

Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee
RESF-8 Health and Medical
June 3, 2015
Regional Coordination Center
Manchester, Connecticut

Members Present: **See attached attendance list, pages 3-4**

David Kosciuk opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Those present introduced themselves.

Minutes of the April 1, 2015 meeting were distributed. One correction was made: in the second bullet under other information: Mr. Best reported that \$180,000 had been awarded. This was for Region 3, not statewide.

Ms. Davis gave the Behavioral Health report: The region has a new team leader. She comes from DMHS and is new to Connecticut and the Connecticut Behavioral Response Network (DBRN) program, but has assigned as a backup a person with experience. Contact information will be sent to Mr. Kosciuk by e-mail after this meeting. A behavioral health presentation was made in Somers at their CERT training program. At a recent exercise in Newington, the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DMHS) radiological officer decided that having a DBRN representative in the hot zone, a decision that has long been sought.

Mr. Falaguerra reported for the hospital section: There has been little recent regional activity. He recounted a recent active shooter exercise at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center and outlined some of the lessons learned. He then reported an issue has been raised considering the standardization of internal emergency codes throughout the region. He requested the hospital representatives discuss this after this meeting.

Mr. DeSanti gave the Long Term Care report: On June 18, DEMHS Region 2 comes on board making the entire state covered by the Long Term Care Mutual Aid Plan (MAP). For our region, a raining exercise was held. The next regional exercise is scheduled for September. Additional duty officer training is being scheduled to expand the number of people who can serve in that role.

Ms. McCormack reported on Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) activity: The Corps has been activated in advance to support activities scheduled for July at the Air National Guard.

The Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) report was given by Mr. Centrella: he steering group planning standardized guidelines for responding to active shooters is expected to release a primer for planning and training in a week or two. A leadership group has created a team to examine and report at the upcoming meeting in Austin Texas. Also, a weeklong meeting will be held in Indianapolis focusing on development of regional and state health system coalitions for strategic planning.

Ms. Marquis reported on local public health: Webinar training is taking place to inform about the new tools developed for Operational Readiness Review (ORR) training. Maryann Cherniak-Lexius will soon be retiring from the Manchester Health Department. A meeting will be held at the end of the week to wrap up budget and work program proposals due to be given to the State Health Department by the end of the month. Recent disease outbreaks were identified: bird flu in the mid west and MERS in South Korea. Liberia has now been declared free of Ebola.

Mr. Best from Connecticut Department of Public Health gave the group updates:

Several additional sources of funding have been made available to regions and hospitals. Work is underway to inform those involved and to prepare requests for these grants. Specific details and requirements were discussed. The statewide strategic exercise is planned for 2016. This five-day exercise will start with a request for medication from strategic stockpiles to respond to a biological incident or attack. It will end with pills actually be handed out to providers. At the statewide annual health care coalition conference and meeting on June 4, a two-hour simulation will be presented. A new technical support staff person has joining the DPH staff to assist in upgrading the Everbridge system. In July, a CDC associate staff person will be assigned to DPH for a three-year period to assist in planning and training.

Ms. Duberek gave the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) report: This year there will be five host communities for the Millstone exercise. They are looking for volunteers to serve as evaluators. Chief Austin has retired as chairman of the Statewide Citizen Care Council. Two people, including Thomas Gavaghan, have been named as co-chairmen. The Governor’s Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative (EPPI) had scheduled the statewide hurricane exercise for October. The dates for this have a conflict, and the exercise will be rescheduled.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 1.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cressy Goodwin
Recorder

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DA	Debra Abromaitis	UConn Health Center / John Dempsey Hospital	abromaitis@uchc.edu
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