

Tri-County Urban Area Security Initiative Working Group

Minutes

June 10, 2011, 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
Scott	Baughman	Urban Fire	X
Bill	Bowes	Rural Fire	X
Mark	Conrey	Communications	X
Mark	Desler	Urban Law Enforcement	X
Pete	Neddo	Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources	X
Paul	Johnson	Douglas County	X
Larry	Lavelle	Sarpy County	X
Bill	Pook	Emergency Management	Absent
Kevin	Pokorny	Rural Law Enforcement	X
Tom	Lamb	Washington County	Absent
Steve	Oltmans	Omaha Mayor's Office (chair)	X

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

Steve Oltmans made motion to approve the minutes from the May meeting. Pete Neddo seconded the motion; the motion passed by consensus.

Discussion Items

1. Flooding in the Tri-County Area

Several members of the Working Group and audience participated in an update/discussion of the current flood situation. The expected extended duration of flooding is a test on levees, roads, and human mental health. Many groups continue to work together to address the immediate and long term impact of flooding on the entire area. The "211" telephone system has been relied upon heavily as a source of information out about flooding for the public. NEMA also has a flood hotline operating so it was suggested that 211 staff coordinate with NEMA to ensure consistent information is shared to all. Last week the Mayor of Omaha and Douglas County declared an emergency which activated unified command for the Omaha Police Department, Omaha Fire Department, Omaha Airport Authority, Parks and Recreation, and Omaha Public Works. The hospitals are looking at staffing plans to make arrangements for staff members who must travel across flooded areas to get to work. Dennis Snook and Lisa Olsen from OPPD reported that the Ft. Calhoun nuclear plant mitigation work is nearly complete and that a strategy is in place to address potential flood issues at the Nebraska City plant. Pete Neddo indicated that MUD is monitoring gas distribution systems and to date there has been no problems due to flooding. A web site has been established for the public to obtain more information about flooding as the situation evolves: www.omahaflood.org

Updates and Reports

1. Tri-County/UASI management & Administration update – Steve Oltmans / Phil Ruhe

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Phil Ruhe sent out an email about 2011 State Investment Justifications. Denise Bulling sent in the draft to the state, and comments were incorporated. Gail Braun and Paul Johnson will talk to the state about the UASI priorities prior to submission of the grant to determine if they were incorporated in the final draft.

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

Don Drazdys is documenting and tracking expenditures related to flooding. Agency attendees were asked to be sure to document all flood related expenses in case federal disaster assistance is made available. A copy of the budget for 08-09 was sent out in advance of the meeting which included detailed breakdowns through the first week of June. Scott Crites spoke with the NEMA auditor on Tuesday and the audit is going well. Currently, '05 and '06 are being reviewed with '06 hopefully being completed today. The auditor will be waiting to contact Washington County on their part until their flooding situation is more under control.
3. Standing committee reports
 - a. Emergency Management: Dale Tetter, Bellevue Emergency Management

Emergency Management representatives recommend the Working Group extend use of the Code Spear system one year and reevaluate its use next year. Maintenance costs are estimated at \$24,000 to \$26,000/year. A representative from the Omaha Health Department noted that they currently \$5,000 for 200 Code Spear licenses per year. Dale and Paul Johnson said that the maintenance costs were independent of the additional license costs. A plan for paying the maintenance costs will be presented at the July TC UASI Meeting.
 - b. Communications: Mark Conrey, Douglas County 911 Communications

The 2009 upgrade to radio system is complete. Reports are expected back soon on a recent cyber-security evaluation. There has been good feedback on the radio system and a positive response from partners with the Omaha Police Department.
 - c. Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources: Pete Neddo, MUD

There is a meeting of the CI/KR group planned on June 21st and a table top planned later this year.
 - d. Urban Law Enforcement: Lt. Mark Desler, OPD

Spending is on track for 2008 and 2009 funds. Any unspent funds will be allocated to RDF and airport projects.
 - e. Rural Law Enforcement: Captain Kevin Pokorny, LaVista PD

Agencies want to start spending their 2010 funds. An update on the status of 2010 workplans was offered by Gail Braun and Phil Ruhe. The Project 5 work plan was revised and submitted last Friday to NEMA with last month's minutes reaffirming the project as a priority for Tri-County. It is anticipated that approval for the 2010 funding plan will be received soon.
 - f. Urban Fire: Scott Baughman, OFD

All allocated funding for 2008 and 2009 has been spent with any remaining funds allocated for use in the scheduled August 3rd exercise.
 - g. Rural Fire: Chief Bill Bowes, Papillion FD

The NEMA audit went well in Sarpy County. Rural fire continues to be interested in finding a way to fund the purchase of an airboat which would be particularly useful in flooding

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situations. This is Bill Bowes last meeting serving as chair for Rural Fire. All present thanked him for his service via a round of applause. Travis Harlow will be the new chair for Rural Fire.

h. UASI COOP Subcommittee: Steve Oltmans

Interviews were conducted with everyone in Sarpy and Douglas Counties for COOP planning and the project remains on track for completion.

4. Reports from other associated Homeland Security Federal Grant Programs

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

Phyllis spent two days with the state audit and found everything but three ventilators. The state requests that pictures be taken of the label that says it was purchased with the Homeland Security funds and serial numbers when they are located. The Exercise Design Team is working on an evacuation exercise involving all of the hospitals in 2012. A number of activities continue within MMRS with all committees actively engaged.

b. Buffer Zone Protection Programs (BZPP) –No report.

c. Citizen Corps Program –No report.

d. Public Policy Center Report, Denise Bulling

Investment Justification drafts have been submitted to NEMA who will review, revise and submit them by June 20. After the IJs are finalized, they will be posted on the website (<http://www.homelandplanning.nebraska.edu>). Denise noted that the State Department of Agriculture has funding for regional agriculture planning. Paul Johnson and Larry Lavelle expressed an interest in working with the Dept of Ag contractor to initiate ag planning in the Region. Denise will follow up with SEC, the contractor, to determine how this service is accessed. The PPC provided drafts of the Annex orientation to Douglas County and will be sending one to Sarpy County. The planning project is on track and will conclude June 30 as planned. Denise also noted that two workshops related to interoperability will be held June 22 (State Communications Interoperability Plan) and June 23 (how to meet Goal 2 of the national interoperability plan).

Action Items

1. Action related to maintenance of Code Spear system

Paul Johnson made a motion to extend contact for a year and will report back at the July meeting. Steve Oltmans seconded the motion; the motion passed by consensus.

Public Comment

Upcoming events & next meeting

The next meeting will be held July 8, 2011 at 9:00 am in the Jesse Lowe Conference Room.

Mark Desler made a motion to adjourn. Kevin Pokorny seconded the motion. The motion passed by consensus.