

Northwest Kansas Regional Homeland Security Meeting
September 14th, 2009, Sheridan County EMS Building, Hoxie KS

Keith Haberer, Chair, called the September 14th, 2009 meeting of the Northwest Kansas Regional Homeland Security Council to order at 10:05 a.m.

Members and Guests Present:

Jason Moses, Member at Large

Doug Janssen, Russell FD

Deb Hays, Phillips Co. EM

Al Pietrycha, National Weather Service

Mickie Helberg, Graham Co.

Jim Schroeder, Rawlins Co.

Crissy Conger, Sherman Co.

Mike Albers, Thomas Co.

Toby Prine, Kansas Emergency Management

Gail Ogle, Russell Co. GIS Coordinator

Keith Haberer, Russell Co.

Deb Kaufman, Region I EMS

Ray Smee, Goodland PD

Tami Wood, NW Reg. Hosp. Admin

Steve Hirsh, Decatur Co.

Chris Brown, Phillips Co.

Jim Fisher, Rush Co.

Jacque Boultinghouse, Sheridan Co.

Randall Hrabe, Fiscal Agent

Michelle Wishon, CPHP O & P RS/KDHE

Susan McMahan, Thomas Co. EM

A motion for approval of the August 17, 2009 meeting minutes was made by Steve Hirsch and seconded by Mickie Helberg. Motion passed.

Jason Moses demonstrated the MOTO-bridge remote dispatch application system utilizing his computer and the wireless connection at the EMS building. During the demonstration, he contacted an individual utilizing a portable radio in Barton County. He is connecting through the DOT system and is able to speak to him here. He is also able to contact Rush County through UHF. The rest of this system is being built in Northwest Kansas. He will give one copy of the program to each IMT Communications Leader. There was Command Unit Leadership training in Salina two weeks ago where they easily connected UHF, VHF, and 800 MHz together.

Northwest Kansas Regional Coordinator for KDEM Report: Toby Prine reported the IMT command training is taking place. We have had Communications Unit Leader, Incident Commander, and the Operations Chief courses. Cost for the incident command training will be paid from 2007 funds. The communication and operations training will come out of 2008 funding. The Northwest Region will be conducting the Liaison Officer training at an undetermined date. The region will pay for that course including lodging and meals. The Kansas Emergency Management Association Conference is this week. It is expected there be a lot of discussion at the KEMA conference regarding the regional council. There will also be an IMT working group on Friday after the KEMA conference. The state of Kansas participated in an Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC), a grand exercise that is tailored to target capabilities your jurisdiction wants to exercise based on a hazard analysis. Kansas participated at the state EOC and it was a good exercise. It was successful enough that Kansas is considering doing one of its own IEMC-type of exercises around the state. We would conduct one in every region. An eventual goal is to have a yearly regional exercise in every region. The counties that are EMPG counties would be able to use this exercise to meet the EMPG requirement. The process is in the brainstorming phase right now. Toby Prine was commended for the job he did in the exercise in Rooks County (Plainville) last Tuesday. He reported that at

the KEMA conference tomorrow there will be a pre-conference class on liability issues in emergency management.

Fiscal Agent Reports – Kerry McCue: Kerry McCue emailed FY06 and FY07 Financial statements. Via email, he asked that we consider a bill for GIS from KAC for \$3000 for Phase 4 Training. Toby Prine would like approval from Crissy Conger, the project manager, and the council to process the payment. Council approved.

Fiscal Agent Reports - Randy Hrabe: distributed the Fiscal Year 2008 budget allocation in each of the categories. In the middle of the page it shows purchase orders. Prehospital treatment / triage trailer project award and denial letters have been written for the trailers. They sent Better Built Trailers a purchase order that was approved at the last meeting. We have not received any of the Cross-Match invoices yet. The counties receiving equipment are Logan, Rush, and Wallace. Corina Cox sent the budget information to Bob McLemore on the IMT project. Jason Moses reported the radio upgrade equipment is here and we will be working on the transfer of properties. Randy Hrabe stated that at the bottom of the page it shows the remaining fiscal year 2008 budget.

Discussion was held regarding the IMT trailers. They are at the point where they are ready to start installing radios and wireless. They will need to start purchasing equipment. They are permanently installing one of the WIN link kits in one trailer. There will be the need for antennas, coax cable, wireless bridge, and a plotter printer. He would like to have it finished by the end of the year. The generator will be anchored down in the back quarter or third of the trailer with tracks to reduce the noise.

New Business: Chris Brown gave a project synopsis for project modification for the GIS project. Chris Brown stated that we had originally called for providing software to all of the counties within the region. Upon review of the first GIS project that we had received from the EOC for an enhancement project, we see we did not get the involvement for the GIS training from some of the counties that we had anticipated. It made us question if software was the right way to go. We could instead provide an additional data layer. That data layer would be the blueprints of the school districts for all the schools within the region. They could map the blueprints out of the schools and then hyperlinked in the pictures from the classrooms. There are points for security camera locations, fire extinguishers, tornado shelter locations for evacuation, etc. This information could then be provided to emergency managers and local emergency services. Cost was discussed. It appears there are three parts of the project. First, getting the plotter and the license for the IMT trailers; second, we have 43 school districts and 106 school entities at 102 location points (including public, private and parochial grades K-12), which would need to be plotted and layered by the FHSU college interns; third, providing that data to the school systems and to the area responders. This system would allow you to see inside the school in case of an emergency; you would know how to evacuate and where shut-offs are. Each responder would get a data copy of the information and would be able to load that information onto the IMT computers. Then each entity would be able to print out what they needed.

Toby Prine was asked to host a teleconference to explain this project to the school systems. It is a necessary level for county information if approached from a disaster and safety point of view. It would be useful not only during the emergency phase, and search and rescue, but also recovery. Maps are just as important or may be even more important in the recovery phase than in the response phase. It is another tool in your bag for life safety and life preservation issues. The Safe

School Initiative is supporting this issue. Schools would have the option of non-participation. Gail Ogle answered that it is a relatively static data layer. The plan is to have a GIS working grid. Fort Hays State University is working up a rough draft of a contract. Toby Prine reported on available budget. Mike Albers moved with second by Ray Smee to move the Cross Match enhancement funds to the GIS project instead. Motion passed.

ESF#8: The ESF8 meeting was held last Wednesday in Oakley. Tami Wood reported several KDHE departments presented at the meeting. Brian Barnes from the Kansas Health Alert Network (KS HAN) gave a presentation about the program and its usage. It is taking the place of a program that used to be known as PHIX. The program distributes alerts on different subjects that pertain to our different areas and fields. If emergency managers are not on KS HAN, we would encourage them to contact the administrator of the site and start using it. Michelle Wishon reported it is desired to enhance program capabilities to allow administrators at the regional and local level to utilize KSHAN to distribute emergency messages.

Tami Wood reported they also had an educational seminar from Debbie Nichols from KS Train. She presented on usage, sign up, registration, and benefits of KS Train. We discussed the public health and hospital work plans for the 2009-2010 year and discussed their differences, similarities, and comparisons. The hospital 3-year strategic plans were discussed. We continue to update those plans at hospital meetings. There is a Pan Flu table top exercise that involves the hospitals on Sept. 22-24 that some of the people at this meeting were asked to participate in. Some hospitals have received permission to do the exercise on a different date. It should be a very good exercise for community partners.

Deb Kaufman presented a demonstration of the EMS KEMIS project and hospital bridge program for accessing electronic copies of the prehospital care report for patients transferred to hospitals. Gary Rogers presented an emergency management update. The next ESF8 meeting will be in January or February 2010. The regional hospitals will build the agenda. The date, time, and location will be set in early November.

H1N1: Michelle Wishon reported on the H1N1 initiatives. She explained weekly conference calls are held with the state every Friday from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. There are a limited amount of call-ins that are allowed with the provider, so counties were encouraged to combine with your health department to participate in the conference call. We have currently been discussing vaccinations. Presently, we are dealing with McKesson, a third party distributor, to get the vaccine to local areas. We are one of 22 states that have established a pre-registration for private providers to sign up. These providers can go on the KDHE website and register to be a provider of H1N1 flu vaccine. We currently have about 1,160 providers that have already pre-registered in the state of Kansas, and we keep encouraging more. Yesterday, the CDC released a school located vaccination planning guide. This includes information for schools on how to set up a vaccination clinic, use the consent forms, letters to parents, etc. Also at the ESF8 meeting, they asked about an employee business letter that was created by KDHE and sent out last Tuesday. It was sent out through the Chamber of Commerce.

Australia is using the vaccine for a one-dose action. Initially, data stated we would need a 2-dose vaccine for H1N1, so this is new. The National Institute of Health is also conducting a test showing similar results to the possibility of only needing one vaccine. If shown promising, this will free up a lot of resources at the local level. Another question that was raised at the ESF8 meeting was the use of Tama-Flu for H1N1. Currently, there have been a few cases showing an

anti-viral resistance to the medication. We are still currently urging medical providers to use the guidelines of only using this for high risk individuals.

A Public Information Officer conference call was also held last Friday. The next conference call will be this Friday. Public Information Officers will want to call in right after the 10:00 a.m. meeting, to receive information.

We did talk about the CDC funding. The CDC is providing funding in a 3-phase capacity, so health departments will actually be getting grant money in three different phases. The first two phases go towards mass vaccination planning and mass surveillance activities, and the third phase goes towards the actual implementation of the vaccine. The total for Kansas is a little over 14 million dollars for this vaccination campaign. Eighty-nine percent of those dollars are going towards local health departments, so they will be receiving approximately 12.5 million dollars. This month, the locals will actually be receiving their contracts for the first two, and they will be receiving the last one in October.

Project Workgroups- Finalize 2009 Projects: Toby Prine reported that Keith Haberer had forwarded the 2009 grant application. Next month we will finalize this with the KHP. Today we will break down the different projects into groups and work through the project sheets. We are to be very specific this year when it comes to projects. This year's projects are the GIS project, Communications project, IMT Enhancements, Food and Agricultural Terrorism Planning Project, Emergency Operation Plan and Enhancement Project, and Medical Surge Pre-Hospital Treatment and Triage Project. Workgroups convened for project work.

Adjournment: Jim Fisher motioned for adjournment. Motion seconded by Ray Smee. Motion carried. The next meeting of the Council will be October 12, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Kaufman, Secretary

(These minutes are Council approved as amended October 12, 2009.)