

**MINUTES OF THE
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
May 4, 2006**

A regular meeting of the Washington State Emergency Management Council was held in Building 104, Camp Murray, WA on May 4, 2006. Chair Diane Oberquell called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members / Alternates Present:

Charles Axton, FEMA	Jim Morgan, Private Industry
Steve Bailey, State Emergency Mgt. Directors	Diane Oberquell, WA State Assoc. of Counties
John Batiste, WA State Patrol	Jim Scharf, Police Chiefs
JoAnn Boggs, Local EM Directors	Ron Teissere, Department of Natural Resources
John Erickson, Department of Health	Ron Weaver, Military Department
Kathy Estes, State Emergency Mgt. Directors	Steve Whybark, Sheriffs
Dale Jensen, Department of Ecology	Bob Zimmerman, Private Industry
Steve Kalmbach, Fire Protection Bureau	

Guest Present

Mark Arras, State Patrol	Steve Charrat, University of Washington
Charles Axton, FEMA	Dave Hodgeboom, WSDA
Don Bivins, Vancouver Fire Dept.	Ron Shively, ARC
Ron Bowen, WA State Patrol	Tom Symonds, HLS Region 5 coordinator
Jim Buck, Legislature 24 th District	LTC. Ben Zerface

EMD and MIL Present: Nancy Bickford, Tim Clark, Dalton Gamboa, Roger Hieb, Max Messman, Venetia Mitchell, Todd Smith, Maillian Uphaus.

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Roll Call/ Introductions:

A quorum was established. All those present introduced themselves. Diane Oberquell asked if there are any changes to the March 2, 2006 minutes. The minutes were approved without changes.

The Adjutant General

Ron Weaver (Wa State Military Dept.) spoke on Major General Timothy Lowenberg's (WA Military Dept.) behalf while he is attending the 2006 NEMA annual conference in New York.

- The primary focus of the NEMA conference is focusing on the effect of EMAC since hurricane Katrina and Rita as well as focus on port security.

TAG would like to thank the Pierce County Health and the State Department of Health for convening the Governor's Pandemic Flue summit held last month.

The Governor wants to convene a cabinet level (among other organizations), tabletop pandemic flu exercise to look at what the response would be on a state level.

Diane Oberquell asked if there were any questions. None given.

The Director's Remarks

Tim Clark, WA State EMD, gave the Director's Remark in Jim Mullen's (Director of WA State EMD) absence.

Tim referred the committee to review the Director's remark handout provided to them in their packets.

- There is 2.5 million dollars for the 211 network that will be ran through Bob Oenning's 911 staff.
- There is \$950,000 provided to us for ahab radio's in conjunction with the \$443,000 we received from the Federal Government/NOAA which will supply us with approximately 27 ahab radios.
- The partners' in preparedness conference was moved from the double tree hotel in Bellevue to the Tacoma convention center. This was a successful conference with over 600 attendees.
- Jim Mullen will lead a team involving CTED, DSHS, the Governors office, General Administration, to the 2006 Restoration conference in New Orleans. The focus is the recovery aspects of a catastrophic disaster and what we can do in Washington State to improve our process in light of a disaster.

**FEMA Report
Charles Axton, FEMA****National Perspective**

- FEMA has been preparing for the upcoming Hurricane season which will officially begins four weeks from today.
- In preparation of the upcoming hurricane seasons vacant positions that have been unfilled due to budget restrictions are now be aggressively filled.

Secretary Level

- Designated principal federal officials have been made for 4-5 different geographical regions along with deputy principal federal officials and federal coordinating officers at each of the states along the eastern seaboard, the gulf area and Puerto Rico.

The defense coordinating officer, the fifth army and army north have gone through name changes. They will place a greater emphasize on the military support to civilian authorities, they are co-locating their defense coordinating officer with FEMA regions & expanding the size of their team.

Charles stated that the "Pacific Peril" exercise on May 23-25 in Warrenton, Oregon is a catastrophic exercise that committee members may want to participate in.

Diane Oberquell thanked FEMA for coming and suggested a written report from FEMA in the event of their absence at future meetings.

Legislative Update

Maillian Uphaus, EMD

Maillian briefed the committee on the Legislative Update outlined in a handout provided to each member in their packets on the following.

- Legislative Session Summary
- 1.6 Million awarded to the Military Department
 - Funds to allocate grants to regional agencies, local governments, regional incident management teams and private organizations.
 - Grants to be distributed on a competitive basis

- \$400,000 to the Military Department
 - Administration of competitive Grants
 - Implementation of one or more of the following activities:
 - Development & coordination of comprehensive emergency management plans
 - Training of elected & appointed officials on state laws, disaster command and response structures and the roles and responsibilities of officials before, during, and after a disaster.
 - Administering periodic joint emergency management training exercises involving the military department
- Assumptions
 - Legislative Intent-enhance EM statewide
 - Performance
 - short time frame-performance period ends June 30, 2007
 - capacity building activities
 - measurable results
 - Opportunity-engage wider community
 - Long lasting effects
- EMD Plan
 - EMD will focus on education & training of elected officials
 - DMAT/USAR study will be contracted to ensure expertise and objectivity
 - Competitive grant process being developed with input from internal & external stakeholders

Maillian stated the training for elected officials will be handled by Dr. Terry Eagan's PET Unit (Planning, Exercise, & Training). The competitive grant processes will be handled by Arel Solie's Homeland Security Section.

Maillian opened the floor for questions

- Don Bivins asked "How do you envision rolling out the competitive grant process application?"
 - Maillian's response: It will be mailed out and posted on the website by mid-month.
- John Erickson asked "Did you get any FTE's?"
 - Maillian's response: Yes, for a one year period. Money was received for (3) FTE's- (1) for training and exercise, (1) to administer the grant, & (1) to support the program.

Nomination and Election of Vice-Chair

Diane Oberquell, Chair Thurston County Commissioner

Diane opened up the floor for nominations for the Vice-Chair.

Dale Jensen, Department of Ecology nominated Bob Zimmerman, Private Industry for Vice-Chair stating that Bob has been a member of this council for some time. As this council continues to build public and private partnerships it makes sense to have someone from the private industry as a vice chair. Steve Whybank, Sheriffs seconded the nomination.

Diane Oberquell asked the committee for any other nominations. None presented. Diane called for a vote. The vote for Bob Zimmerman as Vice-Chair was unanimous.

Seismic Safety Committee (SSC)**Representative Jim Buck, 24th Legislative District, Washington**

Diane Oberquell introduced and thanked Representative Jim Buck for his attendance and asked if he would tell the committee where the 24th legislative District is located of which Representative Buck was happy to oblige.

Jim reported on the Tsunami Outreach Efforts and provided an outline on "The Possible Effects of the Cascadia Earthquake on the 24th Legislative District" of which a handout of this presentation was provided to each member of the committee.

Committee on Homeland Security**Max Messman, EMD****Tom Symonds, HLS Region 5 Coordinator**

Max directed the committee to their packets to review the summary of the After Action Report on the Peer Review Process prepared by Arel Solie, EMD.

Tom Symonds reported they were peer reviewers (1) from each state and (1) from UASI. Arel represented the state of Washington and Tom represented the Seattle Urban Area on peer review process. DHS provided us with a secure portal and then uploaded documents and investment justifications from states and UASI for us to review. Arel package had (3) states none of which were contiguous to WA state and (3) UASI's which came to about 90 investment justifications for her review and scoring. Tom's package consist of (1) State and (5) UASI's which also came out to 90 investment justifications. Review and scoring took approximately 2 weeks.

On May 31st we will know what the state grant allocations will be.

State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)**Don Bivins, Fire Chief Vancouver, Washington**

There was success in the last legislative session working with the Department of Ecology. Four sub-committees were assembled:

- Contract Administration
- Technical Subcommittee
- Administrative Structure
- Strategic/Legislature

Staffing for these subcommittees is still underway.

There will be a tribal workshop scheduled for the May 9th. This is the first time that the Tribal Workshop and the LEPC workshop. The goal is to reach out to our tribal counterparts and partners and combine our efforts and our resources.

Pandemic Influenza/Avian Flu Briefing

John Erickson, Special Assistant to Secretary, DOH

Dave Hodgeboom, WSDA

John provided a report on his briefing to each member of the committee regarding Avian Influenza Surveillance and Response. The information from the Governor's Pandemic Flu summit was also provided to each member in a bag.

John informed the committee of documentation that has been created for public awareness in steps that can be taken to help prevent Pandemic Influenza. Copies of this information are readily available to all for agency, public and private industry use. This information is also available via multiple website which was provided in the packets.

In July or August of 2006 the Governor has requested a tabletop for agencies listed in the Draft State Plan.

Dave reported on Avian Flu. Washington State Department of Agriculture is currently working with the poultry industry, as well as conducting surveillance of the current flocks for Avian Influenza along with looking at the egg market. Poultry is safe to eat with the added precautions of meat like pork by cooking it thoroughly.

Currently there have been 200 casualties due to this flu primarily due to person oversees that handle and slaughter live birds from the market.

Steve Bailey commented that any outbreak information should be reported to the counties then to our local agencies and citizens.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:30am by Diane Oberquell

Approved: _____/_____/_____