

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEETING

January 10, 2013

Building 92, Camp Murray

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order/Approval of Minutes/Introductions

Dick Walter, EMC Vice-Chair

- 9:00 called the meeting to order
- October 4, 2012 meeting minutes were passed with a motion that was seconded by Ron Averill and Bill Gillespie. The motion passed unanimously.

FEMA Region 10 Comments

Sharon Loper, FEMA Region 10 (RX)

- Kenneth Murphy has returned from his WA DC detail as Acting Chief Information Officer (CIO) to his position as the Regional Administrator for FEMA RX. He will also retain the Acting CIO responsibilities while a replacement is identified.
- RX has two new senior managers. The Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinator, similar to a Federal Coordinating Officer, but with a focus on the long-term recovery of an area impacted by disaster, for RX has been selected. It is Ms. Joan Rave, who has significant experience at FEMA HQ and in the Region on significant recovery issues and programs. The Region's External Affairs Director has also been selected, Mr. Ryan Ike.
- FEMA RX's personnel provided significant support to the Superstorm Sandy response. Over 50% of personnel were deployed to operations in New York and New Jersey. Over 25% of personnel remain deployed. Our Regional Coordinating Officer Dolph Diemont is still on a disaster assignment in West Virginia, and our FCO Willie Nunn is in New York City as part of Superstorm Sandy response. Key lessons learned and best practices from Sandy are being collated for use within Region 10
- The federal declared disaster in Washington, DR-4083, for the severe storm in Northeastern Washington continues to be worked on in partnership with the State. There are a total of 21 applicants and 55 Project Worksheets. Today, \$644,209 in federal support has been obligated with a total to be provided estimated at \$3.7M. Work continues to collect necessary documentation to obligate the Project Worksheets for two large sub-grantees, the PUD and the Confederated Tribes of Colville Nation.
- The Region is currently reviewing each of the State and UASI Threat and Hazards Identification and Risk Assessments (THIRAs) that were submitted on December 31st. Comments will be forwarded to the State on or about January 22nd.

- National Planning Frameworks – The remaining 3 National Planning Frameworks under Presidential Policy Directive (PPD)-8: Prevention, Protection, and Mitigation – should be finalized soon. These will join the NRF and NDRF. A National Planning Frameworks “Roll-Out” Event for RX will occur in Seattle likely sometime in late April. This will be a large ‘whole community’ event for 200-300 folks. Hope to have a firm date and location in a few weeks.
- FEMA is implementing the National and Regional Incident Support Manuals (NISM and RISM) which will create the doctrine for NRCC and RRCC management. The concepts should be compliant with NIMS and be based on functionality of the MACC (multi agency coordination center).
- FEMA RX has received funding for an Alaska Annex plan for a catastrophic event impacting the state. The plan is anticipated to have significant logistic requirements for response resources from the continental US (CONUS) that will likely require staging and movement through Federal support areas in the state of Washington.
- FEMA RX will be finishing the first draft of our CSZ response plan. Throughout this coming year FEMA RX will be working on refining the draft to ensure that operation of the plan is possible.
- Congress revised the NFIP through the passage of the Biggert-Waters Act in 2012. The first phase on implementation has begun and will affect all secondary homes in the floodplain with a 25% rate increase on flood insurance premiums at renewal.
- FEMA expects a hearing in the spring 2013 for on-going litigation regarding the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and NFIP in Puget Sound. The spring hearing will be to hear a motion for Summary Judgment brought by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) against FEMA contending the NFIP violates the ESA primarily for salmon and killer whales.

Vote for New EMC Chair

Dick Walter, EMC Vice-Chair

- Three candidates – Ron Averill, Bill Gillespie, and Jim Hall – were nominated for the EMC co-chair position after an email was sent out asking who wanted to be co-chair. Short biographies were sent out to give a background for each candidate.
- A request was made to all members asking if they want to be considered for the position – none volunteered.
- A motion was moved to vote for Ron, Bill, or Jim and was seconded by Dave Hodgeboom. The motion was passed unanimously. Ballots were passed to all members present.

Question for the nominees: What is your vision for the EMC?

Ron: I have had a lot of experience at this level. We have two counties that are rural and one is not. The solution to working with these counties has been an interesting process. My chief concern is that we know the money is limited and we have to take care of the folks that aren't in a bigger city. I have also had experience in Hawaii working as a planner and their structure is more hierarchical than here. This council should be filling its role is making sure policies are implemented.

Bill: I've spent about 4 years as a volunteer in several areas across the state. My vision for the EMC is threefold. More communications across the state about what's going on and for the public to understand what's going on in emergency management and emergency response. We need to get a focused message so it is a single message that is sent to cities and counties. We often get frustrated with government's "one size fits all" motto; one size does not fit all in emergency management. One of the things I've noticed from the study we've been working on is that this group needs to be more representative throughout the state. My vision is to increase the visibility of this body and emergency management across the state and get measurements out there that Jim Mullen and TAG can get to the governor to show that we are making improvements and are preparing the state for whatever happens.

Jim: I've come from a life looking at preparedness and responding to events. How can you do it better? Get involved! This group needs to get involved and get things accomplished. What are our hazards and are we prepared? We may have to work on things and make recommendations to the director and TAG to get prepared for that one catastrophic event that could affect all of us.

Evergreen Earthquake Series

Lit Dudley, EMD

- We're using the lessons learned to build the plans for the next few years to identify gaps and needs to populate the future exercise.
- Conducted a series of 3 exercises from June through October 2012.
 - The first exercise was a functional exercise – operation center to operation center. This was a simulation that started 24 hours after the earthquake and played over two days. Highlights: Staffing and Facility Needs; Resource Typing and Visibility; Prioritization of Resources; Holistic View of Transportation Infrastructure; Alternate Route Coordination; and Information Sharing.
 - The second exercise was a logistics exercise that occurred a week after the initial exercise and exercised the capability to manage resources after a major regional disaster.
 - The third exercise was a recovery tabletop that was a series of educational seminars and workshops. Themes: Public Information, Populations, Leadership, Economic Recovery, Transportation/Infrastructure, Health and Social Services, and Long-Term Housing
- There were participants from cities, counties, tribes, private sector agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, British Columbia, Alaska, and Idaho
- Program Objectives: Assess capabilities, Identify gaps and priorities, Update strategic plans, Invest accordingly
- We "broke" several systems – logistics and the executive decision-making process, but were able to recover
- State agencies and local agencies gained experience through cross-training.
- Highlights and lessons learned: We are not ready for the catastrophic! We will never have enough staff no matter how much we train. We need to train more staff and figure out what to do when we have hoards of volunteers. Our facility alone will not meet the needs of the event, we need remote facilities. We can never share enough information – we especially need to improve and identify the type of information we *do* share.

- Long-term recovery: How do we take care of the population and ourselves? How do we take care of the populations that are already stressed? We also need to address the issue of long-term housing and health and social services.
- Need to have a recovery forum
- We didn't conduct this exercise to show off what we could do well; we did it to show what we aren't capable of. Right now we could not tell you that we are prepared based off experience from that workshop.
- We did not test fuel distribution
- We live on a very delicately balanced Just-In-Time ordering system. It's something we need to look at to reestablish working with the government and private sector for centers to work together.

Volunteer Worker Concerns

John Erickson, Department of Health

- In a catastrophic event we're going to have a lot of alternate care facilities set up. Some will be federal medical stations that are not field hospitals, some will be National Guard set-ups, some will be private providers and volunteers, and they all have to be staffed.
- We're establishing a clinical medical advisory board to advise the Secretary and Governor. We are getting the right bodies in the right places to make these long-term decisions.
- It is a huge effort for Public Health to engage the medical health community.
- The advisory group will have to wrestle with crisis standards of care and we have to have difference standards to work with because of the number of people we'll have to handle.
- The workgroup is currently working on developing a play-book for the Governor's executive orders to suspend or certain laws and requirements depending on different situations.
- How do volunteer work under Incident Command? We need to develop a guidance document for them.

Resilient Washington

John Schelling, EMD

Dave Norman, Department of Natural Resources

- Resilient Washington has been a 2 ½ year process that pulled together committee members from all different sectors to look at resilience at city-wide levels.
- The purpose of the workshops was to provide a framework for improving Washington's resilience when earthquakes occur with a goal of making the state resilient over the next 50 years
- "A resilient state is one that maintains services and livelihoods after an earthquake. In the event that services and livelihoods are disrupted, recovery occurs rapidly, with minimal social disruption, and results in a new and better condition" – RWS Subcommittee
- 5 Values: Life safety and human health; Property protection; Economic Security, Environmental quality; and Community continuity
- 4 Sector groups (critical services, utilities, transportation, and housing and economic development) as well as a number of subject matter experts asked where we are today, where we want to be in the future, and how do we get there.
- 4 Tasks: Evaluate where we are, what the target is for recovery, identify interdependencies between different groups, prepare what you already have before you

- Resilience Recommendations:
 - Mitigation activities should be incentivized – buy down tomorrow’s risk at today’s prices
 - Use mitigation activities to create jobs, stimulate the economy, reduce unemployment, and reduce risk to people, property, the economy, and the environment
 - Leverage potential private sector investments to offset costs to the state
 - Make schools resilient
 - Require utility providers to identify vulnerabilities in their systems
 - Improve resiliency of buildings in high seismic hazard areas
 - Assess the permitting requirements that relate to environmental protection
 - Strengthen business continuity planning (BCP) efforts
 - Strengthen regional transportation networks
 - Make hospitals resilient – structurally and functionally
 - Identify and map in greater detail sources of seismicity and geologically hazardous areas
 - Improve life safety in coastal communities
 - Implement resilience principles through formalized accountability
 - Establish a state lifelines subcommittee or workgroup
 - Assist with facilitation between the public and private sectors for BCP efforts
 - Monitor and report on implementation of resilience principles

EMC Study Group

Bill Gillespie, Search and Rescue

- The EMC Study Group has been working over the course of the past year to look at the purpose and structure of the EMC.
- Met about 8 times and worked with a consultant to devise an electronic survey for the emergency management community.
- The survey did not get a lot of response, but that was an indication of how much the EM community knows about the EMC.
- We’d like to ask WSEMA and local emergency managers to join this workgroup so they can be truly represented
- Areas to look at: The make-up of the EMC under 38-52; Changes that have occurred in the emergency management arena and community; Who does and does not need to be on the council
- We need to define the committee structures and who reports to whom and what their goals and challenges are
- We need greater transparency through and for the DSEG
- It is critical that we move this forward as quickly as possible. The EMC needs to answer the CHS’s questions.
- We don’t want this to be a radical redefinition of the EMC – we want it to be a thoughtful and deliberate process. It may take 6 months or longer to change 38-52 and other things like 118-04.

Comments

Major General Bret Daugherty, MIL

- At the next meeting we will discuss how to chart the course for the EMC.
- The governor wants to know how prepared we are and the recommendations from this group go up to the governor. We have a strategic opportunity with the new administration coming in.
- Would like the EMC to focus on preparedness and response and recovery. Need to track the progress we make in preparing for hazards.
- Move towards measurable matrix.

New Chair Comments

- Out of the thirteen members that were present and able to vote, the majority of nine voted for Jim Hall
- Jim: This group is energized and looking to do something that may have been lagging for a while. Pressure has been on all of us. Collectively we can put this state in the lead for the nation. This is an advisory group and recently we haven't heard a lot of what this group is recommending to TAG or the governor. What should we be recommending to the people that we're serving? If we work together we can make this happen!

Closing Remarks

Dick Walter, EMC Vice-Chair

Key words to think about: Priorities of government versus, representation, and communication. What are the visions for success? How many your businesses have implemented business continuity plans? What improvement is going on? What improvement is happening in local areas?

Meeting adjourned at 11:38

**Next Meeting: ~~April 4, 2013 TENTATIVE~~
~~Eastern WA – Location TBD~~**

**April 11, 2013
Bldg 91, Camp Murray**