

Tri-County Urban Area Security Initiative Working Group

Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2013, 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
Tom	Shaffer	Urban Law Enforcement	X
Travis	Harlow	Rural Fire	X
Shane	Hunter	Urban Fire	X
Paul	Johnson	Douglas County	X
Larry	Lavelle	Sarpy County (Chair)	X
Kevin	Pokorny	Rural Law Enforcement	X
Melanie	Smith	Emergency Management	X
Bill	Pook	Washington County	
Dennis	Snook	Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources	X

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

Captain Kevin Pokorny made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2013 meeting. Travis Harlow seconded the motion; the motion passed by consensus.

Discussion Items:

1. FY2013 SHSGP Priorities – Phil Ruhe

The new deadline for submission of the 2013 work plan is August 16. Exact funding levels by region are unknown; an email is expected to arrive from Nikki Weber at NEMA with the specific funding levels. In the meantime, committees are encouraged to look at the draft work plan and priorities. Once final amounts are known, Phil will send an email with the work plan allocations based on requests. If needed, a special meeting will be called to discuss and vote on the work plan and priorities. Changes to work plans and budgets after initial submission will be under more scrutiny than previous years, so it is important to be mindful as the work plan is approved. We are working with NEMA about the use of 2013 SHSGP funds for the purchase of vests for the Omaha Fire Department based on more recent need. Al Berndt, NEMA, is discussing this potential purchase with the grants program administrator to see if it is an allowable expense. The work plan template is based on the previous state homeland security strategy. The new strategy will be present in either the revised 2013 submission or the 2014 SHSGP application. Gail Braun or Phil Ruhe will clarify with NEMA if this year's work plan should include new strategies and priorities.

Updates & Reports

1. Tri-County/ UASI Mgmt & Administration Update – Phil Ruhe & Gail Braun

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2010 UASI Closeout

The 2010 UASI Grant closes out on July 31, 2013. There is a 90-day closeout window for the grant, but all funds must be encumbered by July 31.

Approximate \$10,000-\$20,000 remains from the PET project, which may have to be returned to NEMA. Phil Ruhe is working with the CIKR committee to complete spending of their funds. Additionally, it is important that travel is turned in as soon as possible with itemized receipts. .

2012 SHSG Acceptance

The 2012 State Homeland Security Grant allocation and work plan was accepted by the Omaha City Council, so we can start spending the funds. If committees have expenditures to start, let Phil Ruhe know. All expenditures over \$20,000 must be approved by the City Council. This grant ends on January 31, 2014. Equipment should be ordered as soon as possible.

2013 SHSG Work Plan Timeline

The 2013 SHSG work plan must be submitted to NEMA by August 16. A special meeting to approve the work plan and discuss priorities may be required.

2. Financial Update and Report – Scott Crites, City of Omaha

No additional update.

3. Standing Committee Reports

a. Emergency Management – Melanie Smith

A THIRA workshop will be held on Friday, July 19 using 2010 funding; RSVP to Melanie Smith. The Tri-County PET Workshop to discuss grant funding and work plan will be held on August 5, 2013 at 1:00 PM at the Omaha Public Safety Training Center. A tabletop exercise with Omaha Fire will be held on August 6-8, 2013 at the First National Bank Building to help plan a full scale exercise in October. If you have additions to the PET Calendar, please let Lynn Marshall know so that expenditures can be properly budgeted.

b. Communications – Mark Conrey

The new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System is scheduled to go live on July 23 for first responders in the Tri-County Area. This change will cause mobile data to be changed over to a new front end, which will affect agencies in all three counties. There may be some downtime on mobile data terminals for a day or two until each agency can bring over the new system. Chadron sent the first IPAWS Amber Alert message last month; this will be important in coming months.

c. Critical Infrastructure / Key Resources – Dennis Snook

A contract has been signed for the brochure and the website, which will get started at the end of August at the Omaha Service Center. A brainstorming meeting facilitated by SafeGuard Iowa is planned for the end of August to

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discuss how to get a program like SafeGuard Iowa started in Nebraska on a local and statewide level.

- d. Urban Law Enforcement – Lt. Tom Shaffer
Currently, law enforcement is coordinating the US Senior Open golf tournament. Six officers (3 SWAT and 3 Rapid Deployment) were sent to get re-upped in a training of trainers for less-lethal ammunitions. These officers may train other agencies. Three bomb squad officers were trained in military grade explosive devices. Six bomb technicians are certified in military grade devices and can serve the entire metro area.
 - e. Rural Law – Captain Kevin Pokorny
Next week, the Active Shooter team put together in the Tri-County region is headed to Ainsworth and Ogallala to help train law enforcement officers in the North Central region. Sheriff Davis is putting together active shooter training for schools on September 25, 2013 at the Ralston Arena for school administrators and school officials. This training will help prepare school administrators on activities such as lock down and lock out. The PET Committee is reviewing the costs currently (\$5,000-\$8,000). Approximately 500-600 attendees are anticipated.
A large scale exercise (LSE) using all disciplines will be planned for a type of active shooter situation. Law Enforcement and the PET Committees are coordinating the exercise across disciplines. Tabletops will start in Winter 2013 and plan for the LSE by September 2014. Most 2013 funding is allocated, but the work plan is not yet complete.
 - f. Urban Fire – A/C Shane Hunter
A Sight Scan Sonar training was held with nine total attendees paid for by PET funding. The training was well received. The committee continues to plan the full scale exercise at First National Bank Building.
 - g. Rural Fire – Travis Harlow
The air boat purchased with UASI funding made its first call for water rescue last week. The boat is available for mutual aid. Communication from the river was difficult, so the committee is working with NRD to place mile marker placards along the river to identify location reference.
- 4. Reports from other association Homeland Security Federal Grant Programs**
- a. Omaha Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS)
Phyllis Dutton attended the Great Plains Disaster Behavioral Health Conference in Lincoln on July 12 and emailed her update to Phil Ruhe. Phyllis is updating the Hospital Preparedness grant from Health & Human Services. The 2010 grant is basically spent; and final items will be ordered. OMMRS participated in an Exercise with five hospitals; issues with notification for hospitals need to be addressed. Two Medical Reserve Corps exercises and an evacuation exercise are planned for October.

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b. Citizen Corps

Tom MacMahon attended the Great Plains Disaster Behavioral Health Conference in Lincoln, NE on July 12.

5. Public Policy Center – Janell Walther

The Great Plains Disaster Behavioral Health Conference is today in Lincoln, Nebraska. The Shared Services Committee will meet on July 29 at 9:00 AM to make recommendations on the 911 Regionalization project. The Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council met on July 24 to discuss communications projects in the state such as Firstnet Broadband, Regional Interoperability Network, and regional projects. The State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC) meets regularly to set the Emergency Alert System (EAS) Plan, which includes representation and discussion regarding Amber Alerts and Wireless Emergency Alerting; for more information, visit <http://ne-eas.org>.

Action Items – No action items.

Member & Public Comment

1. Paul Johnson, Douglas County Emergency Management: If you anticipate potential PET projects, conferences, or training that you would like to attend, please attend a PET Committee meeting so the committee can prioritize the project and get it placed on the PET Calendar. There is interest in hearing from the UASI Conference attendees; Rich Lally and Phyllis Dutton attended on behalf of Tri-County.
2. Captain Kevin Pokorny, La Vista Police Department – Phil Ruhe’s job ends soon and there is an interest in recommending the Mayor’s Office keep the position as long as Homeland Security Grant Funding continues. Phil Ruhe, Grants Assistant, has been instrumental in keeping the UASI and SHGP organized and coordinated, including the work of this committee. The Mayor’s office is reviewing the 2014 budget right now.
Kevin Pokorny made a motion to write a letter, signed by the chair and/or all subcommittee chairs on behalf of the entire committee, to retain the Grants Assistant Position as long as homeland security grant funding is received. Shane Hunter seconded the motion; the motion passed by consensus.

Meeting adjourned 10 AM.