Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee Meeting (DEMHS Region 3) (UASI Region 3) January 21, 2021 9:30 a.m. CRCOG, Via Zoom

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m. via Zoom. Attendees were asked to put their name and organization in the chat box for attendance purposes. Participants introduced themselves and participated in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Koscuk introduced Mike Zacchera, the new EMS Coordinator for DPH and welcomed him to the group.

Public Comment – none

Adoption of the Minutes

Don Janelle seconded by Katherine McCormack made a motion to adopt the minutes from the October 15th meeting. All in favor, so voted.

Federal and State Liaison Reports

Bill Turley commented that the Capitol Region MRC as well as many of our CERT teams are busy with activations. He discussed the various testing and vaccination sites within the region. There are many Farm to Family events occurring. The Annual EMD meeting, which will be a Zoom meeting combined with Regions 1 and 2 will be announced shortly.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

New Business

Election of Chairman and 2nd Vice Chair

Don Janelle stated that he worked with Bob DiBella on the Nominations Committee. They developed the slate of David Koscuk for Chairman and Bob McCue for 2nd Vice Chair. Harley Graime, seconded by Jennifer Farley made a motion to accept the slate as presented. There were no nominations from the floor. All in favor, so voted.

SHSGP Grants Report

Cheryl Assis stated that the FY 17 SHSGP grant has been closed out. We are currently working on the FY 18 grant. We have contracted with Mike Boucher to do a complete review and upgrade of our Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan. We have not utilized the training and exercise line item as expected due to covid. A portion of this line item will likely need to be reallocated. If your municipality/department has any regional equipment that was purchased through the SHSGP grants that may require maintenance or replacement, please let Cheryl know.

ESF- Selected Committee Reports

RESF-1 Transportation – Terri Thompson reported that they are working on developing a pocket guide.

ESF-5 Emergency Management - Bill Perkins outlined the activities in support of COVID-19 response. The region has been manning a Regional Distribution Center in West Hartford with the IMT coordinating. The IMT and CR-MRC just took delivery of new radios which are on the new State system. ESF-2 is assisting with programming.

RESF-6 Sub-Committee for Volunteer Management – Don Janelle stated the group held a bimonthly meeting and the Statewide Citizen Corps Council met recently over Zoom. Some teams have found very creative ways to keep active during the pandemic. Cheryl Assis reviewed the list of teams who applied for grants recently.

Dave Koscuk recognized Katherine McCormack for her dedicated service to the region and the CR-MRC during the pandemic. Their work is impactful and meaningful and truly appreciated by the region.

RESF-8 – Jennifer Farley stated that the main focus in the region now turns to vaccination and that it has been great to see the shift.

Katherine McCormack stated that the January meeting of the CR-MRC had over 100 attendees and they also had a terrific turnout for a new orientation session this week. She discussed all the current deployments including Bristol Hospital, Bradley Airport, Chatham Health District, and the Town of Vernon. She thanked Cheryl Assis and Steve Huleatt for their support in putting the NACCHO grant application together.

Steve Huleatt stated that we have sent out the Administrative Service Agreements to the 14 local public health departments/districts in regard to the PHEP grant. These will be good for the next four years.

Charles Brown stated that the surge of holiday cases is leveling off. He went on to describe actions being taken by local public health Directors who continue to meet weekly. They are waiting for guidance on opening vaccination up to the 65 and above category in the next couple of weeks.

Other Business/ Information

There was no other business to come before the group.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 am. The next meeting is scheduled for April 2021.