

Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council
Planning / Pan Flu Subcommittee Meeting
Tuesday, May 5, 2015, 11:00 am
DPH, 23 Service Center Road, Northampton, Ma

Present: Raine Brown (FRCOG); Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG); Mary Kersell (HPHPC), Erica Johnson (PVPC), Tracy Rogers (FRCOG), Linda Moriarty (WMEMS), Michael Nelson (DPH) Larry Holmberg (HREPC), Pat Smith (FRCOG), David Elvin (PVPC), Carolyn Shores Ness (DBOS/BOH), Diane Persson (BRPC), Tom Lynch (BMC), Sandra Martin (BCBOHA), Garrett Simonsen (PVPC), Ed Lesko (BOH/BOS).

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

Meeting Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the April 7, 2015 meeting.

Motion: Carolyn Ness motioned to approve the April 7, 2015 meeting minutes as presented. Larry Holmberg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

A round of introductions followed.

FFY2013 Project Updates

Public Outreach/Project Awareness

David Elvin updated and shared the sheet detailing the outreach efforts to date. He noted the meetings that our scheduled over the next couple of months. He asked whether contractors and engineers should be a target audience. The committee felt this was not necessary. A meeting with the transportation committee is scheduled for June; this will address most of the DPWs in valley. BRPC will do outreach table at emergency preparedness fair this weekend. Committee members offered suggestions on how and who to connect with for other remaining meetings.

Mass Receiving Phase II

David reviewed the monthly progress report and shared the status of the tasks. He noted that relevant information from Task 4 is also being incorporated into Task 6. He asked for feedback on Task 5 to be included in final report. Drafts of Task 6 were shared and reviewed with the committee. The review included potential locations. He noted that locations will be evaluated using the established criteria via a brief detail from. At this time neither municipal nor owner contacts will be made during this project. That will be left to further phases of the project. He asked members to provide any feedback to be included. A brief discussion of presented materials ensued.

COAD/ERC

Tracy Rogers reported on the project. A highlight in Berkshire County, the Berkshire County Transit Authority is has offered to have mobile ERCs where they would move any one or two of

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their large busses to act as a mobile heating or cooling center. The agreement is nearly complete and will be signed soon. Sandra Martin noted the first MOU will be with Pittsfield. She will next encourage them to sign one with Central Berkshire REPC and then perhaps further throughout the county. She noted they will take it one step at a time.

Tracy reported that the COAD Summit was held last week. Seventy five people registered and approximately seventy attended. It was well received by participants. Chris Ferand from Salvation Army was at summit, he and Tracy have talked about need for chaplains. He will try to recruit more chaplains for the region. A good connection was formed between food banks and UMass Springfield and throughout counties to share leftover food. Spoke at quarterly EMD meeting. Discussed 2014 funds remaining and possible use of it

Tracy also provided a project update at MEMA's quarterly EMD meeting last week, and met yesterday with a group in Brattleboro who is interested in forming a COAD/VOAD.

Raine Brown noted that there are \$5,000 in FFY14 being held for the projects for any gaps the team may identify. She recommended that they provide some information on possible gaps at the next meeting. Discussion ensued.

Hampshire EDS Trailer

Raine noted that procurement for this project has finally been completed. The bid has been accepted and a purchase order is in process. The equipment should be delivered this week.

FFY2014 Project Updates

MACC Phase III

As the project was introduced, Raine took the opportunity to talk about last month's meeting and the concerns that were raised following the meeting in regards to how some of the projects were distributed to the RPAs. Raine noted that some of the projects WRHSAC is now and will be engaging in are not full region projects, or they may be very small, so that dividing them amongst the RPAs as has been traditionally done does not apply. There was a discussion about the pros and cons of seeking proposals from the RPAs or the subcommittee appointing projects. It was decided that for future projects that are not full region projects the committee will assign tasks to one or more RPAs as seems logical. RPAs will be asked if they have the capacity in house to accomplish the projects. Proposals from the RPAs will likely not be sought.

Raine is developing the scope of work for the MACC Phase III project. She will make suggestion as to how work and funds will be divided by task.

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COAD Summit 2015

Tracy stated that was discussed earlier in the meeting.

COAD ERC Continuation

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

Public Outreach Continuation

Raine noted that as with the COAD ERC project, funds had been put aside in FFY14 to address any gaps that may have been identified in the current project. She stated that she did not see any gaps. Others concurred. Sandra noted that it has been helpful to have the videos and encouraged people to continue to use them as opportunities arise. After some discussion the committee decided to leave the funds as is for now and have further discussion during future meetings.

Children in Disasters

Raine stated that a kick off conference call has been set for May 15.

Sheltering and Shelter Management Development

Raine apologized for the delay in getting the contracts out. She will contact the RPAs to ensure they can complete their tasks in house. Once confirmed, contracts will be drawn up for the work to begin.

Companion Animal Expandable Cache

Raine reported that the project is moving along well. The first stages of procurement are nearly complete. Additional equipment will be purchased over the next month.

Requests

No requests were presented.

Old Business

Linda asked Michael Nelson if he had any update on the status of the HMCC. Michael didn't have any information to share. Sandra noted that in a conversation with Mary Clark last week DPH indicated they will likely be making a decision this week or very soon. Everyone is still waiting.

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Linda shared an update on WRHSAC's Anti-Terrorism Exercise Series. The series is going well and is being well received. Hampshire and Hampden exercises are next week.

New Business

Sandra shared an update on the upcoming PIO JIS training which will be held on June 18. Invitations will be going out soon and rolling registration will be reviewed before anyone is accepted. It is being traced this way to ensure all the counties are represented and to have a balanced room as far as disciplines, etc. The training scenario is building on top of the scenario from the exercise.

New business – Tracy asked if anyone knew if MEMA is doing a conference this year as they have over the last two years. No one has heard that there will be a conference.

Items Unforeseen by the Chair

No unforeseen business was discussed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2015 at 11 am at DPH.

There being no further business Carolyn Ness motioned to adjourn. Ed Lesko seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by
Raine Brown
Homeland Security Program Manager
Franklin Regional Council of Governments