

Tri-County Urban Area Security Initiative Working Group

Meeting Minutes

May 10, 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	
Steve	Oltmans	Omaha Mayor's Office (Chair)	X
Kevin	Pokorny	Rural Law Enforcement	X
Lynn	Marshall	Emergency Management	X
Bill	Pook	Washington County	
Dennis	Snook	Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources	X

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

Lynn Marshall made a motion to approve the minutes pending the correction of July 31, 2013 as the correct end date for the 2010 UASI grant and update Tom Shaffer as in attendance at the meeting. Mark Conrey seconded this motion; the motion passed by consensus.

Discussion Items

No discussion items.

Updates and Reports

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

The end of the performance period for the 2010 UASI grant is July 31, 2013; roughly \$62,000 is remaining in this grant. Cyber security training for Douglas County and Sarpy County has begun; the invoice for this training has been received and is being processed. The Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources (CIKR) project was recently approved by the Omaha City Council. NEMA will be hosting the 2013 investment justification (IJ) workshop on June 12, 2013; an agenda and location have yet to be set. (Since this meeting, the date for IJ workshop has been moved to June 10, 2013.) Guidance for the new Homeland Security grant is expected to be received during the week of May 13; once the guidance is received, Nebraska has 45 days to complete the grant applications.

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

PET activities to be allocated under the 2010 UASI grant must occur before July 31, 2013; funds allocated for exercise funds can be reallocated to planning or training programs. This grant may be used to fund travel and other expenditures for a firefighter course and/or hazmat course. A CIKR event scheduled for June 19 anticipated using funding from the FY11 grant; however, funding from the FY10 grant could be used instead.

3. Standing committee reports

- a. **Emergency Management/Planning, Exercise & Training (PET)** : Lynn Marshall, Sarpy County Emergency Management
Emergency management continues to meet monthly; management of PET activities was discussed during the last meeting to ensure the PET management aligned with the committee's strategy moving forward. The Mayor's Exercise will be June 12, 2013. Any suggestions for the committee should be sent to Lynn Marshall via email
- b. **Communications**: Mark Conrey, Douglas County 911 Communications
New computer-aided design (CAD) implementation has been rescheduled from June 18 to July 22; a by-product of the CAD implementation is that officer and firefighter mobile data will have to be reloaded. A new interface on the CAD system will push new data to the Denali records management system (RMF). There is a strong indication that Motorola will announce the end of life for the majority of handheld radios used in Nebraska, including the XTL and XTS, within the next month; replacement plans for those using these subscriber radios need to be considered. New vendors whose radios work on the current system may be considered to lessen the reliance on Motorola. Current radios are expected to function for an additional five years; in accordance, the sense of urgency regarding this issue should be low.
- c. **Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources (CIKR)**: Dennis Snook, OPPD
Four people were sent to the Nebraska Infrastructure Protection Conference in March. Promotional materials, including a brochure and website for the CIKR group, have been produced and are near ready for publication. CIKR is hosting a brainstorming event to identify Nebraska's capacity to being a program similar to Safeguard Iowa and apply for a community initiative grant available through FEMA. The community initiative grant could fund a statewide effort for local, mid-sized, and large businesses to become involved in disaster emergency planning. Safeguard Iowa, Lutheran Family Disaster Services, the Great Plains Contingency Planners Group, and the CIKR committee are among the expected participants; local business representatives are also expected to be in attendance. This event is scheduled for June 19, 2013.
- d. **Urban Law Enforcement**: Lt. Tom Shaffer, OPD
Urban Law Enforcement is hosting a number of events before the end of the fiscal year that require a lot of staffing. OPD has been holding five to six active shooter training courses every month with area businesses; this course introduces best practices for handling an active shooter incident.
- e. **Rural Law Enforcement**: Captain Kevin Pokorny, LaVista PD
US Marshalls and Bellevue Police Department held joint active shooter training; many other agencies are in the process of completing this training. Requests for active shooter training from outside the Tri-County area have been received, including interest from Iowa in the new active shooter methods used in Nebraska; discussions to determine the possibility of providing active shooter training to outside agencies will be held in the coming weeks.
- f. **Urban Fire**: B/C Shane Hunter, Omaha Fire and Brad Hildebrandt, Omaha Fire Department

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Forty-eight fire personnel from Omaha and Papillion completed the Texas Rope Rescue's confined spaces and rope rescue training course. A hazmat MOU working group, in conjunction with NEMA, is working to make dispatch of the ten hazmat cities more efficient and improve communication between urban and rural dispatchers during a hazmat incident. Omaha Fire and Rescue is hosting a Nebraska hazmat challenge between the ten hazmat MOU cities on September 19-20; NEMA is providing funding for this challenge. The challenge will be comprised of eight to ten different competitions between the cities; the best team or individuals from teams will form a team and be sent to the national hazmat challenge in 2014. The 72nd Civil Support Team will judge this competition. This challenge will allow all Nebraska hazmat cities to acquire the same training and ensure all equipment is compatible allowing for more cohesion between teams in the event they are called to the same hazmat incident. Work on the Ethanol Safety Plans for the state has begun; nearly half-dozen ethanol tankers go through Nebraska daily, increasing the need for this safety plan. A private pipeline is sponsoring the travel and tuition for a few individuals to attend training courses in Texas; Omaha will provide a match of the contribution from the pipeline company.

g. Rural Fire: Chief Bill Bowes, Papillion Fire presented by Phil Ruhe

The Waterloo fireboat is now in use; trainings have been complete and the inaugural ceremonial has been held.

4. Reports from other associated Homeland Security Federal Grant Programs

a. Omaha Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) – Phyllis Dutton

No report.

b. Citizen Corps Program – Tom McMahon, United Way of the Midlands presented by Phil Ruhe

Two new CERT courses were held. Citizen Corps participated in the Omaha Police and Fire Safety Expo held at Westroads Mall on April 27. Radio Emergency Associated Communications Teams (REACT) has ten new weather spotters trained and 32 potential new recruits

5. Public Policy Center Report – Denise Bulling

The State Homeland Security Policy Group met on May 8, 2013. Discussion at the meeting included the expectation of reduced funding for next State Homeland Security Grant; guidance for this grant will be similar to last year. It is anticipated that NEMA will require regional Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessments (THIRA) next year. The Tri-County region has previously completed a THIRA. The agenda for the IJ workshop will be set in the coming weeks; it is expected the morning session will focus on the State Homeland Security strategy goals and the afternoon session will be to refine the investment justifications. A recent audit of NEMA by the Office of the Inspector General identified the need to set SMART – Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, Timely – goals. The State Homeland Security group is requesting all regions propose potential projects that can be reasonably completed in the grant timeframe and with limited funds; ideally, these projects should be connected to the THIRA with the majority of money allocated for planning, training, and exercises.

Action Items

No action items.

Public Comment

An upgrade of the radio system from 7.7 to 7.11 will take place during the weeks of May 13 and May 20. There will be some outages; those affected by the outages will be notified via email.

Upcoming events & next meeting

The next meeting will be held July 12, 2013 at 9:00 am in the Jesse Lowe Conference Room.

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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, 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>

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