

**Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee**  
**RESF-8 - Region 3 – Public Health**  
*May 2, 2014*  
**Tolland Fire Training Center**  
**Tolland, Connecticut**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** John Degnan, Chuck Motes, Maryann Lexius, Marge Seiferheld, Allyson Schulz, Aimee Eberly, Rob Miller, Jennifer Kertanis, Judy Torpey, Bill Turley, Mary Rose Duberek, Michael Piro, Nicole Hawley, Melissa Marquis, and Bill Kramer.

The meeting was opened at 9:05 a.m. by Melissa Marquis on behalf of Chair Steve Huleatt. Melissa thanked John Degnan/EHHD for hosting the meeting.

The minutes of April 11 were discussed. It was agreed that the minutes would be accepted as written and that an additional document providing more information in a Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, and Threat format would be produced from the April meeting.

It was also discussed that Melissa, Steve Huleatt and Dave Kosciuk will have a conversation about possibly conducting a similar process for the other disciplines in ESF-8 then write a combined report. All were in favor.

- **Regional Updates**

- a. DPH Plan Alignment Contract- Melissa provided the last update on the contract status previous to her departure from CADH.
- b. Training, Drills, exercises- The group had a brief report out on the LHD findings from the April 24<sup>th</sup> Statewide exercise.
- c. CREPC- no report

- **State updates**

- a. Statewide DPH Exercise – According to an email from Mary Pettigrew- No local AAR will be required. No DPH representatives present to discuss the exercise.
- b. Statewide ESF8 Assessment- Melissa reported briefly that the ESF-8 assessment is still ongoing. Yale New Haven provided a briefing on the status at the last Public Health Advisory Committee meeting. No handouts were provided. The pending results/recommendations don't appear to provide any additional or new information regarding the public health/ESF-8 section.
- c. Mary Rose Duberek from DEMHS was the only state representative at the meeting. She provided some additional information regarding the June Statewide EPPI exercise. There was robust conversation regarding the need to have DEMHS, DPH, and LHD all on the same page with regards to level of play expectations, etc. Mary Rose was in favor of adding some local health injects for the exercise and asked for assistance from a few members of the group.

- **Local Public Health Preparedness Contract**

- a. Rob Miller provided some information from the latest CADH/DPH Public Health Preparedness Management Committee meetings regarding the next budget year contract. A few questions about concurrence were raised. However, the PHEP

application is not due to CDC until May 9<sup>th</sup>. Additional meetings and conversations will likely take place with CADH/DPH regarding funding allocations and concurrence.

- b. Maryann Lexius reported the status on funding requests from various agencies/organizations that is provided by the State Homeland Security Grant Program monies. MMRS reportedly saw an increase in funding, whereas DPH is receiving a portion of the total amount requested. The funding for DPH will go towards the Mobile Field Hospital and possibly other program areas.
- **Notes from the Field**
  - a. Melissa explained the changes in the new TAR replacement tool – the Medical Countermeasure Operational Readiness Review (ORR) tool and updated the group on new directions at the Federal/CDC level. The tool will be finalized and shared with the state awardees by July 1, 2014 and training will be provided on using the tool.
  - b. Hartford Health Department will be conducting a CASPER (Community Assessment on Public Health Emergency Response) event on June 7<sup>th</sup>. They are looking for volunteers. Please contact Nicole Hawley if available.
  - c. Hartford Health Department will also be conducting a full scale Bio-Detections System exercise using the Postal Facility and will be assisting in closed POD activities for the first responders. This exercise is scheduled for June 21<sup>st</sup>. More information to follow as the date gets closer.
  - d. Maryann Lexius stated she has had continued conversations with Walgreens regarding the development of a statewide MOU to have Walgreens pharmacy staff assist with PODs. The Walgreens point of contact would like to present at a meeting in the near future to continue this conversation and would like DPH representatives to be there as well.
- **Other Business**

*Next Meeting to be held on June 6<sup>th</sup>, hosted by Windsor HD. Will be located at the Windsor Town Hall*