

# Tri-County Urban Area Security Initiative Working Group

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## Minutes

July 13, 2012, 0900 CST

1819 Farnam Street, 3rd Floor, Jesse Lowe Conference Room, Omaha, NE

Meeting comes to order

### 1. Introduction of voting members present

First Name	Last Name	Agency	Attendance
Mark	Conrey	Communications	X
Mark	Desler	Urban Law Enforcement	X
Travis	Harlow	Rural Fire	X
Shane	Hunter	Urban Fire	X
Paul	Johnson	Douglas County	X
Larry	Lavelle	Sarpy County	X
Steve	Oltmans	Omaha Mayor's Office (chair)	X
Kevin	Pokorny	Rural Law Enforcement	X
Bill	Pook	Emergency Management / Washington C	X
Dennis	Snook	Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources	X

### 2. Review & approval of meeting notes from the previous meeting

Paul Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes with the following changes: change the rural law enforcement representative to Capt. Kevin Pokorny and the Emergency Management representative to Lynn Marshall. Larry Lavelle seconded the motion; the motion passed by consensus.

## Discussion Items

### Updates and Reports

#### 1. Tri-County/UASI management & Administration update – Phil Ruhe/Gail Braun

NEMA approved the 2011 State Homeland Security Work Plan and items are entered into the Grants Management System (GMS). This plan will be presented to the City Council three times beginning July 24<sup>th</sup>, with a scheduled approval date at the August 7, 2012 meeting. As a reminder, any items that cost more than \$20,000 must be approved by the City Council. NEMA assisted in the UASI region receiving 75% funding for emergency needs from the 2009 Blizzard.

The PET Subcommittee recommended the working group fund a canine training and the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) conference. Funding will come from 2010 State Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) dollars.

Persons interested in attending the National Preparedness Symposium on August. 7-9, 2012 in Virginia, let Bill Pook know so a request for travel can be processed. Pre-registration is free, but seating is limited. The Tri-County region may send up to six attendees.

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Esri© presented a special achievement award to Douglas and Sarpy Counties with the Nebraska State Patrol for the GIS system. This project required multi-agency cooperation, and was a success.

## **2. Financial update & report – Phil Ruhe & Gail Braun**

Funds from the 2009 State HSGP must be spent by July 31, 2012. \$47,000 is remaining, though most of that funding is allocated for overtime and backfill. If you need to close out funding requests and invoicing, please talk to Phil Ruhe. Two PET activates were approved out of the 2010 UASI funding. Persons should review the 2010 budget. If your agency requested funding but has not yet spent the funding, please talk to Phil Ruhe. 2011 funding will be available after the work plan is approved by the City Council.

## **3. Standing committee reports**

a. Emergency Management: Paul Johnson, Douglas County Emergency Management  
IPAWS (Integrated Public Alert and Warning System) and CMAS (Commercial Mobile Alert System) will be coming out this month. The National Weather Service will send text warnings for blizzards, tornadoes, and Amber Alerts to cellular phones beginning in September 2012. Eventually, Incident Command in the Tri-County region will have the same text-messaging capabilities. The Tri-County Local Emergency Communication Committee is working with NEMA to get the program up and on line. These messages will be 90 characters or less and will be sent geographically through cell phones based on Polygon. The State Emergency Alert System Plan is pending FCC approval; the local plan mimics the state plan. IPAWS webinars continue to be held each month. An important decision about who is responsible and authorized for creating, vetting and sending emergency alert messages is pending. Customers will be able to opt-out of alerts for everything except Presidential Messages, a tool that has never been used. It is necessary to consider how this information will be shared with the public. CMAS is federally controlled; IPAWS is controlled federally and locally. It is anticipated that the National Weather Service will send out most messages.

### PET Meeting – Lynn Marshall

A training calendar was distributed in the meeting. ICS 300 and 400 will be held in October and December. Individuals approved for training who are not city employees should get reimbursed by their agency for training expenses and the city will reimburse the agencies. Lynn Marshall will remain vice chair of the PET Committee, and Bill Pook will serve as chair.

b. Communications: Mark Conrey, Douglas County 911 Communications

A change will be submitted to the 2010 grant work plan for GIS. Sarpy and Douglas counties are implementing the new CAD system in April 2012. Preliminary CAD information requested last spring will need to be turned back into Motorola in October 2012. Sarpy County implemented SmartEx, a program that will extend the life of the radio system.

The 9-1-1 Regionalization Feasibility Study continues. Janell Walther, Public Policy Center, reported that the survey collected over 700 responses, and focus groups continue to meet.

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Janell is setting up a webinar with the Kansas City metropolitan region to hear lessons learned and special considerations from their regionalization project.

c. Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources (CI/KR): Dennis Snook, OPPD

The next CI/KR meeting will be Tuesday, July 17. The CI/KR subcommittee is continuing work on marketing efforts to create public-private partnerships with multi-level businesses including smaller businesses that don't often have emergency plans, mid-level businesses that may have plans, and larger businesses that often have emergency plans. The subcommittee is reviewing a brochure and will be creating a website. This year's goal is to expand to 25 additional businesses. There is an interest in creating a more secure website to discuss lessons learned.

d. Urban Law Enforcement: Lt. Mark Desler, OPD

Lt. Desler offered special thanks to all of the organizations and agencies that assisted in Omaha's major events in the last month including the College World Series and the Olympic Swim Trials. Equipment, information, and knowledge sharing was invaluable. Lt. Desler introduced Lt. Tom Schaffer who will be serving as the Urban Law representative to UASI in the future. Thank you Mark, for your work on this committee!

e. Rural Law Enforcement: Captain Kevin Pokorny, LaVista PD

This subcommittee will put together some training for first responders and active shooter situations. The committee will plan training activities that can be done with multiple departments in the tri-county area, so that the responders can work together in an event easily having experienced the same training.

f. Urban Fire: B/C Shane Hunter, OFD

Three large classes in Swift Water, Under Water Rescue, and Radiation Tool training were held last month. The Omaha Fire Dept. received their air boat as requested. The After Action Report for the 2011 Flood is complete and copies are available For Official Use Only. Copies may be requested from B/C Hunter or Gail Braun. In the future, we will consider using Emergency Managers to complete the After-Action Reports (AAR). AARs will be considered at the next meeting with recommendations from Incident Command

g. Rural Fire: Travis Harlow, Waterloo Fire

The Rural Fire Subcommittee is looking forward to the approval of an airboat purchase for Waterloo, will be presented to the City Council after the 2011 work plan is approved.

#### 4. Reports from other associated Homeland Security Federal Grant Programs

- a. Omaha Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) – Phil Ruhe reporting for Phyllis Dutton  
The Pediatrics CBRNE Conference was held May 30-31. Phyllis is finishing the 2009 MMRS program, and then will start spending 2010 MMRS funding. The 2010 MMRS grant was approved by the City Council. All funding for the 2011 Homeland Security Grant funds and

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MMRS grant funds must be spent by June 2013. Agencies will need to submit for reimbursement, particularly for the 2009 grant, right away.

b. Buffer Zone Protection Programs (BZPP) – Lt. Mark Desler

The BZPP's are still in place. Funding for Buffer Zones was eliminated and is not likely to get re-funded. Buffer zone expenses are still allowable under State Homeland Security Grant Program funds.

c. Citizen Corps Program – Whitney Shipley for Tom McMahon, United Way of the Midlands

The State CERT Conference is scheduled for August 17-18 at the Stuhr Museum in Grand Island, NE. The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) has 587 members. They will hold a Psychological First Aid Class for interested persons on July 24. There was a half-day MRC Decontamination training on June 23. The new MRC recruitment video was released. MRC will submit an application for training funds and two first aid backpacks. Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) have 120 volunteers to date. A parking patrol class is scheduled for August. The Neighborhood Watch program is auditing its membership. The National Night Out will be on August 7. Ryan Lowry shared that 2012 grant funds are not yet finalized, but Citizen Corps funding will be written into the State HSGP as an investment justification rather than having its own funding. The Citizen Corps will participate in the Septemberfest Parade on Sept. 3 as part of disaster Preparedness Month. A grant request was submitted for materials and PSAs.

## 5. Public Policy Center Report, Janell Walther

The 2012 Disaster Behavioral Health Conference is today, July 13 at the Embassy Suites Old Market. The conference has exciting speakers this year, and has good turn out again this year. The 911 Regionalization Feasibility study continues as reported previously. The next meeting of the Shared Services Subcommittee will be in September. The Dept. of Homeland Security Grant Programs was pleased with Nebraska's Investment Justifications for 2012; everyone's collaborative efforts are appreciated.

### Action Items

### Public Comment

NEMA will move into the new office on July 27.

### Upcoming events & next meeting

The next meeting will be held September 14, 2012 at 9:00 am in the Jesse Lowe Conference Room.