

# WMD Regional Planning Meeting

## MINUTES

March 14, 2007

11:00

### **Conducting:**

Chris Berndt, David Hall

### **Location:**

Springfield, Station 8

### **Agenda Items**

1. Approval of minutes from previous meeting
2. Introductions

#### **I. Old Business**

##### A. Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee update

Berndt: Funding has been submitted.

David Hoover: Volunteer donations and mass care group will meet again to review wording.

Jimmy Sebree: Recent meetings had 12 working groups reviewing and tweaking justifications based on RHSOC activity this year, in order to meet criteria funding categories at federal level; state is not altering 15 categories for 2007.

Berndt: State will await arrival of money before determining what categories to fund.

Hall: WMD received \$2.6 million out of state's \$17 million. Concerns are being raised as to how money is being spent. The Governor is setting up Governor's Advisory Committee to examine how funding is spent.

Berndt: CBRNE money shrinking rapidly; accountability for spent funds must be shown.

##### B. HSRT Funding update

Hall: State trying to decide on 2006 spending. The grant has been rewritten and resubmitted, and funds will be expected to be released soon, but they will also have to be spent soon. The 2007 grant cycle is also being addressed. One issue being examined is whether IMT's should be automatically deployed with WMD

teams. The term IMT has been changed to Incident Support Team (IST).

A state-wide credentialing database is being considered, however issues related to EMS still need to be worked out. Credentialing systems that individual regions are currently purchasing will be integrated into a state-wide, web-based system that will allow responders to log in on-scene. We need to decide whether to go with a badging system. The decision whether to implement a state-wide system is pending the outcome of the development of these systems in UASI regions.

The Governor's Advisory Council has a funding formula based on population, counties served, and critical infrastructure within each region. Region D will receive 10.25% (\$274.5K). Regions will receive funds to maintain capabilities with the possibility of additional funding for enhancement of these capabilities.

Berndt: The idea is to enhance HSRT components, not to create new teams. Prioritization of what needs to be maintained and funded is needed. Concerns have been voiced that current equipment purchased by WMD teams is not being maintained.

Hall: Each region can choose how to spend its funding on maintenance and enhancement; however, each region has been advised that it will be required to maintain these capabilities using its own departmental budgets. Further funding will be based on what is needed to maintain current capabilities. Each team that has been funded to provide a capability is expected to maintain that capability.

Regions F and I have specialized communication vehicles that will be funded with WMD money – discussion regarding this issue will continue.

Berndt: The state had encouraged these two regions to have these vehicles and promised it would help fund them.

Hall: A SWAT representative suggested discharge chambers for weapons, but this is not on the list of approved equipment.

Region C has no teams but was originally allocated grant money. Region G will receive some of this money to enhance its capabilities.

Berndt: Sharing of equipment across regions may be possible in the future, but details of the transactions will need to be worked out. Our region needs to decide what we truly need for maintenance, enhancement, combination, etc.

Hall: An entire component of an HSRT may not always need to be activated. The state is considering deployment of regional assets by resource rather than HSRT.

Berndt: Deployment of resources rather than HSRTs would be most applicable when deployment is outside the region.

Hall: Within the region, teams will be deployed and function as a whole. The state wants one regional point-of-contact through which to request resources.

Mike Dawson: Having an EMS resource doesn't necessarily make sense – EMS is included within the Hazmat or SWAT resource for support reasons. Labeling EMS as a separate resource would separate that relationship.

Scott Zimmerman: In some cases, an EMS resource may be needed to augment another HSRT.

Berndt: EMS supports HSRT, but also has ability to help locals – to act operationally rather than only as logistical support.

Dawson: EMS resources would be called to transport patients, which is a mutual aid issue. EMS elements need to be attached to the HSRT team.

Hall: Another resource typing form will be sent out to assess what and how many type teams are available to be deployed. Typing requirements may increase in the future, thereby decreasing a team's typing level. In these cases, consideration may be given to allocating funds needed to return a team to its previous typing level, if appropriate.

Berndt: Resource typing is a good resource standard to use, as it is based on NIMS. Not every team needs to be a Type I, necessarily.

Hall: The state recognizes that one specific SOG won't be applicable to every team in the state. Rather, a more general SOG will be developed that can be refined by individual teams to reflect their specific protocols.

The state will assist regions with the development of exercises tailored to the situations within each region in order to make them more realistic and applicable.

The state HSRT funding group will meet quarterly to continue discussion of these issues. Standardized MOUs between regions and the state are being considered; however, their need will be reassessed at the next quarterly state-level meeting.

#### C. State Exercise

Hall: Each discipline should be represented on the planning committee to ensure the exercise reflects all testing requirements. Each team also should provide at least one representative to the planning committee.

Berndt: Planning meetings will be held within the region. A location has not yet been decided; however, conducting the exercise within the region would be optimal. Team and discipline planning committee representatives need to be identified soon.

## II. New Business

### A. Regional IMT Report

Sebree: The regional IST is close to having a SOG developed. Sebree will attend. After the SOG is finalized, MOUs need to be worked out and recruitment and training will be developed. IMTs are deployed to be used where needed.

Hall: One area of concern is that IMTs have been generally been deployed to EOCs; however, IMTs shouldn't lose their on-scene capability. A possible solution is to develop EOC support teams.

Berndt: Confusion exists among IMTs as to whether they are intended to be deployed to incident scenes or EOCs.

Sebree: IMTs should be all-hazard, all-level (on-scene and EOC) and multi-disciplined. These are issues that need continued thought and planning.

Hoover: The response to the ice storm was not truly regional; future efforts could be directed toward addressing this issue. The ice storm also illustrated the gap between EMS and hospitals.

### B. HazMat Teams

Branson: focusing on specialized training.

Springfield FD: CST will assist with specialized training.

Nevada: Nothing to report.

Logan-Rogersville: Exercise on March 24 to fine-tune weapons decontamination, CST assisting.

C. Law Enforcement

Nothing to report.

D. EMS

St. John's: Conducting WMD awareness training, hazmat operations training.

E. DNR

Not present.

F. 7<sup>th</sup> CST

1. CPT Zimmerman provided briefing regarding anthrax scare at UM-Rolla incident – cooperation between law enforcement and fire was exceptional. The key to success was law enforcement's dissemination of intelligence quickly to those who needed it. 23 total individuals were decontaminated. Continued efforts should be made to familiarize law enforcement and other responders with the decontamination process.

2. CST would be happy to be involved in September 8 exercise.

G. Health

Nothing to report.

H. Hospital Planner

**III. Other New Business**

None.

**IV. Next Meeting**

April 11, 4:30 pm.