

Regional WMD Planning Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2004
Carthage, Missouri

1. Meeting called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Bill Gillette. Dan Whisler could not attend.
2. Joye informed attendees that a letter had been sent to Tim Daniel, Office of Homeland Security, nominating Chief Jimmy Sebree, Lt Ron Hartman, and Kevin Tweedy to the Missouri Emergency Responder Committee on December 29, 2004. Note: Joye has since confirmed that all three have been accepted and their next meeting is February 25, 2004 at the Truman Building in Jefferson City.
3. Both the Tabletop exercise and upcoming full-scale WMD/HAZMAT and Strategic National Stockpile exercises were discussed. These exercises will be held on April 3 and April 6, 2004 respectively. April 17, 2004 will be an alternate date for the April 3rd exercise. Those who participated in the Tabletop exercise on January 9, 2004 acknowledged they learned from the experience. Some concern was expressed regarding the inability for part of the regional teams to become engaged in the exercise—a time limitation of the exercise length.
 - a. The exercise identified we need to have pre-established radio communications capability to ensure teams responding to an event can be contacted as they approach the scene, since we cannot depend on cellular or telephone.
 - b. Communications plans for on-scene communications need to be developed. These plans would outline approaches for communications within the region. External region planning would need to be on a situational basis. It will be easier once the SEIC communications planning for statewide communications is in place.
 - c. Teams responding, once activated, need to ensure they are self-sustainable for up to 72 hours. This does not prevent jurisdictions to which they are responding from arranging sleeping, eating, and other support facilities for them. Military-type rations, tents, and other capabilities could be used by the teams to meet this need.
 - d. Some teams indicated they plan to change the numbers/types of vehicles they would bring to an incident, based on the Tabletop exercise. For example, law enforcement type vehicles may be added to allow for more flexibility in support of local law enforcement at the scene and for use in return runs to garrison or home locations. Ambulances will also be a consideration.
4. The Resource list developed in MS Access was discussed. Some felt we should only have WMD/HAZMAT equipment included in the database. Joye indicated that could be done. Updates of equipment/resources should be sent to Joye for inclusion in the database. Note: Following the meeting, Jim Perkins, Joplin Fire, contacted Joye. In the National Incident Management System review dated

December 8, 2003, regional resource database systems are discussed. These databases would require all resources to be listed. This now raises the question as to whether we should now begin to build a listing of all resources versus only those WMD or HAZMAT related. This will be an agenda item for the next regional meeting planned for February 19th.

5. An update of the regional plan and training plans were discussed. Concern was expressed that the WMD training now being offered by colleges/universities has usurped the need for a training plan. The technician course being developed in St. Louis and the Virginia technician course being taught starting in February in Taney County were discussed, along with the EMS HAZMAT course developed in Taney County. The EMS course is being used by several agencies and seems to be well liked. The modularity of the Virginia Tech course offers more flexibility in teaching Tech level personnel. This seems to be a good approach given the available time people have to commit out of their schedules.
6. Decontamination at hospitals was discussed. Springfield Cox and St. John's were indicated as being highly proficient in the deconning of patients. What caused the subject to come up was hospital decon capacity and the possible need to have some of the WMD team equipment positioned at hospitals during large WMD/HAZMAT incidents to augment that process.
7. **The next meeting will be February 19, 2004 at 1:30 p.m. in the training room at Fire Station 8, located at 1405 S. Scenic Ave. (intersection of Scenic and Bennett). This was also the location of the December 4, 2003 meeting.**

Respectfully submitted,

Joye G. McElwee

Attendance Listing
January 14, 2004 Regional Planning Meeting

Jeff Holman	St. John's EMS
Jaci McReynolds	Springfield-Greene County Health Dept.
Theron Becker	Public Health Bolivar
Patty Head	City of Bolivar Fire
Mike Eads	Neosho Fire
Mike Dawson	Cox Health EMS
Ralph E. Quinton	Neosho Fire
Gary Powell	Springfield Fire
Bart Andrews	Springfield Fire
J. Dykman	Joplin EMS-METS
Greg Hickman	Neosho Fire
Jim Perkins	Joplin Fire
Wendell Hall	MDNR
David Compton	Barry/Lawrence County EM
Gary Roark	Newton County Emergency Management
Bill Gillette	Nevada Fire
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Chris Berndt	Taney County EMD/Fire Chief
Jerry Bell	Southern Stone County Fire Prot. Dist.
Jimmy Sebree	Nixa Fire
Jon Trent	Nixa Fire
Phil Amtower	Christian County EMA
Terry Lane	Dallas County EMA
Candace Adams	SEMA
Brenda Heidbreder	SEMA
Kevin Mattson	MDNR
Judy Johnson	Joplin-Jasper County EMD
Ken Kelvey	SW MO SAR/Barry/Lawrence OEM

Regional WMD Planning Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2004
Springfield, Missouri

1. Meeting called to order at 1:40 p.m. by Bill Gillette and Dan Whisler. Attendance list is shown at Attachment 1.
2. Agenda was as follows:
 - a. Approval of January 14th minutes
 - b. Exercises
 - c. Review of group Purpose Statement
 - d. Resource Lists
 - e. Communications Planning
 - f. Plan Update
 - g. Updates by Law Enforcement, EMS, Health
 - h. Next Meeting Date
3. Minutes of the January 14, 2004 minutes were approved.
4. An overview of the progress on the WMD/HAZMAT Exercise was provided by Victor and Joye. Most of that information was covered during the 10:00 a.m. meeting of the exercise planning group. Date of the exercise is April 10th. Those organizations wishing to send observers or evaluators should email Victor Argilagos at Vargilagos@greencountymo.org. The next Exercise Planning meeting is scheduled on March 22, 2004 at 1:00 pm. at the Springfield-Greene County OEM, 833 North Boonville.
5. Attendees agreed that the Purpose Statement needed to be rewritten to better communicate the current process. Joye will draft the new Statement and provide it to attendees for review before the next meeting.
6. Joye will send each attendee a copy of an MS Access template for maintenance of resource information. Each organization will maintain their lists and periodically provide Joye or someone else a copy so they can be merged into a regional database. Joye will include a copy of the template with resources already reported for those who have submitted resource lists. Resource lists will need to be maintained by Fire, Bomb Squad, HAZMAT, Law Enforcement, and EMS (as a minimum). The resource maintenance requirement stems from the Office of Homeland Security and its development of the National Incident Management System and National Response Plan.
7. For communications planning, Joye will solicit frequencies from each county of Planning Region D. This will facilitate programming up to 160 into the cross-band repeaters being acquired by Greene County and the identification of those to be used for the exercises that will be conducted in April. Attendees felt use of mutual aid frequencies will be the best approach for the exercises. Responding

organizations would work on their existing radio equipment frequencies and monitor a mutual aid channel for communication among groups.

8. Changes to the existing draft plan for Planning Region D were discussed. Some of those changes included clarification as to the capabilities of Forward Regional Response Teams such as those in Nevada and Neosho, adding the forming Neosho Team to the plan, including the need to request activation of the regional teams through SEMA as soon as terrorism is suspected whether teams are mobilized or not, etc. Joye would like to have anyone with inputs to send them to him for the update. Email address is jmcelwee@greencountymo.org.
9. Karen McKinnis reviewed the Smallpox Phase II vaccination plan. Springfield-Greene County Health will be the contract agency for the vaccinations with subcontract locations in Joplin, Taney County, and Rolla. You can get the vaccination at any of these locations. All vaccinations must be completed by July 20, 2004. Karen believes most will be done during May and June. Since the definition of a First Responder is broadly defined, virtually any organization that would support a Smallpox event should be allowed access to the vaccinations. The thorough screening processed used during Phase I will still apply. Questions can be addressed to Karen at 417.864.1623. Karen distributed information booklets to attendees entitled: "The Smallpox Vaccine: Making the Decision".
10. Ron Hartman indicated he did not have a lot to add regarding law enforcement. He did say that he had recently been in the Kansas City area and was amazed at how much further along we are regarding equipment purchasing, etc. than they are. He also expressed concern over resource lists developed by law enforcement and who will have access them. Note: This is an issue that will need to be looked at in more detail as resource lists are developed organizationally and merged for regional use.
11. EMS is looking at playing a broader role in the upcoming April exercise according to Kevin Tweedy. The EMS HAZMAT Course was discussed at some length—who is teaching it, what does it cost, etc. Taney County, Joplin, and others are using this course. Kevin Tweedy and Jim Perkins are good contacts regarding questions dealing with this course.
12. Karen McKinnis also discussed the Strategic National Stockpile Exercise that is being planned for April 8, 2004. Participation will vary by community or county. Some will only exercise the pickup, transportation, and drop off of the medications, while others may have one or more dispensing locations they plan to exercise during the event. This hands-on exercise will be quite beneficial to all those who participate. SNS plans for most areas have yet to be fully tested with an exercise.
13. The 2004 Homeland Security Grant was discussed at some length. Stories as to how the funds will be expended abound. The latest story is that about 80

jurisdictions that participated in the October and November Needs Assessment will receive some level of funding. The \$9.55M allocated to law enforcement will still go to law enforcement. About \$6M to the State and the rest to local jurisdictions for WMD preparedness.

14. Candace Adams explained the new E-Teams Internet based disaster management software being purchased by SEMA for support of regional WMD teams. This new software will allow two people from each county (team) to have access to this capability. Each license costs \$1,000 with an annual maintenance fee of \$160. Training is currently planned for March 26th. Several attendees have already been scheduled to attend. Those trained on March 26th can then train others on the teams.
- 15. The next meeting will be March 22 at 10:00 a.m. in the training room at Fire Station 8, located at 1405 S. Scenic Ave. (intersection of Scenic and Bennett). This was also the location of the February 19, 2004 meeting.**
16. The April meeting will be on April 21, 2004 at about 1 p.m. at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Branson, Missouri. Watch for any adjustments in the time as that date nears and the formal agenda is finalized by SMESO.

Respectfully submitted,

Joye G. McElwee

Attendance Listing
February 19, 2004 Regional Planning Meeting

Bill Gillette	Nevada Fire
Candace Adams	SEMA
Chris Berndt	Taney County EMD/Fire Chief
Dan Whisler	Springfield Fire Dept.
Dennis Clinton	Logan-Rogersville Fire
Gary Herstein	Nevada P.D.
Gary Powell	Springfield Fire
Greg Hickman	Neosho Fire
J. Dykman	Joplin EMS-METS
Jay Huff	Springfield Police Dept.
Jeff Holman	St. John's EMS
Jim Perkins	Joplin Fire
Jimmy Sebree	Nixa Fire
Jon Trent	Nixa Fire
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Karen McKinnis	Springfield-Greene County Health Dept.
Kevin Mattson	MDNR
Kevin Tweedy	Taney County Ambulance
Mike Dawson	Cox Health EMS
Patty Head	City of Bolivar Fire
Ron Hartman	Springfield Police Dept.
Steve Hoerning	Springfield Fire Dept.
Theron Becker	Public Health Bolivar
Wendell Hall	MDNR

Regional WMD Planning Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2004
Springfield, Missouri

1. Meeting called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Dan Whisler. Attendance list is shown at Attachment 1.
2. Agenda was as follows:
 - a. Approval of February 19, 2004 minutes
 - b. Exercises (SNS, WMD)
 - c. May 25, 2004 WMD Teams Meeting in Jefferson City
 - d. Database Information (Still being worked)
 - e. Radio Frequencies for Cross-Band Repeaters
 - f. Other Updates for items of discussion
3. Minutes of the February 19, 2004 minutes were approved.
4. Karen McKinnis and Joye provided an overview of the progress being made on the SNS and WMD/HAZMAT Exercises, respectively. Karen explained who would be participating in the SNS exercise on April 8, focusing on Dallas, Hickory, and Greene Counties. In all, 20 health organizations within the 18 county area of Troop D will participate at some level. The Convoy of Hope and Smurfitt-Stone Container Corporation will provide supplies for the exercise.

Joye indicated the meeting planned for 1:00 today for the exercise planning team would cover most key details of the exercise. Those organizations wishing to send observers or evaluators should email Victor Argilagos at Vargilagos@greencountymo.org.
5. Joye asked attendees to mark their calendars for May 25, 2004 for another WMD Team Statewide meeting in Jefferson City at the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). The meeting is currently planned for 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Watch for details.
6. Joye McElwee is still working on the template information. The hold-up is extracting each organization's data to its own copy of the database.
7. Joye sent out a request for frequencies to program into the UHF and VHF radios within the four cross-band repeaters recently purchased for fire, law enforcement, and OEM/911. Please submit any that you may believe usable during a WMD/HAZMAT event.
8. Dan Whisler asked about the draft update of the Purpose Statement. Joye indicated it had been drafted and is ready to send out but he forgot to bring it. He will send it out to everyone for review.

9. Law enforcement and EMS were asked if there were any items they would like to update the group on. Each passed. Gregg Hickman indicated his department was still awaiting equipment from the WMD Grant.
10. Karen McKinnis reviewed the Smallpox Phase II vaccination plan. She indicated Troop I would be vaccinating 6 counties, Taney County 4, Polk/Greene 8, and Joplin 6. All in all, Springfield is overseeing 24 counties in the vaccination process. The thorough screening process used during Phase I will still apply. Questions can be addressed to Karen at 417.864.1623. EMS is looking at playing a broader role in the upcoming April exercise according to Kevin Tweedy. The EMS HAZMAT Course was discussed at some length—who is teaching it, what does it cost, etc. Taney County, Joplin, and others are using this course. Kevin Tweedy and Jim Perkins are good contacts regarding questions dealing with this course.
11. Accountability during WMD/HAZMAT responses was discussed. Again, a simple approach is needed. The use of a two-id card per responder system was discussed. Whenever a responder arrived at an incident and was employed, one id card would be surrendered for accountability purposes. We have already agreed on the minimum information for id cards. This allows for organizations to make their own cards, and still maintain continuity to a degree with all other participating organizations. The idea of using medical bracelets was also discussed. Don't know what system we can get in place for the April 10, 2004 exercise.
12. Gregg Hickman brought up the issue of mutual aid agreements, tying it into the issue of workers compensation insurance. He indicated that the National Incident Management System document outlines 10 items that need to be in mutual aid agreements. One of those is who pays for workers compensation. Joye will approach SEMA regarding this issue since they worked to get the statewide mutual aid for public safety other than fire, which operate under the statewide fire mutual aid program.
13. The next meeting will be part of the SMESO quarterly meeting planned on April 21, 2004 at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Branson, Missouri. The Regional WMD Planning meeting is expected to start around 1:00 p.m. Watch for any adjustments in the time as that date nears and the formal agenda is finalized by SMESO.

Respectfully submitted,

Joye G. McElwee

Attendance Listing
March 22, 2004 Regional Planning Meeting

Jaci McReynolds	Springfield/Greene County Health Dept.
Karen McKinnis	Springfield-Greene County Health Dept.
Chris Berndt	Taney County EMD/Fire Chief
Dan Whisler	Springfield Fire Dept.
Greg Hickman	Neosho Fire
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Gary Powell	Springfield Fire
Theron Becker	Public Health Bolivar
Stacy Winters	Logan-Rogersville Fire
Jay Huff	Springfield Police Dept.
Patty Head	City of Bolivar Fire
Wendell Hall	MDNR
Kevin Mattson	MDNR
Dan Whisler	Springfield Fire Chief

Regional WMD Planning Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2004
Branson, Missouri

April 21st, 2004 Regional WMD Planning meeting called to order at 1310 by Bill Gillette. Those in attendance included:

Candace Adams, SEMA	Bill Gillette, Nevada FD
David McCann, Aurora EMA	Jimmy Sebree, Nixa FPD
David Compton, Barry/Lawrence Co EMA	Jon Trent, Nixa FPD
Phil Amtower, Christian Co EMA	Dan Whisler, Springfield FD
Bob Kitsmiller, Dade Co EMA	Kevin Tweedy, TCAD
Judy A Jalmsar, Joplin/Jasper Co EMA	Ron Hartman, Springfield PD
Victor Argilagos, Springfield/Greene Co EMA	Paul Luttrell, Joplin 911
Chris Berndt, Taney Co EMA	Theron Becker, Polk Co Health
Jim Perkins, Joplin FD	Jaci McReynolds, Springfield/Greene Co Health
Stacy Winters, Logan-Rogersville FPD	Rebecca Burton, Springfield/Greene Co Health
Greg Hickman, Neosho FD	

Minutes from the last meeting were mailed out. No corrections or additions suggested. Motion to accept minutes by Chris Berndt, second by Kevin Tweedy. Motion passed with none opposed.

The purpose statement for this group was introduced last month. Bill Gillette read some highlights out loud as a reminder. He also stated that most of the items in the statement have been at least addressed, if not completed. There were no additions or suggestions. Motion to approve the purpose statement by David Compton, second by Chris Berndt. Motion passed with none opposed.

Areas of improvement identified in the debriefing of the WMD exercise were distributed and a conversation commenced.

Victor Argilagos stated there are more comments since the list was created, but most of them mirrored the current comments – specifically communication and command/control issues. Bill Gillette added a comment about not knowing which frequency to use at the exercise. Victor Argilagos suggested creating a protocol to address the issue in addition to educating dispatchers.

Chris Berndt suggested each team use their own frequencies and team leaders have a common frequency – maybe Fire Mutual Aid.

Paul Luttrell stated the protocol is there, we just haven't practiced it.

Candy Adams suggested doing a communications drill, even a surprise drill to test and train on communication issues. The group agreed to this idea and Adams will have SEMA set this up after some education has been completed around the region.

Victor Argilagos asked if we have all the equipment to talk to everyone. The group agreed we have the equipment but it seems that the equipment was not used in the exercise.

Chris Berndt asked what happens if we respond to a rural area (not Springfield, Joplin, or Branson area) without a "high-tech" communication system? Berndt suggested the answer should be Fire or Law Mutual Aid.

Paul Luttrell reminded the group that the talkaround feature on most radios would enable groups to talk even without the repeaters as in the case of a rural area.

David Compton highly stressed the use of Fire Mutual Aid as a common channel as we have been preaching that to fire departments for years.

Dan Whisler suggested communication officers be assigned to each team. These communication officers (or a representative from each group) form a working group to work on these

communication issues. This communication officer does not necessarily have to be a "team member" and could just be someone familiar with the team with communications knowledge. David Compton suggested Al Campbell should head this working group. The group did not agree with Compton due to Campbell does a good job with 911 and facility issues and we want concentration on field issues.

Candy Adams agreed with Whisler and suggested one representative from each team be appointed to form this working group. The group agreed and suggested that this representative be assigned before and be present at the next Regional WMD Planning Meeting.

Bill Gillette reminded the group that ham members at the exercise could always talk to each other and did not have communication problems. Also, hams do a weekly "net check" to test their communication ability, equipment, and to train on the system. Could we do a "net check" with our system on a monthly basis?

Chris Berndt suggested a more visible staging officer should have been used in the exercise. This staging officer should be in more control. Even the addition of a "greeter" in the staging area in addition to the staging officer.

Victor Argilagos reminded the group that the hometown WMD team will probably not form in an actual event. The example used was if Joplin has a WMD event, the Joplin team will not get the chance to form up, so the Springfield team might be activated to form and respond to Joplin. Some command personnel tried to "piecemeal" WMD teams after they were formed and he thinks we learned our lesson that does not work.

Chris Berndt made the comment that a team should be a team even if only a portion (such as the SRT) is needed – they get the whole team.

Bill Gillette stated the exercise was too complex but he understood the need to use the money. Gillette suggested doing several smaller exercises in the near future to test these suggestions.

Jaci McReynolds reminded the group that even though there were several problems and things didn't flow smoothly, the public thinks we are prepared now and that is a GREAT success.

Bill Gillette asked Jaci McReynolds to brief the group on the results of the SNS exercise. Wednesday morning BERT sent out scenarios identifying an Anthrax release and every county needed to prophylax every resident in SW Missouri. 18 of the 20 Health Departments in the region participated. Each agency called into the State Department of Health (CERT) and requested the SNS. They then transported the boxes from Springfield to their prospective areas. Some only participated to that level, but in addition there were 3 dispensing sites opened (Wheatland – Hickory Co, Buffalo – Dallas Co, and SMSU – Greene Co). KY3 gave great coverage of the Wheatland site.

Theron Becker made the comment that the distribution portion of the event was very successful but the transportation portion was not realistic and was disappointing to several health departments in the region.

David Compton agreed and wants to re-do the transportation exercise with accurate box sizes and accurate box counts.

Bill Gillette asked Victor Argilagos to explain the exercise grant reimbursement process. Each area is sending the reimbursement requests directly to SEMA with a copy of the original allocation to Argilagos. Reimbursable expenses include overtime and supplies. We are way short of the \$44,000.

Jim Perkins asked about direct deposit overtime expenses. There was no answer on how to send a copy of a paycheck to SEMA if it is direct deposited.

Chris Berndt asked about reimbursing mileage. Argilagos answered that mileage can be reimbursed if you send in whatever documentation you usually use to track mileage.

Dan Whisler stated that FEMA has set amounts for apparatus per hour on their web site on the Force Account Equipment Form.

Bill Gillette asked Jaci McReynolds to brief the group about phase II of the Smallpox Vaccination program. There are 4 vaccination clinics (Springfield, Rolla, Branson, and Joplin). The definition of first responder is VERY broad. BERT has begun education and first responder meetings with limited participation or enthusiasm. In fact, in the St Louis area there are only 3 people interested in getting vaccinated. Out of 5 trainings in Greene Co, only 2 people attended. IAFF has suggested to their firefighters not to get the vaccination. BERT is not recruiting, they are just educating and making available the vaccine for those interested. The first clinic starts tomorrow and everything must be done by July 20th. Call Karen McKinnis if you are interested. Each hospital is approaching phase II just like they did phase I.

Dan Whisler asked for a show of hands in the room of those personally interested in getting the vaccination... no one raised their hand.

Bill Gillette asked for a law enforcement update. Ron Hartman stated that some teams were upset they were not used in the exercise. Other than trying to smooth out feathers all they are working on is the law enforcement grant from SEMA.

Kevin Tweedy asked for information on the Highway Patrol. "Can we get a trooper to come to our meetings so they can have a flippin' clue?"

Ron Hartman stated he will call the HP and does not think it will be a problem to have a representative at the next meeting.

Dan Whisler stated they had the same problem with the HP Bomb Squad. They played their own games and did not want assistance nor assisted anyone else.

Both Victor Argilagos and Candy Adams stated a HP representative was in the Unified Command at the exercise.

Victor Argilagos passed out an information sheet on WMD trainings at OTC. Missouri Southern and Crowder are also doing WMD classes.

Chris Berndt was approached by a vendor wanting to attend these meetings to advertise a product. The group agreed they did not want any vendors at these meetings.

Kevin Tweedy stated DMAT is going through some changes.

Bill Gillette reminded the group of the HSRT leader meeting at SEMA on May 25th.

The next meeting of the Regional WMD Planning Committee is going to be May 27th at 10am at a Springfield Fire Station. Dan Whisler will send out which station soon.

David Compton made a motion to adjourn, second by Jaci McReynolds.

Minutes taken and submitted by Theron Becker.

Regional WMD Planning Meeting Minutes
May 27, 2004
Fire Station 6, Springfield

1. Meeting called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Chief Dan Whisler. Those in attendance are listed at Attachment 1.
2. Minutes of the April 21, 2004 meeting accepted as submitted.
3. Victor Argilagos provided an overview regarding the progress made to date on April 10th WMD Exercise reimbursements and post exercise reports that have been submitted or are pending. All the documentation that he has been working on for reimbursements has been completed and submitted. The FEMA Exercise reports developed using the Emergency Management Exercise Reporting System (EMERS) were submitted to SEMA, with copies sent to appropriate jurisdictions before the 30-day deadline. A separate report is being written to follow what is expected to be the future reporting format established by the Office of Domestic Preparedness for exercises. That report should be coordinated with agencies by mid-June 2004. This reporting format appears to be much better than the current EMERS system. The new system should take effect in October 2004. The report will be discussed at the next regional meeting.
4. Attendees held a lengthy discussion regarding issues raised during the May 25, 2004 State hosted joint WMD Regional Response Team and First Responder Committee meeting.
 - a. A contract has been issued to Titan Corporation for testing and exercising of the 28 WMD Regional Response Teams to see how ready they are for response to a WMD incident. This process will be completed over a 12-15 month period. Copies of the contract were distributed to WMD Regional Team members present at the May 25th meeting.
 - b. SEMA has also been sending people to WMD Team organizations to verify quantities, condition, and management of equipment received under the WMD grants.
 - c. A 3 Tier WMD Team response system is being considered by the State. Tier I would be local response; Tier II would be a Response with support of the 28 HSRTs; and Tier III would be a Response to a catastrophic event that requires a compilation of several HSRTs such as all those within Region D.
 - d. The Office of Homeland Security has developed 15 catastrophic WMD threat scenarios to measure our ability to respond to catastrophic future events. No documentation was provided regarding these scenarios. There was no mention that these scenarios would be used by Titan Corporation to evaluate the 28 HSRTs.
 - e. Tim Daniel gave a brief presentation on the Homeland Security Information Network being implemented currently within Missouri. Expect more information on this system as it expands into our region. Eventually this system will not only be Missouri wide, but nationally. It will allow the sharing of text, graphics, video, etc. Please do not confuse this system with the Regional Information Sharing Systems Anti-Terrorism Information Exchange Program being offered by the Mid-State Organized Crime Information Center (MOCIC). Those who may want information regarding RISS ATIX should contact Joye McElwee.
 - f. Need to design a way to better define what each HSRT consists of so that when they are requested to deploy, the requesting agency knows what capabilities will be enhanced or added in response to the event. Dan Whisler pointed out that we are doing the planning for WMD teams backwards. Capabilities of each region should have been identified before adding WMD capabilities so that the funding could have targeted voids in regional capabilities.

5. Chris Berndt expressed his concern as to where we are currently, when you look at future funding that is expected to be short lived.
6. LTC Rabenold explained that what we need to do is look at the 15 scenarios that have been developed and identify components within Region D that are best suited to deal with each of them.
7. Greg Hickman explained how the currently designated Forward Regional Response Teams (FRRTs) could best serve the region by specializing in a needed capability.
8. Dan Whisler outlined how regionally we are in control of our own destiny. We can use the 15 scenarios to develop our own response approach to regional WMD/HAZMAT events. This can be done using a 3-layered team approach.
9. Jim Perkins asked whether Titan will allow regional teams during their evaluations to be evaluated the way they are going to do things, not someone else's interpretation of how it should be done? Currently we don't know what Titan's approach will be. Supposedly they to meet and work with each team jurisdiction in completing their evaluations of the teams.
10. Dan Whisler says he remains apprehensive about contractors. He went on to say that we need...
 - a. to be concentrating on needs rather than wants.
 - b. to define minimum requirements for a team.
 - c. to obtain needed training.
 - d. to use equipment we have obtained every day.
11. LTC Rabenold said we should not get hung up on the evaluations Titan will be conducting. They want to evaluate basics: equipment available, equipment servicing, training, and application. The 7th CST wants to become involved in Region D and help other regions as well. Capt Zimmerman will be willing to help Region D teams with training. Note: This offer has been formalized in an email from LTC Rabenold that was forwarded to those involved in the Region D planning process. Captain Zimmerman explained how he would be glad to demystify the CST.
12. Chris Berndt explained how he believes the State is doing the right thing with development of the 28 HSRTs.
13. Dan Whisler explained that he wishes we could pay for staffing backfills so that more could attend training.
14. Ron Hartman explained how Legislators friendly to Public Safety are being added to the Homeland Security Planning process.
15. Dan Whisler asked if teams brought their Communications officers/specialists with them. Not all were able to. Those responsible for team communications planning will be as follows:
 - a. Nevada: Donna Martin
 - b. Springfield: Assistant Chief for Technical Services
 - c. Joplin: Mitch Randall
 - d. Neosho: Bret Smith and April Tarrant
 - e. Logan-Rogersville Fire: Stacy Winters (???)
 - f. Taney County: (??)

Note: Joye will try to get these individuals together at the June 8th Communications Interoperability meeting planned with Titan Corporation at the Highway Patrol Troop D

Headquarters from 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

16. Ken Baremore, Amateur Radio Emergency Services coordinator for Greene County, discussed how amateur radio operators can serve as a critical backup communications resource when needed. He outlined how he is working with the Missouri Hospital Association to implement a communications backbone among Region D hospitals should that become necessary. ARES and Radio Amateur Communications Emergency Service (RACES) can provide both voice and digital using FM communications. HF communications are available among the amateurs supporting these groups if needed. Many counties have their own ARES and RACES groups.
17. Attendees agreed to allow a Missouri Hospital Association representative to attend our meetings. This representative, along with the EMS personnel already involved in our planning meetings, can serve as our interface with the regional hospital planning process. For Public Works input, we need to have someone periodically meet with representatives of this group. They don't need to be added as a monthly attendee to these meetings.
18. Karen McKinnis explained how first responder Smallpox shots will continue to be offered through June. They are experiencing a low response and it has become a hard sell to get people vaccinated. Other comments included:
 - a. June 23rd Kansas City is holding a large SNS exercise and they are inviting the rest of the State to participate. They will be setting up a number of dispensing sites.
 - b. Popular Bluff will hold a rural exercise on August 25th on SNS.
 - c. SBC's new phone book has SNS maps on Page 6. Don't know how long this approach will continued to be used because of future costs. SBC donated the phonebook space this year. Springfield is divided into 13 sectors.
 - d. West Nile season is upon us. They will be trapping mosquitoes but no dead birds will be collected this year—we know birds infected with West Nile are already out here.
 - e. For SNS planning, they are looking at purchasing colored vests (offered in up to 13 colors), toolkits, and FRS radios.
19. Ron Hartman said he will follow up with Highway Patrol Troop D to get someone there to attend future meetings. Note: Lt Rothrock will be attending meetings starting in July. He cannot attend June 15th.
20. Jimmy Sebree and Ron Hartman discussed the next Homeland Security Funding cycle scheduled for October 8, 2004. They outlined how the State needs to develop a plan on where we need funding by that date. That plan needs to be an all-hazards catastrophic response plan. Regardless, we must realize that the funding is coming whether a plan is in place or not.
21. The next meeting is planned for June 15, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. at Springfield Fire Station 8 located on the southwest corner of the intersection at Scenic Avenue and Bennett Street.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joye G. McElwee

**Attachment 1
Attendance Listing**

Ron Hartman	Springfield Police Department
Theron Becker	Public Health
Karen McKinnis	Public Health
Donna Martin	Public Safety Communications Nevada
Dan Whisler	Springfield Fire Department
Bill Gillette	Nevada Fire Department
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Victor Argilagos	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Mike Eads	Neosho Fire Department
Greg Hickman	Neosho Fire Department
Kevin Tweedy	Taney County Ambulance District
Chris Berndt	Taney County EMA
Mike Dawson	Cox Health Systems
Ken Baremore	Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
Patty Head	Bolivar City Fire
CPT Scott Zimmerman	7 th CST
LTC Jim Rabenold	7 th CST
Jimmy Sebree	Nixa Fire District
Jon Trent	Nixa Fire District
Stacy Winters	Logan-Rogersville FPD
Jim Perkins	Joplin Fire Department

Regional WMD Planning Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2004
Fire Station 8, Springfield

1. Meeting called to order at 10:18 a.m. by Chief Dan Whisler. Those in attendance are listed at Attachment 1.
2. Minutes of the May 27, 2004 meeting accepted as submitted.
3. Victor Argilagos distributed and reviewed the Office of Domestic Preparedness formatted Post-Exercise report that addresses mainly the April 10, 2004 WMD Regional Response Exercise, but also covers part of the Strategic National Stockpile and Volunteer Services exercises held on April 8 and June 1, respectively. Dan Whisler gave everyone until June 18, 2004 to submit any additional comments.
4. Jim Perkins introduced the new Joplin Fire Chief, Gary Trulson.
5. Dan Whisler discussed the how the Office of Homeland Security has formed three new subcommittees to look at Training and Readiness, Organizational Structure, and Equipment and Logistics (see Attachment 2). Dan indicated he was getting at least two of his staff added to these subcommittees and encouraged others to consider requesting Tim Daniels add some of their personnel as well. He indicated these subcommittees are already heavily loaded with people from Kansas City and St. Louis. He indicated they are looking at a three tiered response that is all hazards focused:

Tier1: Local first responders.

Tier 2: HAZMAT & HRSTs (28)
10 HAZMAT Techs
2 Engine Companies
2 EMS Units
Law Enforcement to be determined by LE
4 Minimum Command Staff (Support)

Tier 3: HAZMAT Techs 30
Fire: 1 Strike Force
5 Engines
1 Company
EMS: 1 Strike Force
5 ALS Units
1 Company
LE: 2 Bomb Squads
2 Tactical Units
Other: 10 Management Personnel
3 HAZMAT Team Unit's Equipment
3 Mass Decon Units

Note: To get people on committees or subcommittees, send a request to either Tim.Daniel@hs.mo.gov or Kimberly.Springer@hs.mo.gov.

6. Dan asked if we would want to field a super team?

7. Chris Berndt explained how Lees Summit does not seem to be happy with the 3 Tier response system. If we field a super team it would have to include all Region D WMD/HAZMAT resources.
8. Dan indicated he thought Tier 3 should be the RAID and 7th CST teams.
9. Chris asked who would be in charge (overhead team)? Dan said these types of questions and issues are exactly why we need representation on the State committees and subcommittees, regardless of whether we become a super team or not.
10. Ron Hartman discussed how St. Louis is building their teams based on qualifications and standards that everyone must meet. Dan indicated there is nothing wrong with that. We have IFSAC qualifications already.
11. Jim Perkins indicated that we may want to build standards for teams in our region. He went on to explain how just having the structure does not guarantee you have qualified responders.
12. Ron outlined how the Executive Committee and Subcommittees discussed by Dan must have their inputs in by October 9, 2004 so the information can be presented to the Missouri Legislature in December 2004. One of Ron's greatest fears is that the small guy will be left out of the process. Note: Representative Jackson from St. Louis is on the Committee.
13. Joye asked what guidance should be given to those appointed as communications officers for the regional teams—what should they be doing? Ideas expressed included the following:
 - a. Identifying what communication equipment we have in the region.
 - b. Developing SOPs/SOGs for communications so they can be exercised. They should be all hazards based.
 - c. Identify exactly how we are going to operate—technology is great but it alone does not solve all the issues we will face.
14. Karen McKinnis informed the group that about 9 responders have been vaccinated for Smallpox.
15. Karen and Ron announced that SMSU is conducting an exercise in August involving hostage taking and a Smallpox release. Joye indicated Emergency Management was unaware of the exercise. Discussion followed as to how Emergency Management should be the local clearinghouse for exercises to ensure response agencies are not over taxed. SEMA is doing that now at the State level.
16. Ron explained how he is wants to develop a twice a year training event for SRTs. He is currently coordinating a meeting of SRT leaders to discuss such an opportunity.
17. Scott Zimmerman discussed the following:
 - a. His participation in the ASTM Conference in Kansas and how people need to realize what guidelines are already in place for HAZMAT Operations.
 - b. How he can serve as a resource to this group by feeding back federal level information.
 - c. The CST plans training events 6 months ahead. There are dates out there for exercises.
 - d. Regional team members are welcome to participate in their training and he will let them know when opportunities exist.
18. Dan asked that exercises be included on the next meeting agenda. He wants issues addressed from the last exercise before holding the next. Yet, we need to be discussing future exercises now. We may want Tabletop exercises, one and two team exercises, and communications exercise completed before we hold another large exercise such as that conducted in April.
19. The next Regional WMD meeting will be held July 14, 2004 at 1:00 p.m. in the Grants Restaurant in Monett, MO (just east of Wal-Mart Supercenter off of Hwy 60 and 1090—turn south on 1090 at

the Community Bank). This meeting follows the SMESO meeting, which starts at 10:00 a.m.
Lunch is planned for 12 noon – 1 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joye G. McElwee

**Attachment 1
Attendance Listing**

Ron Hartman	Springfield Police Department
Theron Becker	Public Health
Karen McKinnis	Public Health
Bill Arington	Springfield Fire Department
Dan Whisler	Springfield Fire Department
Bill Gillette	Nevada Fire Department
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Victor Argilagos	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Chris Berndt	Taney County EMA
Ken Baremore	Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
CPT Scott Zimmerman	7 th CST
Jim Perkins	Joplin Fire Department
Gary Trulson	Springfield Fire

OPERATIONAL PROTOCOL

TRAINING & READINESS

Purpose: The purpose of this committee is to identify goals for this task and define those elements needed for each Regional Team to maintain a level of proficiency and operational readiness to meet the expectations of those in need of assistance. This will include, but is not limited to those elements listed below.

Elements:

- Level of Preparedness for Regional Teams-Training Disciplines
- Minimum Training Standards
- Accountability Standards for Team training
- Regional Team Exercise Involvement

OPERATIONAL PROTOCOL

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Purpose: The purpose of this committee is to identify goals for this task and define procedurally, a plan for the Regional teams to respond statewide to a catastrophic incident.

Elements:

- Operational Structure
- Command Structure/Organizational Chart
- Activation Steps/Procedures
- Response to requests:
 - Full Team v. Partial/Specialty response
- Deployment Strategies
- Staff – the backfilling of those deployed

OPERATIONAL PROTOCOL

EQUIPMENT & LOGISTICS

Purpose: The purpose of this committee is to identify goals for this task and define those elements needed for each Regional Team to be equipped to meet the expectations of those in need of assistance. This will include, but is not limited to those elements listed below.

Elements:

- Level of Preparedness for Regional Teams-Equipment
- Minimum Equipment Standards
- Accountability Standards for Team equipment
- Sustaining funds for Regional Teams while deployed

Regional WMD Planning Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2004
Grants Restaurant, Monett MO

1. Meeting called to order shortly after 1 p.m. by Chief Bill Gillette. Those in attendance are listed at Attachment 1.
2. Minutes of the June 15, 2004 meeting were approved with one correction: Chief Trulson's organization should reflect Joplin Fire, not Springfield Fire. Motion to accept by Chris Berndt, seconded by Kevin Tweedy.
3. **Homeland Security Committees and Subcommittees:** Bill explained that Dan Whisler had asked attendees at the June 15th meeting to consider volunteering to serve on the 3 Homeland Security Committees that are explained in the June minutes. Has anyone volunteered to do that? Chris Berndt (Equipment) and Dana Aumiller (Training & Readiness) were identified as having applied and been accepted. Bill indicated he is also on one of the committees (Organizational Structure). Andy Nimmo, Reddings Mill Fire; Ron French, Springfield Fire; Dan Whisler, Springfield Fire; Ron Hartman, Springfield Police; Kevin Tweedy, Taney County Ambulance; Jimmy Sebree, Nixa Fire; and Bart Andrews, Springfield Fire are also involved in the Homeland Security Committees/Subcommittees.

Bill explained how very important it is for SW MO to participate as much as possible in the Homeland Security Committees/Subcommittees.

4. **Exercises:** Bill opened the floor to discussion about the types, locations, and sizes of future exercises the planning group would like to plan toward.
 - a. Joye outlined how we need to prepare before we go into the next full-scale exercise. He discussed how past meetings have highlighted the need for drills, tabletops, and small functional/full-scale (1-2 teams) before ever attempting another large exercise like we conducted in April 2004. He also outlined how he has set up four ICS courses between October 2004 and May 2005 that take people and train them from awareness to advanced Unified Command. The same people need to attend all four courses. This will allow us to have a 30-40 person cadre of core knowledgeable people that can be the foundation for preparing others in the region.
 - b. Bill expressed how he felt we needed to do the next full-scale exercise on a smaller scale and perhaps in Joplin or elsewhere. Springfield never really got to play in the role of a WMD Team in April.
 - c. Greg indicated we should consider a tabletop for communications. Getting the communications process fixed is very important.
 - d. Chris says he believes we need to continue with individual team training and preparation but that we need to work with all teams on IMS and communications, then do tabletops to see if they are getting the knowledge they need. He agrees with Bill in that we need to consider doing exercises in different locations.
 - e. Candy emphasized that drills can be done but understand when you do tabletops they are a talk-thru, not physical performance based. She believes drills and functional exercises will provide the best validation of IMS and communications knowledge.
 - f. Exercise Summary:

- 1) Table Tops: IMS/ICS and Communications
- 2) Drills: IMS/ICS and Communications
- 3) Small Functional or Full-Scales: 1-2 teams max.
- 4) Region will be divided for these exercises into two segments:
 - Segment 1: Taney-Branson, Springfield, Logan-Rogersville
 - Segment 2: Joplin, Nevada, Neosho

Notes: Support for the design and conduct of these exercises will be unit training officers, emergency management, and other organizations who may volunteer to assist such as the 7th CST, health departments, SEMA, etc.
- g. Agreement seemed unanimous that we need to conduct the appropriate tabletops, drills, and ICS/IMS training before conducting the next regional full-scale exercise.
- h. Kevin Tweedy asked when will IMS need to be done and will the ICS classes cover IMS? Joye indicated the requirement for NIMS compliance is effective October 1, 2004 and that since the ICS courses are contracted they should include NIMS.
- i. Candy asked if anyone had been contacted by Titan Corporation? Joye indicated he had. They will be evaluating the WMD Teams under agreement with SEMA. Titan has until next May or June to complete the evaluations for all 28 teams. Joye also expressed an understanding that we would have to assist in the development of the exercises for these evaluations.
- j. Everyone felt we should not do anything toward the Titan Corporation evaluations until contacted and informed by Titan as to who, what, when, where, and how.

5. Communications:

- a. Al Campbell asked if teams can communicate with other teams?
- b. Bill outlined that all agencies have mutual aid frequencies available. Joye says the cross-band repeaters work when people have the knowledge and can apply that knowledge dynamically. He reiterated that Springfield Fire, L-R Fire, and Springfield Police have these units. A unit is also available 24/7 at the Springfield-Greene County 911 Center for issue to other organizations needing that capability. A short training session would allow most organizations to use it effectively. Each of these units has 65 VHF and 12 UHF frequencies, in addition to all the 800 TRS talk groups.
- c. Terry Lane revisited that L-R came to Dallas County recently and could not talk to their units. Stacy Winters explained that only two people at L-R really know how to use the unit. Unless they are with the deployed units, it would not be used. Most of the firefighters would not have thought to take it with them anyway.
- d. Bill questioned whether L-R and Dallas County had mutual aid channels they could have used.
- e. Joye explained how he is working to try and educate people to think about the many ways communications interface problems can be resolved using the cross-band repeater units. He used Pierce City as an example. Unless we use these units to solve everyday communications issues they will never be able to be used effectively during large events. He believes by always deploying a communications specialist with the teams, this

problem may be overcome for the teams. Daily use is another issue that must be somehow resolved.

- f. Kevin Tweedy outlined that we need to know who to contact in the various areas of SW MO. Chris Berndt asked rhetorically, "Who do you talk to?" Chris believes that when you are requested, that is when you should establish how you will talk to the requesting jurisdiction on the inbound leg. This may be radio, telephone, or cell. Once you are there, you can develop the communications plan for operational activities.
 - g. April Terrant says that from what she knows so far about the exercise and the communications problems that were experienced, she sees the need for a communications plan and development of protocols for working with 911 centers.
 - h. David Compton says people need to know how to operate their equipment—how to set it up and use it. He also believes we need to be using prearranged mutual aid channels.
 - i. Joye outlined that we have to have the frequencies programmed into the cross-band repeater units before they are deployed. You cannot dynamically add frequencies in the field without Motorola programming software and a computer, along with the codeplugs for the radios.
 - j. Chris asked how hard it would be for Joye to print out the frequency data he has and send it to everyone? Joye says that is easy. Chris asked if he could give it to the communications team members when they hold their first meeting. Joye said that will be done also.
 - k. There was a lengthy discussion on how to get the communications committee together. Joye volunteered to host the first meeting and coordinate the time and date. Note: August 5, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. was established for that meeting.
6. Ft. Wood Exercise Feedback: CAPT Zimmerman says feedback he has received so far indicated the training exercise on equipment went well. If anyone has additional feedback he would really appreciate it.
7. Open Discussion:
- a. Law enforcement could not attend. Joye received emails from Springfield and Highway Patrol.
 - b. Greg: Neosho has been trying to do training.
 - c. Joye indicated most of the Greene County Sheriff's Department had been trained to the Awareness Level on HAZMAT, and Awareness and Operations Level on WMD. The Springfield Police have had a short Awareness Level training course through their training academy but want to have everyone take the regular Awareness course. The Springfield SRT wants to get their folks trained to the Technician level and so do the drug units. The drug unit personnel need to be at the Tech level so they can breakdown the drug lab chemicals coming into the drug-lab process facility.
 - d. Bill: Nevada law enforcement training is the toughest in our area. The new police chief is more receptive to emergency management and HAZMAT training so hopefully ground can be gained there. Nevada PD and Lemar are Awareness and some Operations Level. EMS is somewhat fractured. The bulk of the EMS for the team is from Barton County. Currently trying to get Vernon County EMS to Awareness and Operations Level.

e. WMD Exercise Reimbursements: Only Greene County had been reimbursed for the exercise. Joye thought Joplin had received theirs. All others present who had filed indicated they had yet to receive their reimbursements. Since the State shutdown its finance system beginning June 18th for fiscal year closeout, this may be the reason for the delay. Joye recommended everyone follow up on this issue. Victor Argilagos, who completed the reimbursement paperwork for Greene County, shared the following lessons he had learned:

- 1) Only Greene County was able to apply for and justify a supplemental exercise reimbursement. Going into the exercise, most teams believed they would need more. This shows a need to work harder on the financial planning in the future.
- 2) Organizations need to keep better records on who participated, how long, etc.
- 3) Pay scales for State and Federal differ. Volunteer organizations used the State mutual aid tables, paid departments used the Federal tables. This was important as volunteer departments don't get paid.

David Compton recommended you dedicate one individual to manage all the reimbursement paperwork. That person can stay on top of the process and the outcome is much better.

Joye indicated the rules for grant funds keep changing so that what we did this time may be different the next time.

f. Health: Karen McKinnes explained that Smallpox vaccinations were finished for responders. Local health funds around the country designed for Homeland Security have been reduced and reallocated to 21 key cities so they can expand their programs. Our Homeland Security funded positions have been funded for the next year. They are doing more exercises and expect the State to mandate they conduct even more. They are doing one with SMSU in August. That exercise will only involve SMSU.

g. Joye reminded teams that the 2002 WMD Grant ends July 31, 2004. He also outlined that of the 26 teams required to report by July 10, 2004 on each of the WMD Grants they have open, only 9 reported. A scathing email was sent regarding that poor showing.

8. The next WMD Regional Planning meeting will be held on September 8, 2004 at 1 p.m. in the Training Room at Springfield Fire Station 8, located at Scenic Ave. and Bennett Street.

Respectfully submitted,

Joye G. McElwee

Attachment 1

Attendance Listing

April Tarrant	Newton County Central Dispatch
Mike Eads	Neosho Fire Dept
Greg Hickman	Neosho Fire
Theron Becker	Public Health
Karen McKinnis	Springfield/Greene County Health Dept.
Jaci McReynolds	Springfield/Greene County Health Dept.
Jon Trent	Nixa Fire
Candace Adams	SEMA
Bill Gillette	Nevada Fire
Stacy Winters	Logan-Rogersville FPD
Victor Argilagos	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Kevin Tweedy	Taney Co. Branson HSRT
Chris Berndt	Taney Co. Branson HSRT
David Compton	Barry/Lawrence County OEM
Terry Lane	Dallas County EMD
Al Campbell	Dallas County 9-1-1

Regional WMD Planning Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2004
Springfield, Missouri

1. Chief Bill Gillette opened the meeting and asked that attendees sign the attendance roster. A list of Attendees is at Attachment 1.
2. Approval of the July 14, 2004 minutes. Minutes are emailed to those identified as being involved in the Regional Planning Committee and are posted on <http://em.springfield.missouri.org> in the section for Troop Region D. Minutes were approved without change.
3. Communications Committee Report: Bill Arington, Springfield Fire, and Mitch Randles, Joplin Fire, are co-chairs of the Committee. A communications survey developed by April Tarrant, is being sent to every LEPC in Region D, requesting that they identify communications capabilities within their counties. Collected information will be used for planning of WMD/HAZMAT responses throughout Region D. We will identify what capabilities are out there and then learn to operate using those capabilities. We have verified that the survey is duplication of what Al Campbell is doing or has done. Candy has reviewed it as well. Candy will help by reminding LEPCs once the survey was sent out. J.R. Webb demonstrated one of Greene County's crossband repeaters for the committee so we now know how they work.
 - a. Bill Gillette recommended people take a look at the Buffalo Grove, IL website. They have a communications vehicle with VoIP, 52 foot mask. The name in Buffalo Groves for contact about the vehicle is Paul Suker-RMS. SSgt Gallego indicated the Missouri Guard will have mobile command vehicles in the foreseeable future as well.
 - b. Joye McElwee explained how Springfield PD took the crossband repeater to Branson and developed a procedure for us of the unit to interface Springfield officers and Branson officers for support of the Classic Car show. The unit worked well after field testing to best understand how to deploy the unit.
 - c. Joye highlighted how important the Communications Committee representatives are in developing the procedures for communications interoperability in SW Missouri. Additionally, as they become more knowledgeable of the communications capabilities available within each team and the region, they each become a great resource for their teams in planning and during a deployment.
4. Reports on State Homeland Security Committees/Subcommittees:
 - a. Organization and Operations (Bill Gillette):
 - 1) First meeting was held in July. Several of us met from the Fire Service and discussed a Tier 3 response. We met again in

August and will meet again on September 10, 2004 in Jefferson City. Members of this Committee and what is being proposed is outlined in the attached minutes and Tier III drawing.

- 2) They are looking at having five Tier 3 teams around the state. Chief Brown, Eureka Fire, seems to be the strongest proponent of this concept within our group. They are pushing it to be completed by December.
- 3) Jimmy Sebree stated that it appears all four committees are going in different directions. They each are trying to do their own thing based upon the understanding they have of what is needed. Discussion indicated what should have been done is was the formulation of an operational concept, then the committees could more easily have outlined their support for that concept. What we have is not something that focuses on adding to the capabilities of existing teams but building something totally different.
- 4) Dan Whisler outlined how we have to be involved regardless of what is happening or how frustrating the process appears to have become. We must monitor things and see where things will go under the next Governor.
- 5) DHS and SEMA do not even seem to be on the same sheet with the Teams; and Tim Daniel is going to have his concept regardless of what the committees recommend.

b. Equipment and Logistics (Chris Berndt):

- 1) We are somewhat in the dark. Standardization and equipment specifications have been discussed. We need to know what each team has, including equipment and specialties the teams have beyond HAZMAT.
- 2) Tim Daniel is telling us there will be a private contractor(s) they will call to support teams if deployed, and we don't know how well that concept will work.
- 3) The push is no longer about standardization but building super teams.

c. Training and Readiness: No one was available for a report on this Committee.

d. First Responders Committee: The First Responders Committee is a subcommittee of the Homeland Security Governor's Council. Under the First Responders Committee are the four Committees to cover Organization and Operations; Equipment and Logistics; and Training and Readiness.

e. Communications:

- 1) Big discussion about building a network of communications, using Internet, satellites, and existing communications towers.

- 2) There were no specifics provided. Joye asked if anyone has seen the results of the Titan Corporation's Communications study. Someone said Tim Daniel spoke about the study but details were unclear.
5. Homeland Security Region D Preparedness Seminar planned September 22, 2004:
 - a. Joye outlined who would be the intended audience, who is speaking, and the exercises that would be conducted.
 - b. The Seminar is focused to educate all the elected and senior appointed officials on where we have been and are going in Missouri in regards to Homeland Security Preparedness. Multiple simultaneous tabletop exercises will be conducted based upon population to demonstrate how different response to Homeland Security events can be relative to tornadoes, let's say.
 - c. A resource CD with Homeland Security and HAZMAT related information will be provided to them, and a table of handouts and information will be available for them to select information from as well.
 - d. One of long range goals of this effort is to get this event conducted annually and rotated around the region. We need this outreach annually to our elected and senior officials.
 - e. Victor highlighted that elected officials are not getting this information. We sent this information to over 160 elected officials based upon a mailing list provided by SEMA. Attendees were asked to check to ensure their officials have received the invitation.
6. Titan Corporation evaluation of Regional WMD Teams:
 - a. They are setting up appointments with organizations involved in the teams so they can review training records and other information. They will be in Greene County on September 9 for training records review and on September 13 to discuss the exercise and other issues.
 - b. Joye also indicated Greene County and Boone County are being visited by the Inspector General for Homeland Security in regards to the Needs Assessment submission they made in October 2003. Don't know who else is involved at this point.
 - c. Candy asked how the Titan Corporation exercise would affect our plans for regional exercises. Joye indicated that Titan would work with Teams to merge exercise if possible.
 - d. Our regional exercises will have to be worked around the Titan exercises because of time to work them.
7. Timetable for addressing the problems outlined in the April 2004 WMD Regional Exercise Report:
 - a. Joye outlined how we are already working some of the issues but we need to develop a timeline for the problems. We are working the ICS training and the communications procedures.

- b. Joye recommended the next meeting focus on developing a plan.
 - c. Dan Whisler agrees that we need a plan and that it will be on the agenda for the next meeting. The report is on the OEM website.
 - d. Bill Gillette indicated each Team come armed and equipped to address this issue at the meeting on October 13th in Greenfield.
8. Additional comments were received in the following areas:
- a. Health Department: Karen McKinnis says the Small Pox vaccination process has been completed. One of their Epidemiologists has left for St. John's. Karen outlined how Health has already developed the Tier III response within Health and how funds are being redistributed in support of that process.
 - b. Chris Berndt outlined how the decon unit tents being purchased by SEMA turns out to be only one tent, instead of two that are needed. The tent units will not even fit into the current decon trailers. This will create some major challenges.
 - c. Jimmy Sebree outline how the MOCHIEFS is working on the state mutual aid plan to have the language and other requirements within the plan that will meet the FEMA and DHS requirements that have been challenging us. Bill Farr is on the committee as well.
 - d. Bill Gillette asked if anyone has received WMD Fire grants. According to SEMA, Region D did extremely well in the Fire Grant process.
 - e. Joye indicated the City of Springfield and Greene County received everything they asked for and he has not heard the Teams have had anything cut.
 - f. Michael Dawson indicated EMS is receiving encapsulating suites and other equipment similar to what law enforcement has received.
 - g. Lt. Col. Rabenold explained how he has assigned Captain Zimmerman and SSGt Gallego to work with Region D in their planning process. He believes Region D is headed in the right direction. You are identifying the problems, equipment issues, and training together. I think this is being on the right track.
 - h. MoDNR has yet to be trained on their HAZMAT ID Command System according to Karen McKinnis. Greene County is ordering two of these units from the 2004 WMD Grants.
 - i. Candy outlined the need for us to update our regional plan that this group has developed. One of the issues is for Neosho. What will Neosho be responsible for WMD/HAZMAT? They may be a support element for what territory Joplin has now accepted.
9. The next meeting will be at Mom's Restaurant in Greenfield at 1:00 p.m. on October 13, 2004.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joye G. McElwee

Attendees Listing

Name	Organization
Dan Whisler	Springfield Fire Dept.
Bill Gillette	Nevada Fire Dept. and EM
Jon Trent	Nixa Fire Dept.
Jimmy Sebree	Nixa Fire Dept.
Karen McKinnis	Springfield-Greene County Health Dept.
Dan Schrader	Springfield Police Dept. SRT
Ken Baremore	Greene County ARES
Al Campbell	Dallas County 9-1-1
Terry Lane	Dallas County EMD
Carl Sparks	Branson Fire Dept.
Mike Dawson	CoxHealth EMS
Barry Rowell	Springfield Fire Dept.
Bill Arington	Springfield Fire Dept.
Stacy Winters	Logan-Rogersville Fire PD
Michael White	Redings Mill Fire
Patty Head	Bolivar Fire Dept.
Candace Adams	SEMA Area Coordinator
Mitch Randles	Joplin Fire Dept.
Jim Perkins	Joplin Fire Dept.
Mike Eads	Neosho Fire Dept.
Greg Hickman	Neosho Fire Dept.
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Victor Argilagos	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Chris Berndt	Taney County EM and Fire
SSgt Juan Gallego	7 th Civil Support Team
Lt. Col. James Rabenold	7 th Civil Support Team
Jim Barber	Greene County Sheriff's Dept.

WMD Regional Planning Committee Minutes
Greenfield, Missouri
October 13, 2004

1. The meeting was called to order by Chief Bill Gillette shortly after 1:00 p.m. Attendance is listed at Attachment 1.
2. Minutes approved. Carl Sparks motioned for approval, Jimmy Sebree seconded.
3. Exercise Timeline:
 - a. Task # 2-1: Notification of key personnel was not made.
 - Timeline completion: 1/15/05
 - Candy will check the SEMA Duty Officer notification procedures to ensure they are adequate. Each team should ensure their procedures, once activated are appropriate as well.
 - b. Task # 2-1: Communications capabilities were not used effectively.
 - Timeline Completion: 1/15/06
 - A Communications Committee has been established to identify the communications resources in the region and develop a communications plan.
 - Grants to purchase communications equipment end November 2005.
 - The 2004 WMD Grants on communications purchases require recipients to have communications plans.
 - c. Task # 2-1: Communications were not being coordinated with the Emergency Communications Center.
 - Timeline Completion: 1/15/06
 - This was determined to be primarily a Greene County 911 Dispatch issue.
 - We are currently conducting training on ICS and this issue can be worked in parallel with education on ICS and Unified Command.
 - d. Task # 2-3: Detect and identify agent.
 - Timeline Completion: 11/1/06
 - Attendees felt getting together for joint exercise events should not occur earlier than ever other year. With the upcoming Titan evaluations on the teams, the fall of 2006 was seen as the earliest

opportunity for another large, joint exercise.

- e. Task # 3-3: Direct and control response operations.
 - Timeline Completion: 6/1/05
 - We got away from the team concept for the teams. This failure helped create this problem.
 - Unified Command also played a role in this problem.
 - With the ICS training planned and the Titan exercises behind us, this problem should be resolved.

- f. Task # 3-14: Provide emergency public information to media and public.
 - Timeline Completion: 6/1/05
 - We must include the public information staff in a more active role in exercises.
 - We need to have unified command working better to ensure appropriate management of public information in place.
 - Training on unified command will be completed in May 2005.

- g. Task # 4-1: Isolate incident scene and define hazard areas.
 - Timeline Completion: Completed. Scenarios created unrealistic requirements.

- h. Task # 4-2: Establish Incident Command/Unified Command.
 - Timeline Completion: 6/1/05
 - Training being conducted for participating organizations and should be finalized in May 2005.
 - Organizations will participate in the Titan exercise in March 2005.

- i. Task # 4-4: Maintain Accountability of Responders and Citizens.
 - Timeline Completion: 1/15/05
 - Teams have accountability procedures. When teams arrive, they can provide a list of those responding with them. Additionally, they will keep track of their people and expect other teams to keep track of their personnel.
 - Neosho says they will even provide a list of equipment when they arrive.
 - How are we as a region going determine who needs to be at a scene? Multicolored tapes can be used to help identify personnel. Tyvek bracelets are another convenient way for accountability. They come pre-numbered.
 - Let's identify what's out there that can be used and bring it back to the December 2004 meeting.

- j. Task # 4-9: Dispatch Bomb Squad.

- Timeline Completion: Completed
 - The protocols are already in-place for the team that they roll as a unit. If it is a bomb involved event, the Bomb Squad will roll with the WMD Team also; otherwise, they will not. The Bomb Squad has it's own standalone SOPs and protocols as well.
- k. Task #6-3: Provide emergency triage, treatment and stabilization.
- Timeline Completion: 6/1/05
 - ICS training is being conducted through May 2005.
 - Examples of how well things are already beginning to work between fire and EMS were provided by Chief Whisler.
4. Updates from State Committees:
- a. Equipment and Logistics: A survey is being conducted regarding the equipment being held by WMD Regional Response Teams. Some Teams had not received a copy of the survey. Bill Arington said he would relay that problem to the individual who sent out the surveys. They are due back today.
 - b. Other committees either had not met or those in attendance had not attended their latest committee meeting.
 - c. Communications Committee update: A questionnaire on equipment, frequencies, etc. has been sent to local Emergency Management Agencies. It is due back on November 1, 2004.
 - d. Chief Whisler asked if we need to let Tim Daniel, the Governor, and other regional teams know that we do not support the super team concept.
 - Concern was expressed that we should verify whether other teams also do not support the super team concept.
 - Jimmy Sebree will be attending the MoChief's meeting and he will discuss the issue with other attendees.
5. Homeland Security Region D Seminar:
- a. Joye thanked those who supported the Seminar and made presentations.
 - b. Many elected officials thought the Seminar was very beneficial.
 - c. One of the Presiding Commissioners in the region is looking at hosting the next seminar.
 - d. Was quite pleased when Commissioner Coonrod asked that we conduct the Seminar.
6. Jaci McReynolds updated the group on the following:
- a. Health planner opening.
 - b. Flu vaccine shortage.
 - c. OACAC planning seminar that drew 350 attendees.

- d. She is developing a video for the deaf on preparedness.
 - e. Community Heroes program for public health emergencies.
7. 7 CST updated attendees on 2 slots available for their 10th annual Nuclear Weapons School. They need the names by the end of the week.
 8. Chris Berndt, Taney County Fire, informed attendees that they would be conducting a decon drill for responders and law enforcement on Saturday.
 9. Greg Hickman informed attendees that they are having a table top on emergency medical and decon.
 10. Bill and Dan outlined how they have chaired the group since September 2002 and asked if anyone would want to take on that responsibility. Their concern is that people understand they believe what they are doing is important, but that they welcome others who may want to take on their current roles in this regional process. There were no offers to take on the co-chair role.
 11. Next meeting will be held in the Training Room at Springfield Fire Station 6, 2620 W. Battlefield, at 1:30 p.m. on November 10, 2004.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joye G. McElwee

**Attachment 1
Attendance Listing**

Individual	Organization
Mitch Randles	Springfield Fire Dept.
Patty Head	Bolivar Fire Dept.
Theron Becker	Public Health
Mike Eads	Neosho Fire
Greg Hickman	Neosho FRRT
Linda DeGraffenreid	Public Health
Bob Kitsmiller	Dade County EM
Bill Arington	Springfield Fire
Dan Whisler	Springfield Fire
Carl Sparks	City of Branson
Chris Berndt	Taney County Fire and EMD
Jimmy Sebree	Nixa Fire
Candace Adams	SEMA
CPT Scott Zimmerman	7 th CST
Mike Dawson	CoxHealth EMS
Jaci McReynolds	Springfield-Greene County Health
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County EMD

Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2004
Springfield, Missouri

1. Meeting called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Dan Whisler.
2. Minutes from October 13, 2004 meeting were approved.
3. Exercise Improvement Plan Matrix: Copies of the matrix were distributed. Joye McElwee explained that the matrix was developed based on the input from the last meeting.

Task #

III-4 – The PIO function is already in the plan. Exercise planners need to ensure that they get scripted into future exercises.

IV-2 – ICS training is currently in progress. First training was conducted October 19-20, 2004. The course went very well. The most valuable aspect of the training was the interaction and discussion between fire, police emergency management, public works and other attendees. We do need to emphasize the importance of also having the Sheriff's Department involved in the training. Joye and Ron have both contacted them and received assurances that they will have at least two representatives (one LT and one SGT) in attendance at the next course. (The next course will be Intermediate ICS and will be held on February 2-4, 2005).

IV-4 – Mitch Randles has samples of Tyvek bracelets that he will bring to the next meeting. The bracelets are packaged in bundles of five hundred for approximately \$24.00. The bracelets are sequentially numbered and are available in multiple colors.

- The sequential numbering can be useful to identify every person that enters into a response / contaminated area, and identify their belongings, etc. as they go through decontamination.
- The different colors can be useful for identifying different teams, functions, etc.

II-1 – SEMA is in the process of updating its contact/notification list.

II-1 – The Communications Subcommittee is meeting on a monthly basis (see paragraph 4 for update).

II-3 – A preliminary schedule has been set for conducting exercises. This schedule includes a command function tabletop exercise and possibly a communications exercise to be conducted in 2005. Additional exercises are being coordinated with Titan for the team evaluations. The next WMD regional, full-scale will most likely occur in 2006.

4. Region D Communications Committee: The WMD Communications sub-committee and the SMESO Radio Interoperability Committee met this morning. The committees agreed

to merge into one committee. The primary objective that they agreed to work on initially is completing the communications capabilities of the region. They are going to resend the communications surveys to agencies in the region in order to develop an accurate assessment of the needs and capabilities.

5. Letter in support of Missouri Fire Chiefs' Association's position on Tier III concept: Jimmy Sebree has been attending the MO Chiefs' meetings. He explained that the Association does not support the Tier III concept being proposed by the MO Department of Homeland Security. The Association contends that the Homeland Security Response Teams (HSRT) along with the current mutual aid structure can handle the requirement.

Dan Whisler stated that once the MO Chiefs' issue their position letter, we would draft a letter in support. Jimmy Sebree stated that the MO Chiefs' should have their position letter ready for the Emergency Responder Committee meeting which will be on November 23, 2004.

Joye McElwee brought up the fact that the change in government will have an impact on us. Key political positions in Jefferson City are likely to change. If anyone has any suggestions or recommendations, go ahead and submit them.

6. Scene accountability system: This item was discussed earlier in the meeting (see paragraph 3, item IV-4).
7. Updates from State Committees
 - a. Organization and Operations: Has not met since last WMD Planning Committee meeting.
 - b. Equipment and Logistics: Met yesterday.
 - c. Training and Readiness: Met about three weeks ago. They are gathering information from surveys.
8. Other updates

- a. Health Department: Linda DeGraffenreid introduced Kendra Williams to the group. Kendra is new to the Springfield-Greene County BERT. She comes from Joplin where she was on their regional team.

Linda discussed the flu vaccination clinic that was held at SMSU on October 30, 2004. She stated that they had 2,000 vaccines donated by SMSU, and were able to vaccinate 1,358 individuals. The event was a success in that they were able to exercise the mass medication plan as well as the volunteer plan.

- b. 7th CST-WMD: CPT Zimmerman stated that the 7th CST had been called to St. Louis to work the stadium during the World Series games.

If any of the regional Hazmat teams want, or are in need of any type of training on equipment, chem-bio, radiological, communications, etc. to contact the 7th CST.

Joye informed the group that he had recently been at a conference and heard a briefing from LTC Johnson in reference to the Missouri National Guard's CBRNE Enhanced Response Force (MO-CERF). This is a new concept that is being established to enhance the capabilities of the CST as well as to provide additional resources to for local jurisdictions. Once it is fully established, the MO-CERF will have the following assets:

- Decontamination Team
- Security Force
- Medical Team
- Search and Rescue Team

The unit held its first exercise in August 2004 during which their decontamination team was successfully credentialed.

c. Hazmat Teams:

- i. Joplin: Jim Perkins stated that they are in the process of acquiring their HazmatID System.

Jim asked the group if they had heard anything further on the DFS Hazmat Technician Program. Jimmy Sebree stated that not much had been discussed about the program recently. He speculated that perhaps the program might have been tabled for now due to the conflicting views on how it should be done. A T-T program is being developed, but no information is available at this time. The program would fall under the MERC and they will provide oversight of any changes.

- ii. Logan-Rogersville: Robert Kemp stated that they conducted a Hazmat exercise with Strafford FPD last week. The exercise went well. Joye asked that the Office of Emergency Management be notified next time LR conducts an exercise. Robert agreed.
- iii. Nevada: Bill Gillette stated that they are currently working on training medical personnel for the team. The main emphasis for this year will be EMS.
- iv. Neosho: Greg Hickman stated that they are still working on organizing the team. They should be ready by February 2005. They have completed their original drop shipment and they have received authorization to spend their grant funds.
- v. Branson: No representatives were present to comment.
- vi. Springfield: Joye McElwee stated that the bomb squad has received their bomb trailer and that the HazmatID has been ordered for Logan-

Rogersville. Also, the next round of grants will be released to the states in December.

Joye reminded the teams that the new version of CAMEO, version 1.1.2, is now available.

Joye stated that teams were getting new decon tents and the quantity has been increased from one to two tents per large team.

SEMA inadvertently sent a real world message on the training side of E-Teams. Joye contacted SEMA to straighten out the issue.

- d. Law Enforcement: Springfield SRT is in the process of purchasing a new SRT vehicle.
 - e. Others: No other agencies gave reports.
9. Dan Whisler brought up the nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair for the WMD Planning Committee. The following recommendations were suggested:
- a. Have the current Chair and Vice-Chair maintain their positions.
 - b. Elect a replacement for only one position and have the other position replaced the following year.
 - c. Chris Berndt was nominated.
 - d. Hold a vote for all the incumbents and nominees and the two with the most votes will be the Chair / Vice-Chair.
 - e. Have a law enforcement representative as Chair or Vice-Chair.

It was agreed that we should continue to maintain representation from one large jurisdiction and one small jurisdiction. Joye will contact Chris in reference to his nomination, and a vote will be taken during next month's meeting. Additional nominations should be forwarded to Joye prior to the next meeting date.

10. The next meeting will be held on December 8, 2004 at 1:30 p.m. in the community room at Fire Station 8, located at 1405 S. Scenic Ave. (intersection of Scenic and Bennett).

11. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor Argilagos
WMD/HAZMAT Planning Specialist

Attendance Listing
November 10, 2004

Scott Zimmerman	7 th CST-WMD
Patty Head	Bolivar Fire Department
Don Mann	Doctor's Hospital
Kenda Clopton	Doctor's Hospital
Ken Baremore	Greene County ARES
Paul Lutrell	Joplin Communications
Jim Perkins	Joplin Fire Department
Mitch Randles	Joplin Fire Department
Robert Kemp	Logan-Rogersville FPD
Kevin Mattson	MO DNR
Wendell Hall	MO DNR
Greg Hickman	Neosho Fire Department
Mike Eads	Neosho Fire Department
Bill Gillette	Nevada Fire Department
April Tarrant	Newton County Central Dispatch
Jimmy Sebree	Nixa Fire Department
Jon Trent	Nixa Fire Department
Tim Bonner	Southern Stone County FPD
Bart Andrews	Springfield Fire Department
Bill Arrington	Springfield Fire Department
Dan Whisler	Springfield Fire Department
Ron Hartman	Springfield Police Department
Kendra Williams	Springfield-Greene County Health Dept.
Linda DeGraffenreid	Springfield-Greene County Health Dept.
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Victor Argilagos	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Bob Patterson	St. John's EMS

Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2004
Springfield, Missouri

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 P.M. by Bill Gillette.
2. The minutes from the November 10, 2004 meeting were approved.
3. Communications Committee: They only received one partial survey back. The committee will follow-up with a revised survey. The new survey will be simpler and the level of detail being asked for is being condensed.

The committee will follow up the surveys with telephone calls and compile the data.

Joye stated that he has already provided a list of most of the frequencies for the region.

Dan asked if anybody had heard any discussion in reference to the Nextel issue with the use of the 700 and 800 Mhz bands.

Joye mentioned that the problem will not affect us to the extent that was expected. We will not have to relocate our public safety frequencies. Also, the shift will not take place for at least 3-4 years.

Mitch stated that Nextel was looking at completely vacating the 700 and 800 Mhz frequencies and moving to the 1.4 Ghz. If this occurs, then the impact on public safety would be nil. The controversy now is determining what the 1.4 Ghz bandwidth is worth financially.

4. Scene accountability system: Mitch stated that he brought samples of the tyvek bands. Some positive characteristics of the bands are:
 - One size fits all: 10"
 - Sequentially numbered
 - Come in a variety of colors
 - Strong adhesive closure
 - Cannot be broken by hand
 - Writeable
 - Affordable: \$24 for 500 bands (from Admiral Express in Joplin)

Dan asked if we needed to adopt the bands. It was agreed that we adopt the bands and work on a plan to implement them.

Bill asked if there was any criteria for the use of the bands. The criteria should be consistent across the region. Victor stated that there were several methods in which they could be used:

- To identify certain functions at the scene (fire, police, emergency management)
- To identify members of a regional team (Joplin, Branson, Springfield, Nevada, Neosho)
- To identify access on a particular day (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)
- To identify access level within perimeter (hot zone, media area, command post)

Mitch will work on putting together some guidelines for the use of the bands.

5. Updates from State Committees: At the last meeting, committees were thanked for their service and disbanded. The future of the committees is uncertain.

Joye asked if everyone received a copy of the minutes from their last meeting.

Bill stated that Governor-elect Blunt has mentioned his intention to change the face of government. Dan stated that the Department of Homeland Security has already been moved under the Department of Public Safety, possibly under SEMA. Both Tim Daniels, Director of Homeland Security and Jerry Uhlmann, Director of State Emergency Management Agency have announced their retirement. Dan stated that we need to continue monitoring the situation. Joye stated that Ken McClure, formerly from City Utilities, will be working as the chief of staff for the Governor-elect and he will be a positive change.

Joye stated that we need to continue having a voice at the State level. Dan concurred and stated that we need to identify local individuals to be representatives on future boards, committees, etc.

6. Other updates

Jim stated that he is concerned about the changes in the Federal government and their impact on our region. The individual that has been proposed to head Homeland Security is a big city police chief. The significance and the funding for the smaller jurisdictions can be in jeopardy.

Joye stated that at the State level, SEMA is already overloaded with work; they are plagued by turnover and that the incoming government will take several months to learn how the process works. He is still waiting for answers from SEMA to grant questions from over a month ago.

Also, SEMA is looking at funneling grant funding regionally through the Missouri Council of Governments (MOCOG).

Dan stated that as a region, we need to develop a position and present a unified front. We will need to draft a letter and present it to the incoming government. There are organizations that are already established and have experience in WMD and first responder issues that can handle the grant funds better than MOCOG. Some suggestions are the WMD Planning Committee, the First Responders

Committee, etc. Dan stated that we can support a peer review process, but not arbitrarily handling it over to an agency with no experience. Bill agreed. Jimmy stated that other regions would most likely support our position.

Joye will draft a position letter that we can present to the Governor-elect.

Jim asked about the State's NIMS implementation plan. He stated that we cannot wait for the State to take action. We need to start working issues now in order to have all the requirements completed in time. Victor passed out several copies of the Springfield-Greene County NIMS Implementation plan. Victor advised that this is a rough draft, but it does provide a good template for the region. Jim stated that we need to work together as a region to implement NIMS.

Victor will distribute a copy of the NIMS Implementation plan to each of the teams to give them a chance to review it. We will discuss it again at the next meeting.

7. Agency updates:

- a. Health Department: State planners have drafted a regional response plan for biological incidents statewide. Kendra stated that she should have a copy of the plan by the end of December. Kendra is also writing local response guidelines for biological incidents, white powder, etc.

There have been two white powder incidents here in Greene County within the last week. There have not been two white powder incidents so close to each other since 2001. One of the calls was for a "dirty" letter which was suspected of having powder on it. The other incident was a Christmas package that appeared to have been tampered with and had white powder inside.

- b. 7th CST-WMD: No representatives were present to comment.

c. Hazmat Teams:

- i. Joplin: Titan Corp. will meet with the Exercise Planning Committee tomorrow and Friday.

They have received their tent . . . and it takes more than 4-6 people to set it up. Jim recommends watching the video and reading the instructions prior to trying to set it up. There is no interface between shelters and they do not fit on the trailers. They built racks on top of their trailer to carry the tent.

Joye reminded the teams to have gowns accessible to go with the decon tents.

- ii. Logan-Rogersville: They will be receiving their Hazmat trailer in February 2005. Also, the Hazmat ID should be coming in pretty soon.
- iii. Nevada: Titan Corp. will meet with the Exercise Planning Committee tomorrow at Joplin. There has been some confusion as to the information coming from Titan Corp.
- iv. Neosho: Titan Corp. is meeting with the Exercise Planning Committee today.

They have received authorization to purchase their truck and trailer in January 2005. The team should be ready by February 2005.

Jim asked about how the response will be handled for McDonald County. Several factors to consider that can affect the response are:

- The Wal-Mart IT Center
- The I-71 corridor coming north from Arkansas
- The NW Arkansas Response Team

Joye stated that the Arkansas team cannot come into Missouri without being requested with mutual aid, etc. Jim stated that the response at the IT Center is based on the Arkansas standard. This will be an issue that needs to be studied.

- v. Branson-Taney: Titan Corp. met with the Exercise Planning Committee on Monday and Tuesday. No negative comments from the Committee.

They have already received their new Hazmat tent.

- vi. Springfield: They have their bomb trailer and are working on getting a bomb truck to pull it. The current bomb truck does not have sufficient space to carry the robot, the equipment, etc.

Also, we are looking at obtaining a bomb dog. There are many problems that have to be resolved before we finalize the decision.

- d. Law Enforcement: They are working on getting the specs on a new SRT truck.
- e. Emergency Medical Services: They are receiving decon suits similar to the law enforcement suits (level C).

MEMSA has obtained funding for WMD training. None is being done in SW Missouri.

Hospitals are working on implementing Tier I capabilities.

Kevin asked if there was a list of equipment for the teams. Joye advised that he has the list, it might need some updating. The teams should have submitted lists to Titan Corp.

- f. DNR: They are working on obtaining an infrared thermal imaging camera.
8. Dan Whisler brought up the nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair for the WMD Planning Committee.

Bill reviewed the nomination options that were brought up at the last meeting. It was decided that we would vote for all the candidates, and the two with the most votes would be co-chairs for the next two years.

The candidates for co-chair are:

- Dan Whisler
- Bill Gillette
- Chris Berndt

After the ballots were cast, Joye counted the votes and stated that the two candidates with the most votes are Dan and Chris. Bill was thanked for his 2 years of hard work and service on the committee.

- 9. The next meeting will be held on January 12, 2005 at 1:00 P.M. in Springfield at the Price Cutter Restaurant off of Hwy 65. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the SMESO meeting that starts at 10:00 A.M.**

10. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor Argilagos
WMD/HAZMAT Planning Specialist

Attendance Listing
December 8, 2004

Jim Perkins	Joplin Fire Department
Mitch Randles	Joplin Fire Department
Dennis Clinton	Logan-Rogersville Fire District
Kevin Mattson	MO DNR
Wendell Hall	MO DNR
Mike Eads	Neosho Fire Department
Bill Gillette	Nevada Fire Department
Jimmy Sebree	Nixa Fire Department
Tim Bonner	Southern Stone County FPD
Bill Arrington	Springfield Fire Department
Dan Whisler	Springfield Fire Department
Ron Hartman	Springfield Police Department
Kendra Williams	Springfield-Greene County Health Dept.
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Victor Argilagos	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Bob Patterson	St. John's EMS
Chris Berndt	Taney County EMA
Kevin Tweedy	Taney County Ambulance District
