

Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council
Planning / Pan Flu Subcommittee Meeting
Tuesday, January 6, 2015, 11:00 am
DPH, 23 Service Center Road, Northampton, Ma

Present: Raine Brown (FRCOG); Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG); Mary Kersell (HPHPC), Josiah Neiderbach (PVPC), Tracy Rogers (FRCOG), Linda Moriarty (WMEMS), Sandra Martin (BCBOHA), Michael Nelson (DPH) Ed Lesko (BOH/BOS), Carolyn Shores Ness (DBOS), Larry Holmberg (HREPC), Erica Johnson (PVPC), Matt Grudgen (Student), Ed Moralez (DPH), Don Snyder (SEMD), Pat Smith (FRCOG).

Linda Moriarty called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.

Meeting Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the December 2, 2014 meeting.

Motion: Carolyn Shores Ness motioned to approve the December 2, 2014 meeting minutes as presented. Larry Holmberg seconded. Tracy Rogers made a correction to a motion on page 4, clarifying that the amount was \$15,000 exactly. Ed Lesko motioned to approve the correction. Larry Holmberg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

A round of introductions followed.

FFY2013 Project Updates

Public Outreach/Project Awareness

Raine Brown stated that this project is moving forward. Josiah Neiderbach stated that the RPAs are reaching out to the list of stakeholders and requesting to be added to agendas. Raine stated that the funding for this project ends in July 2015. Discussion followed concerning meeting schedules and suggestions of additional organizations to contact.

Mass Receiving Phase II

Josiah stated that the project is moving along. The monthly progress report was included in the meeting packet. Josiah passed out a handout on Task 5: Detail Fire/Hazmat Safety Consideration of Evacuation Service Center. Fueling from an existing facility and fueling from a tanker are both explored. The existing fueling facilities have the advantage of built in payment systems and safety precautions. Tanker fueling will require having trained staff to pump the fuel.

Recommended next steps include:

- Determine which government entity can sign MOUs for each ESC
- Sign MOUs with existing gas stations in strategic locations as part of an ESC group plan
- Determine how back up power can be provided at strategically located gas stations

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- Sign MOUs with tanker companies
- Sign MOUs with hazardous waste haulers
- Determine ability to access federal gasoline reserve located in Massachusetts for ESC use
- Acquire or plan for acquisition of necessary fueling and hazardous materials equipment
- Provide both diesel and gasoline for evacuees
- Provide enough staff at fueling stations so that evacuees do not fuel vehicles themselves

Carolyn Shores Ness stated that the funding questions must be resolved. Sandra Martin stated that it will be less expensive for a community to guarantee gas to evacuees rather than have to pay to shelter them. Discussion followed.

MACC Phase II

Raine stated that the monthly progress report was included in the meeting packet. Fortress will proceed in developing the SOGs with a JIS component with the remaining funding. Fortress would like to hold a stakeholder meeting to review them. It will be a long meeting but will avoid the confusion of many overlapping email edits. This will complete Phase II of the project. The Committee will need to decide how to proceed with the public outreach. Mary Kersell requested that the SOGs be distributed in advance of the meeting.

COAD/ERC

Tracy Rogers stated that the monthly report was included in the meeting packet. She stated that the meeting with librarians from Wilbraham, Sunderland and Monson went well. They are all interested in joining the COAD to act as a conduit of information. Sunderland has already officially joined. The libraries are interested in helping residents scan important documents and storing them on a flash drive. The next meeting with them will be in February. Tracy stated that she is working to update the ERC guide to make it more generic and less faith specific so that it will feel more applicable to leaders of libraries and senior centers. The officers of both COADs were added to a new HHAN list so they'll receive weather warnings, etc. Sandra Martin is continuing to work with FEMA to hone a blog entry on the project. The EMD presentation was postponed until the next meeting due to timing constraints of the last meeting.

Mobile Generators

Raine stated that two generators and the accessories have been delivered. There are discussions underway as to the best way to keep the accessories with the generators. The Holyoke Fire Department and Franklin County Sheriff's Department will house the generators. On site training is being coordinated for both locations. The Franklin County Sheriff has asked if it

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would be possible for the Council to fund the first load of fuel for the generators. The generators have an 87 gallon diesel tank. The fuel would be replaced by the user going forward. Raine has asked EOPSS if that is an allowable expense.

School Go-Kits

Raine stated that the 18 Go Kits for the Shaker School Union have been delivered.

FFY2014 Project Updates
MACC Phase III

Raine stated that Phase III will focus on developing a MACC in Franklin County. The Subcommittee will need to work on the Scope of Work. Raine suggested waiting until the SOGs for Phase II are completed. Discussion followed.

COAD Summit 2015

Tracy stated that the tentative date for the Summit is April 15th.

COAD ERC Continuation

This project is listed on the agenda as a place holder in case the current project identifies gaps.

Public Outreach Continuation

Raine stated that this project is listed on the agenda as a place holder in case the current project identifies gaps.

Children in Disasters

Raine stated that she has been working with Deborah Clapp. Deborah suggested allotting up to \$12,000 for the conference to allow for hiring speakers. She suggested having a scribe in each room during the conference. The whole budget for this task is \$20,000. The remaining funds would pay for planning and coordinating the conference.

Sheltering and Shelter Management Development

Raine stated that this project was allocated \$50,000. Raine had stated last month that a PJ should be submitted by April 2014 in order to keep this project on track. Feedback on the project was received by Franklin and Berkshire Counties. Berkshire County stated that Northern Berkshire and Central Berkshire are open to furthering the Regional Shelter Plan. Southern Berkshire REPC would like to receive funding to work on the Regional Shelter Plan. Discussion followed.

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It was suggested that a representative from each region must attend the Subcommittee meetings if they receive funding directly.

Franklin County identified a gap between the EMDs and first responders. They also identified staffing challenges during the holidays as a gap.

Larry Holmberg stated that Hampshire County is in favor of the REPC receiving funding to further the Plan. He is in favor of developing the Regional Shelter Teams. Mary stated that she would like to finish mapping and designing the shelters first. The primary shelters are well thought out but the back up shelters need to be fully developed. Pat Smith stated that she would like to see funding allocated to updating the job action sheets and additional mapping. Raine stated that the four counties are in different stages and it will be challenging to set up tasks and manage the contract. Discussion followed. Raine suggested concentrating on bringing each county to the same place with Shelter Plans or to concentrate on building Shelter Management Teams.

Josiah stated that Hampden County would be in favor of implementing the Shelter Plans in subregions. Larry stated that staffing is an issue. Carolyn agreed that developing Shelter Management Teams is the priority. Raine suggested a conference call to discuss the project further. Mary requested an in person meeting with the option of calling in. Raine stated that she will send a doodle poll out to decide on a meeting date and time.

Companion Animal Expandable Cache

Raine stated that this project was allocated just over \$7,000. Springfield has not received the trailer yet. This project will purchase regional supplies that will be stored in Springfield. Raine will coordinate with Bob Hassett.

Requests

Pioneer Valley Regional School Districts Go Bags

Motion: Sandra Martin motioned to approve the Pioneer Valley Regional School District Go Bags. Ed Lesko seconded. The motion was unanimously opposed. Discussion is outlined below.

Raine stated that the guidance from EOPSS with the last Go Bag request was that any future requests must outline that the opportunity was offered to all of the school districts and the requests were prioritized. There are also no available funds at this time. Sandra suggested setting up a budget for future funding years of \$2,500 to fund the Go Bags as a first come first serve basis or close it off and deny any future requests. Mary stated that the schools are responsible for the children. Tracy stated that towns have to purchase sheltering supplies for

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residents and this as a similar situation. Ed Lesko advised that the schools with school choice funds pay for the kits from those funds.

Raine stated that she would draft a response letter to Pioneer Valley Regional School District. Pat Smith suggested deciding on a policy for Go Bag requests.

Motion: Mary Kersell motioned to not consider funding future requests for Go Bags. Ed Lesko seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

No old business was discussed.

New Business

Carolyn stated that she will be requesting a letter of support from the Subcommittee in support of replacing culverts near the Deerfield River. It is believed that FEMA is rejecting the request and the letter of support will be needed for the appeal process.

Items Unforeseen by the Chair

No items unforeseen were discussed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for February 3rd at 11 am at DPH.

There being no further business Larry Holmberg motioned to adjourn. Ed Lesko seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:31 pm.

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