

Omaha/Council Bluffs Sub-area
March 26, 2012 – 1p.m.
MEETING MINUTES- March 2012 Sub-area Meeting
Omaha Public Safety Training Facility and National Guard Training Center
11616 Rainwood Road
Omaha, Nebraska

Meeting minutes were reviewed by meeting attendees and no changes were noted by Sub-area members.

Sub-area Member Report-outs

US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA): Janice Kroone

USEPA will be holding Spill Response Training from June 12th-14th in Lincoln, Nebraska. Region 7 USEPA had obtained six boom trailers from the USCG after the Hurricane Katrina response to out place in the region with local or state responders. Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) has one of these trailers stored in Lincoln and plans to exercise the trailer and response equipment. All members and participants from the Omaha/Council Bluffs Sub-area are welcome to attend. Cass County Emergency Management Agency (CCEMA) has offered equipment from their department for assistance during the training.

A Region 7 Regional Response Team (RRT) Meeting is scheduled for April 17th-18th at the USEPA facilities in Kansas City, MO. A tour of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Prepositioned Equipment (PEP) cache in Kansas City, MO, for all RRT Meeting participants, has been arranged immediately following the first day of the meeting.

Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR): Jim McGee

NDOR has an exercise coming up on March 29th at the Civic Center. NDOR is also willing to help with exercises when needed. Presentations are being offered in the evenings on traffic management safety for volunteer fire departments.

Cass County Emergency Management Agency (CCEMA): Shelia Peterson, Jacob Blunt

A railroad bridge was scheduled to begin construction in Cass County on the Missouri River earlier this month. The company contracted for the construction project has placed docks on both sides of the Missouri River as part of the construction process. CCEMA was notified by the contracted company to be on alert this summer for a possible response needed to the work site. The contractor also advised that accidents were inevitable during the construction. Additionally, if an oil release were to occur, a limited amount of boom is maintained onsite; only enough to contain immediately around contracted work barges. CCEMA does not have the capability for high angle rescue and resources if a large incident occurs. If requests are submitted, the Cass County Fire Department (CFD) stated that they can assist CCEMA in the case of a larger response effort.

CCEMA will be conducting a mass casualty training at the Cass County Fairgrounds on October 20th-21st, 2012, given by A.J. Heightman. There is enough room for up to 400 people at the fairgrounds and vendors are welcome. The training is open to everyone (including law enforcement, emergency medical services [EMS], fire departments, mortuary services, etc.).

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ): Kirk Morrow

NDEQ has recently added two new members to their response team.

Sensitive Information in Plan: Janice Kroone

There are currently seven Sub-Area Contingency Plans (SACP) in Region 7. Two versions of the plan; a public plan and a restricted plan, have been developed in two of the Sub-areas. It was discussed that it may prove useful to have one plan so that all pertinent information can be pulled from a single source and the responders would be referred to the “owners” of the sensitive information.

Nebraska Hazmat Symposium Update: Janice Kroone

The Nebraska Hazmat Symposium this year was held in Hasting, Nebraska. Approximately 50-60 responders. Some classes offered were Explosives, Infectious Diseases, and a 20-hour Safety Class. Next year the symposium will be held in Kearney, Nebraska on April 7th-8th, 2013.

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Men’s Basketball Tournament Deployment: Brad Hildebrandt, Kirk Morrow

Air and radiation monitoring equipment was set up at the Century Center in Omaha, Nebraska for the NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament held on March 16th and 18th, 2012. OFD and NDEQ set up air and radiation meters in strategic locations around the Century Center during the tournament. The meters were deployed in discreet locations so they would not institute any distraction to the games or fans. Due to the utilization of radio transmitters, the meters were able to be controlled remotely from an onsite command post, located on the 6th floor of the Century Center. If any of the instruments had received a high reading the Omaha Police Department (OPD) would have been notified for further investigation. This monitoring system will also be used at the Olympic Swim Trials to be held in Omaha, Nebraska during the summer of 2012. The 72nd Civic Support Team (CST) will also be assisting with the 2012 Olympic Swim Trials.

Homeland Response Force Team: Janice Kroone

The Sub-area was notified of the capabilities of the National Guard Homeland Response Force (HRF), consisting of approximately 580 people and located in Missouri. While HRF is setup in Missouri, its resources can be utilized by all Region 7 area partners. HRF consists of personnel who conduct search and extraction, medical triage, personnel decontamination, command and control and security.

2001 Exercise Plan and Possible Participation: Janice Kroone

A Tabletop Exercise (TTX) for the Sub-area was completed in the late 1990s and over 135 people from the Omaha, Nebraska area participated. A Functional Exercise was subsequently planned to be held at Iowa Western Community College in November of 2001, but was postponed due to the many anthrax responses that same year. The exercise design is complete and more information will be available for members who would like to participate in any future use of the Functional Exercise.

Next Meeting

It was suggested that the next meeting be the week of May 15th or May 22nd before the June 2012 boom training in Lincoln, Nebraska. Possible venues include the National Park Service or the Highway Department. An e-mail will be sent out to confirm location and time once they are decided.

Members in Attendance

Name	Organization	Phone	Email
Shelia Peterson	Cass County Emergency Management	402-267-6765	ccema6201@hotmail.com
Jacob Blunt	Cass County Emergency Management	402-267-6765	ccema6204@hotmail.com
Brad Hildebrandt	Omaha Fire Department	402-578-7039	bhildebrandt@ci.omaha.ne.us
James McGee	Nebraska Department of Roads	402-610-0074	jim.mcgee@nebraska.gov
Janice Kroone	US Environmental Protection Agency	913-551-7005	kroone.janice@epa.gov
Kirk Morrow	Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality	913-471-8584	kirk.morrow@nebraska.gov
Emily Fisher	Tetra Tech, EM Inc.	816-412-1755	emily.fisher@tetrattech.com