

Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council
Planning / Pan Flu Subcommittee Meeting
Thursday, July 3, 2012, 11:00 am
Baystate Health Conference Center, BRL Room
361 Whitney Ave., Holyoke, Ma

Present: Tracy Rogers (FRCOG); Susan Brown (FRCOG); Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG); Gary Roux (PVPC); Soloe Dennis (PVPC/HCHC); Todd Zukowski (PVPC); Pat Smith (FRCOG); Sandra Martin (BCBOHA), Sara Lafayette (BRPC), John Davine (NFD), Tom Lynch (BSH); Mary Kersell (HPHPC); Carolyn Shores Ness (DFLD BOS); Josiah Neiderbach (PVPC); Larry Holmberg (HREPC); Lindsay Errichetto; Don Snyder (MDPH); Gail Bienvenue Mailhott (MDPH).

Sandra Martin called the meeting to order at 11:03 am.

Meeting Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the June 5, 2012 meeting.

<p>Motion: Tracy Rogers motioned to approve the June 5, 2012 meeting minutes. Soloe Dennis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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A round of introductions followed.

FFY08 & 09 Extension and Project End Dates

Sue Brown stated that extensions for FFY08 and FFY09 were granted. The FFY08 funds have been extended through February 2013 and the FFY09 funds were extended through December 2012. Sue advocated for only granting extensions to projects if necessary in order to be able to utilize any leftover funds.

FFY08 Project Updates

Shelter Equipment

Sue stated that the replacement items have been ordered. Quotes for the DART trailers have been obtained. Sue is working with MAPC on the procurement for the DART trailers. Bob Dean will be taking over the fiduciary responsibilities of the educational video because Sue has a conflict of interest because her fiancée has bid on the project. It is hoped that the project will be completed by August and no extension is needed.

Evacuation Planning

Gary Roux stated that the project is on schedule and no extension is needed. Gary passed out copies of two of the evacuation maps. Mass DOT has reviewed the maps and given comments. Each community will receive a large scale map of the county and their community to use during an emergency. Sue stated that MEMA is conducting a lower level community evacuation project. Gary stated that this project will tailor nicely with MEMA's project. Sandra asked Gary to report on how the two reports coordinate at the August meeting. Discussion followed.

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Critical Infrastructure Mapping w/WMFCA MDT GIS

Todd Zukowski stated that the project is on schedule. Todd stated that no hours have been billed to this project directly. All of the hours to date have been billed to PVPC's general GIS contract.

FFY09 Project Updates

Regional Shelter Planning

Sara Lafayette stated that she is working to finalize the template and distribute. The project will be completed by the end of July.

The individual county draft plans are on schedule to be completed by the end of July. The implementation of the plans will take a lot of conversation and inter-municipal agreement on what regional sheltering is. A three question survey was sent out. Seventy responses were received. Sub-regional agreements were the preferred method of implementation. The survey also indicated that the municipalities would prefer to pay after an event based on numbers of their population utilizing the shelter. Sara is drafting an agreement based on this guidance. She will distribute to the RPAs, REPCs and LEPCs for feedback. Discussion followed

Critical Infrastructure Prioritization

John Davine acted as proxy for Josh Shanley. John stated that ACAMs conducted a training for asset managers. There will be additional training offered. A table top exercise was conducted in Holyoke last month that included a power failure. The Fusion Center has supplied some useful maps. Discussion followed. The project is on schedule to be completed in September.

Faith Communities

Sandra stated that a handout was included in the meeting packet. The project has moved on to Phase II. Vivian Orłowski has requested permission to apply for a recognition award. The consensus of the subcommittee was to apply for the award. This project needs an extension through December 2012.

Public Emergency Communication Strategies

Pat Smith stated that the RPA's have been exchanging information and that the project is on schedule. A draft will be distributed prior to the August meeting for review.

Website Revision/Redesign & Content Support

Sue stated that the project is moving along. The websites will go live this month. Sue has been working with the cinema ad company. The ad will begin the first weekend in August. Sue will share a draft of the ad when it is ready. Discussion followed. This project should be extended until the end of August.

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FFY2010 Project Update

FFY2010 IRAA SOP & Exercises

Sandra tabled this discussion until later in the meeting.

Western Mass Ready National Preparedness Month Campaign

Josiah passed out a handout on the Outreach Plan. Discussion followed regarding hash tags and tweets. Feedback should be sent to Josiah and Soloe.

Sue stated that PVPC will purchase flashlights for the Big E and other fairs. Sue stated that the original vendor used for the canvas bags is on vacation. MassCor is on the state contract but has a limit of 5,000 bags for \$14,775. We also need to order brochures. Discussion followed.

Regional Sheltering Implementation

This was covered earlier in the meeting.

FFY2011 Project Update

Mass Receiving Planning

Sue stated that the project proposal is being reviewed by EOPSS.

Regional EOC Planning

Sue stated that this project was advertised last week. Proposals for the project will be shared as they are received. Sue asked for volunteers to review and evaluate the proposals. Carolyn, Sandra, Mary, Gail, Soloe and Tom volunteered. It is hoped that the subcommittee will choose the consultant at the August meeting.

FFY2010 IRAA SOP & Exercises

Soloe stated that he met with the consultant this morning. Sandra requested that local plans be sent to the consultant. The end date for this project is February 2013. Discussion followed.

Requests/Considerations

Sue stated that the 2012 Homeland Security funding has been cut by 50%. We had anticipated a 30-40% cut. The 2012 funding will be just over \$650,000 and the end date for the funds will be August or September 2014. The 2011 funds end in June 2014. No fiduciary changes have been announced. No guidance on the funding has been released yet. A discussion at the full council will be held at the next meeting to discuss the subcommittee structure.

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Items Unforeseen by the Chair

No items were discussed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for August 7, 2012.

There being no further business Tracy Rogers motioned to adjourn. Carolyn Shores Ness seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by
Gretchen Johnson
Homeland Security Program Assistant
Franklin Regional Council of Governments