective along with the use of Skype. One lesson learned is not to wait until you have any preparatory meetings for events/incidents with notice such as a storm. Give yourself two business days' worth of time some towns could not get in contact with vendors late Friday afternoon through the weekend.

- Training and Exercises-
Discussion of DPH statewide full scale exercise. This exercise is keying off Regions 1 and 5 as the “target” sites and other regions supplying support or first responder prophylaxis. Date was set for May but reported it has been moved to September of 2013 which is outside of local contracts with DPH as they expire in June. Discussions being held with stakeholders regarding logistics but still confusion as to expected play and objectives. City of Hartford will be conducting a Table Top Exercise regarding their revised distribution plan for SNS materiel.
Windsor/South Windsor will be using staff/volunteer badging as training and exercise TBD.