

Tri-County Urban Area Security Initiative Working Group

Minutes

March 8, 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
Bill	Bowes	Rural Fire	
Shane	Hunter	Urban Fire	
Paul	Johnson	Douglas County	X
Larry	Lavelle	Sarpy County (Chair)	X
Steve	Oltmans	Omaha Mayor's Office	
Kevin	Pokorny	Rural Law Enforcement	X
Lynn	Marshall	Emergency Management	X
Bill	Pook	Washington County	
Pete	Neddo	Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources	

Note: Travis Harlow represented Rural Fire in Bill Bowes place and Brad Hildebrandt represented Urban Fire in Shane Hunter's place.

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

Lynn Marshall made a motion to approve the minutes pending the correction of the Rural Fire representative to Chief Bill Bowes and update the Tri-County Nebraska Homeland Security Planning website URL.

(<http://homelandplanning.nebraska.edu/petregions/tricounty.php>) Kevin Pokorny seconded this motion; the motion passed by role call.

Discussion Items

No discussion items.

Updates and Reports

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

The 2012 State Homeland Security work plan has been approved by NEMA; it has yet to be approved by the Omaha City Council. Fund allocations can begin once everything is approved and entered into the Nebraska Grant Management System. The 2012 State Homeland Security Grant and 2011 State Homeland Security Grant will both end on January 31, 2014. Application packets and funding allocations for the 2013 State Homeland Security Grant will be released soon; NEMA may hold an Investment Justification (IJ) Workshop. NEMA is exploring the option of providing funding to the regions on a per project basis rather than the current per capita allocation system.

The 2013 Homeland Security Conference will be held in Las Angeles in June. NEMA does not intend to send any representative; Tri-County UASI may have funding to send a few representatives.

2. Financial update & report – Scott Crites, City of Omaha Finance Department

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\$369,000 is remaining in the 2010 UASI grant; the majority of this money has been allocated for the Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources (CI/KR) Project and the DOT.Comm cyber security training. An agreement with OPPD in regards to the CI/KR project is being developed and the DOT.Comm cyber security was recently approved by NEMA; \$190,000 is allocated for these two projects, leaving the PET project with \$117,000. Of the remaining funds, \$27,000 has been requested for the rope rescue training with the Omaha Fire Department, \$16,500 has been requested for an explosive entry technician's course with the Omaha Police Department, \$15,000 will be requested for Advanced Ordinance Recognition training with the Omaha Police Department.

\$43,000 is remaining in the 2011 State Homeland Security Grant. \$13,000 is allocated for Planning, Exercise and Training activities; this funding will likely be allocated once the 2010 grant closes out on July 31, 2013.

3. Standing committee reports

- a. **Emergency Management/Planning, Exercise & Training (PET)** : Lynn Marshall, Sarpy County Emergency Management
Emergency management continues to meet the first Monday of every month. Meeting discussions center on activities in legislation, communication and fire and rescue. The next meeting will include a discussion on the PET process. The PET sub-committee meets every other month to review training requests. In response to NEMA's recent audits, those requesting PET funds for trainings should send an initial request form to Phil Ruhe; Lynn Marshall should be copied on the email. This form can be found on the secure portal of the Public Policy Centers' Nebraska Homeland Security Planning website. (Contact Phil Ruhe for username and password)
2010 PET funding will close on July 31, 2013; 2011 PET funding will close on January 31, 2014. The 2012 PET funding period is only two years; the abbreviated timeframe of this grant will result in extensive review of proposed projects to ensure they are appropriate, feasible and allow for the sustainment and maintenance of the committee.
- b. **Communications**: Mark Conrey, Douglas County 911 Communications
Work with NEMA has begun planning for the Federal Support to Nebraska for Communications; this project is intended to determine Nebraska's communication capabilities in the wake of an emergency. Nebraska's Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans (TICPs) are being evaluated to determine Nebraska's frequencies, location of towers and capabilities. A draft of this plan is expected by the end of the month; once finalized, this plan will become part of the State Interoperable Communications Plan. The Shared Services Committee continues to meet and discuss the governance, cost and the formal committees to share the services of 9-1-1 between the three counties as well as the cost for the state wireless broadband and 4G network for public safety. The state is developing a proposal plan for the implementation of a statewide 4G network that would be universally accessible for public safety; \$1.5 million has been allocated for the development of the proposal.
- c. **Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources**: Dennis Snook, OPPD
The NIPC conference will be held on March 26-27. Their CI/KR reserved ten seats for the conference with four seats still remaining; those interested in attending the conference should contact Dennis via email. Conversations with Safe Guard Iowa have begun to discuss the possibility of a statewide CI/KR group; businesses have been identified that may be willing to provide start-up funding for this project.
- d. **Urban Law Enforcement**: Lt. Tom Shaffer, OPD

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Explosive Breacher Course will begin in May; seven OPD officers, two Sarpy County officers, two Washington County officers, two Douglas County officers, two Bellevue officers and one Ralston officer will be sent through this training. The Advanced Ordinance Recognition Class is being held in Bryan, Texas on July 8-19; this course offers training in military grade explosives. Three officers will attend this course at a cost of \$16,000.

- e. **Rural Law Enforcement:** Captain Kevin Pokorny, LaVista PD
Two active shooter 'train the trainer' sessions are scheduled the third and fourth week of March. Representatives from the State Patrol, Council Bluffs Police Department, Plattsmouth Police Department and nearly every law enforcement agency in the Tri-County area are registered for the program. Trainers graduating from this program will be available to train other law enforcement entities.
- f. **Urban Fire:** B/C Shane Hunter, Omaha Fire Department presented by Brad Hildebrandt
The Confined Spaces Rope Rescue class was recently approved. The course will be held on April 8-10 and is being facilitated by the Texas Rope Rescue Company. Six Papillion firefighters and six Omaha firefighters will receive a three-day initial training; 12 Omaha firefighters will receive a one-day refresher course.
- g. **Rural Fire:** Chief Bill Bowes, Papillion Fire presented by Travis Harlow
The new airboat purchased with the 2011 funds will be in service within the next 4-6 weeks. Tri-County and Tri-Mutual Aid will be notified once the boat is in service and appropriate training will be conducted.

4. Reports from other associated Homeland Security Federal Grant Programs

- a. **Omaha Metropolitan Medical Response System (OMMRS)** – Phyllis Dutton
Several items have been sent to the City Council for approval; once these items are approved they will be purchased using funds from the 2010 and 2011 Homeland Security Grant. A functional exercise for a bomb threat and evacuation was held in November 2012. This exercise highlighted that there are not enough pediatric beds, burn beds or psychiatric beds to accommodate the evacuation of a major hospital. Bomb response training will be held in 2014; this has already been approved by the state and a PET request will be submitted soon. Matt Manhart with the Omaha bomb squad will be presenting on March 28 at Immanuel Medical Center. Full Scale Evacuation Exercise will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 from 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM CST; the Center for Preparedness Education will serve as the facilitators.
- b. **Citizen Corps Program** – Tom McMahan, United Way of the Midlands presented by Lynn Marshall
The Community Emergency Response Training begins March 8, 2013 at 6:00 PM CST and will run through the weekend. Public outreach activities are being planned through Citizen Corps and Neighborhood Watch.

5. Public Policy Center Report, Denise Bulling

The Public Policy Center is meeting with NEMA to plan a process that updates the current state strategy. Any changes must be approved by Nebraska's State Homeland Security Policy Group chaired by the Lt. Governor. The Public Policy Center is assisting the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals with their Spring Regional Conference which will be held in Omaha, Nebraska on April 15-17. This year's conference theme is "Threat Assessment in a Changing Environment." Mayor Jim Suttle will be giving the welcome address; the conference will feature presentations from a number of national experts in threat assessment. The Department of Health and Human Services is allowing CDC and ASPER funding to be used to pay for attendance by stakeholders in the health care system. The Nebraska Public Safety Communication Council (NPSCC) meeting that was scheduled for January 22, 2013 was postponed due to inclement weather; a date has yet to be set for

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the next meeting. [Please note: the NPSCC meeting has since been scheduled for April 8, 2013 from 10:00 AM until 12:00 Noon CST.]

Action Items

No action items.

Public Comment

On April 11, during the Nebraska Association of Emergency Managers Conference in Grand Island, hazmat experts will be presenting. Firefighters, first responders, hospital and health department personnel are encouraged to attend.

Upcoming events & next meeting

The next meeting will be held May 10, 2013 at 9:00 am in the Jesse Lowe Conference Room.

Tri-County UASI meetings are scheduled every two months, on the second Friday of those months at 9:00 AM. The remaining 2013 meeting dates are as follows:

Friday, May 10

Friday, July 12

Friday, September 13

Friday, November 8

Agendas and minutes are posted on the Public Policy Centers' Nebraska Homeland Security Planning website at:
<http://homelandplanning.nebraska.edu/petregions/tricounty.php>