

**Public Safety Collaborative
Minutes
July 15, 2004**

1. Meeting was called to order at about 9:00 a.m. by Joye McElwee
2. Attendance listing is available at Attachment 1.
3. Summary of the meeting:
 - a. Joye opened the meeting with an overview of the agenda.
 - b. Minutes of the April 15, 2004 meeting minutes were accepted as written.
 - c. **State Interoperability Plan:** A contractor, Titan Corporation, has been hired to develop the plan. Representatives of Southwest Missouri and West Plains met with Titan Corporation on June 8, 2004 at Troop D Headquarters to listen to the Titan Corporation approach to development of the plan and to complete a survey regarding local communications. The Governor's office wishes to develop a plan that is not so costly that it turns off local jurisdictions and legislators from supporting execution of the plan. The important issue is the dialog that has developed across Missouri regarding communications interoperability. Organizations within Greene County are well ahead of other parts of Missouri regarding communications.

Communications interoperability is a key focus in regional planning within Southwest Missouri. The six Weapons of Mass Destruction Teams (WMD) supporting the 18 counties within Troop D have assigned one individual from each team to be the communications planner for that team. These representatives work with the other teams in planning communications interoperability for responses within the region. Additionally, these representatives will also work with a regional planning group that is working communications planning/agreement initiatives that are linked to the State Interoperability Emergency Communications (SIEC) Committee chaired by Steve Devine, Missouri State Highway Patrol. The Highway Patrol Troop D Chair in that initiative is Al Campbell, 911 Director for Dallas County.

- d. **Grants:**
 - 1) Until now, the WMD Grants have been designated only for the State's 28 WMD Teams and State organizations. We applied in April for a series of 2004 WMD Grants. In that application, the City and County will be eligible for monies. These grants are provided on a \$ per capita ration. Cities with populations below 3,000 were ineligible to apply. Competitive grants were also made available to law enforcement, water districts, and fire districts. A competitive grant for communications interoperability was also made available but not to those with WMD Teams such as Greene County. In all, over 1,200

jurisdictions within Missouri are eligible for portions of the 2004 WMD Grant funds made eligible to the state of Missouri. The applications we submitted were as follows:

- a) City \$792,760
 - b) County \$201,440
 - c) Teams \$300,000. We have two WMD Teams within Greene County.
- 2) Approval of the 2004 WMD Grants is planned for September 2004 to coincide with events planned in remembrance of 9/11.
 - 3) We have closed one CERT Grant and will close a second soon. Those two grants provided the Springfield Fire Department CERT program about \$16,000. We will close out a 2002 WMD Grant that provided \$318,000 for our WMD Teams. Open are the 2003 Part 1 (\$362,000) and Part 2 grants (\$525,000).
 - 4) With all the WMD Grants, we strive to provide the best quality of equipment for the dollar. We must purchase equipment and pay for it, then apply for reimbursement under these grants. Additionally, we must purchase and get reimbursed for 75 percent of one grant before being able to gain reimbursement from the next grant.
- e. **Citizen Corps Council:** The Greene County LEPC has also applied for a Citizen Corps Council (CCC) grant in the amount of \$210,200. These funds, if approved, will help fund Red Cross public education; overtime and supplies for the Greene County Sheriff's Department in their support of Neighborhood Watch; supplies for the Springfield Police Department in their support of Neighborhood Watch programs, and the Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program. The LEPC agreed to become a Council in February 2004 so that we could apply for such funds. The Department of Homeland Security has made creation of Councils a requirement in being eligible for the CCC grants.
 - f. **Homeland Security Region D Seminar:** The Greene County Commission is sponsoring and hosting an all-day seminar in September for the elected and officials in the 18 counties of Troop D. Current figures estimate about 165 of these individuals within these counties. These are mayors and commissioners. Planning is for up to 250 people to attend. This includes presenters and support staff. During the morning these officials will be presented information on past, present, and future issues involving homeland security preparedness, including funding. In the afternoon will be tabletop exercises involving a terrorist scenario. We will have multiple exercises running in parallel. The groups participating in each exercise will be divided into groups based on jurisdiction population similar to the Missouri Pandemic Flu exercises conducted a few years ago. In that event we had over 200 people divided into 4 groups and playing the

same scenario. Each responded and applied resources in a somewhat different method.

The city of Willard has totally changed in its preparedness efforts since it conducted an exercise for its officials. Since that exercise, they have hired a full-time employee who works preparedness planning, grants, etc.

The seminar will be a capstone to over 2 years of regional planning by representatives of fire, law enforcement, EMS, and emergency management with Troop or Homeland Security Region D. We have met monthly except for two months when schedules would not allow a meeting. That planning also included the planning and execution of the largest regional exercise ever held regarding terrorism preparedness in the state of Missouri. Over 70 agencies and over 530 responders were involved in that exercise held on April 10, 2004. The exercise lasted 9.5 hours in heavy rain. A number of additional exercises are planned over the next year. Additionally, the State Emergency Management Agency has hired Titan Corporation to conduct large exercises that will involve each of the 28 teams in Missouri so they can be evaluated as far as staffing, training, equipment, and response capability.

The WMD Regional Planning Committee developed a timeline to fix the response problems identified from the April 10, 2004 WMD Regional Exercise at its October 13, 2004 meeting. One of those problems involved implementation of Incident Command System (ICS) concepts. To fix that problem, we have had the State contract four ICS courses of progressive complexity to help local responders improve in the application of ICS. Those series of courses will be finished in May 2004. We have set June 1, 2004 as our date to have these problems fixed. That date includes a small exercise to verify these individual's skills.

- g. **We've Come a Long Way:** Overall, our region has come a long way since 1999 in preparing for terrorism events. The dialog among agencies is better than it has ever been and it continues to expand as more and more are drawn into the planning. We have over 10 people from our regional planning process involved in State homeland security planning committees. Each day of planning and each dollar of the WMD grants improves Missouri's preparedness for terrorism.

- 4. The next PSC meeting is planned for October 21, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. in the Office of Emergency Management EOC.

Respectively Submitted,

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1. Attendance Listing

Joye G. McElwee

Attachment 1

**Attendance Listing
Public Safety Collaborative
July 15, 2004**

Don Kocian	City Utilities
Roger Brogue	City Utilities
Jay Huff	Springfield Police Department
Joel Maxwell	Greene County Sheriff's Department
Joye McElwee	Office of Emergency Management, Springfield-Greene County
Jack Merritt	Greene County Sheriff's Department
Shelia Wright	Springfield Councilwoman
Richard Williams	Republic EMA
Darrell Decker	Greene County Commission
Becky Jungmann	911 Communications
J. R. Webb	911 Communications
Dave Coonrod	Greene County Commission
Jeff Reinold	Greene County Budget Officer
Capt. Jim Barber	Greene County Sheriff's Department
Vernon Watson	Republic Police Dept.