



DEMHS REGION 4
REPT Steering Committee In-Person/Zoom Meeting Notes
Wednesday, June 22, 2022
1:30 p.m.

Attending:

Name	Municipality/Organization	Name	Municipality/Organization
Mark Paquette	SCCOG	Mike Caplet	DEMHS Region 4 Coordinator
Darlene Richards	DEMHS Region 4 Secretary	Michael Licata	REPT STC Chair, EMD, Windham
Wayne Gronlund	REPT STC Co-Chair, RESF 2 Chairman, CT Section Emergency Coordinator, Amateur Radio Emergency Services	Julie Wilson	RESF 5 Cybersecurity Subcommittee Co-Chair, East Lyme
Mark Sicuso	RESF 10 Co-Chair	Timothy Rogers	CT ARES Region 4 & Eastern CT Red Cross Ham Radio
Carla Iezzi	DEMHS Region 4 Planner	Tony Ruggiero	RESF 10 Chair
Teresa Jackman	RESF 12, Eversource	Steven Sinagra	SCCOG EMD, Town of Waterford
Bill Skene	EMD, Town of Brooklyn	Kristin Doundoulakis	RESF 3 Chair
Mark Waters	DEMD, City of Norwich	Jerry James	EMD, Town of Columbia
Chief Anthony Manfredi, Jr.	RESF 20 Chair, Mystic F.D., CMCI	Paul Barnes	EMD, Town of Montville
John Beck	NECCOG EMD, Town of Scotland	Jim Randall	NECCOG EMD, Town of Chaplin
Philip Mikan	U.S. Coast Guard, Security Specialist	Chief Floyd Chaney	EMD, Mashantucket Pequot T.N.
Tracy Montoya	Fire Chief/EMD, City of Norwich	Scott Belleville	RESF 5 North, Co-Chair, EMD, Town of Putnam

Called to Order and Report of the Chair: REPT STC Chairman, Michael Licata, called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. via Zoom teleconference and in-person at the Colchester Town Hall, and Mike Caplet determined that a quorum was present.

Review/Acceptance of Past Minutes: Chairman Licata asked for a motion to approve the March 23, 2022 meeting minutes. *Chief Floyd Chaney, EMD for Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, made a motion to approve the March 23, 2022 as written, and Paul Barnes, EMD for the Town of Montville, seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.* There were no meeting minutes for the months of April or July because both meetings were cancelled. The May 25, 2022 Meeting Notes did not require approval because a quorum was not present at that meeting.

Public Comment: There were no comments from the public.

Report from the Chairman: No Report.

Financial Reports—Mark Paquette: Mark shared that he and Chairman Michael Licata attended a meeting with the Grants Unit and learned that the HSGP funding for FY2022 is \$330,306. This is an increase of \$24,000 from previous years. Additionally,

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there is \$29,800 available for the grant deliverable of soft targets, which is a decrease from the \$30,000 or \$40,000 that we had for the previous grant year. Mark indicated that all the RESF groups should be meeting to determine their proposed budgets for the FY2022 grant year. Mark added that all of the proposed budgets should be completed and sent to him by August 19, 2022 so that they can be reviewed and determined at the next REPT Steering Committee Meeting on August 24, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. We will be meeting with the REPT Committee so that they can vote on these in September. In a few weeks Darlene will be sending you a spreadsheet for you to list your proposed projects for FY2022. Remember you do not need to complete the entire spreadsheet, just list your proposed projects.

Mark reported that the FY2019 Homeland Security Grant is extended until February 28, 2023. Mark shared a review of FY19 outstanding items and indicated that CERRIT has \$48,000 of funds left to spend and RESF 13 has \$67,000. Mark shared that he sent Wilfred Blanchette, the New LEC Executive Director, all of this information to bring him up to speed.

Mark asked all of the RESF groups to start building their FY22 budgets—it is important. Don't let things hold you up on this. Darlene will send out my spreadsheet which could be a different one than we have used in the past, but please complete it by the deadline and send it back to me.

Reports from the RESF Groups:

RESF 1	Transportation	No report.
RESF 2	Communications	Chair Wayne Gronlund reported that on May 11, 2022 the MCV4 was deployed on an on display at the CT RESF-9 Search and Rescue (SAR) Crosswalk event at the CT National Guard Camp Nett in Niantic. Many of the state's SAR assets (vehicles, helicopters, and personnel) were there. Sail Fest preparations are underway for this 3 day event, and we met on the second Friday in June to coordinate for this event. MCV4 will be deployed on Saturday July 9, 2022 and will be utilizing the Region 4 Tango Talk Group. Mike Caplet indicated that this talk group is good to use because any other Emergency Management person can hear these communications should something go wrong. Chief Curcio of New London shared that there could be a large turnout this year, especially if there is good weather. Normally there are between 200,000 to 300,000 persons attending based on the number of vehicles in the parking lots. Lastly, Wayne indicated that EMD's are welcome to come and see the MCV4 in action. He will provide a tour of the vehicle and its assets. Please let him know if you are interested.
RESF 3	Public Works and Engineering	No report.
RESF 4	Firefighting	Mike Caplet reported for this group. He said that this group meets regularly and they are discussing their budget for the FY2022 HSG. There has been discussion of purchasing a second UTV for the Southern part of our Region.
RESF 5	Emergency Management & Cyber Security Subcommittee	RESF 5 (North) Co-Chair Scott Belleville, shared that his group had a meeting on May 31, 2022 in Putnam. Bill Turner, the new DEMHS Director, was present along with 14 other EMDs. Scott reported that

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		Region 3 requested an asset for the Travelers Championship (4 sided Commercial Grade EZ-Up) and an AC Unit is on loan to the Cromwell Fire Department for a Mid-Course EMS Station. Julie Wilson, Co-Chair of the Cyber Security Subcommittee group, shared that their group spent all of their funding for custom training geared towards advanced IT Personnel. Approximately 60 spots are available, and this group Will present training at the new EOC in East Lyme. Three sessions will be available all on the same day. Julie shared that the KnowB4 training has approximately 61 users ready to start. Mike Caplet thanked Chief Michael Finkelstein and Julie for getting this group back up and running again.
RESF 6	Mass Care, Housing and Human Resources	No report.
RESF 7	Resource Support	No report.
RESF 8	Public Health and Medical Services	No report.
RESF 9	Urban Search and Rescue & Special Operations Working Group	No report.
RESF 10	Oil and Hazardous Materials Response	Chairman, Mark Sicuso reported that his group has equipment coming in and asked Mark Paquette when funding must be spent by the FY2019 HSG. Mark shared that it must be spent down by February 1, 2023.
RESF 11	Agriculture and Natural Resources	Although Chairman Richard Willner was not present, he provided his report to Mike Caplet to share with the Committee. The report is as follows: "All of the regions are struggling with RESF 11 due to the Covid Pandemic and the lack of regional emergencies requiring RESF 11. We believe that instead of mass sheltering which has been our focus, we probably need to look at large scale animal control or vaccinations in coordination with the Department of Agriculture. Based on past storms, the mass sheltering doesn't appear a likely probability, but with the Covid virus and the Avian influenza outbreak, we recognize that we should be prepared to assist in these types of cases. If Covid in animals was the source of human infections, mass vaccinations for animals would have been required. It is likely to take many months for a good working plan, but this is our current focus."
RESF 12	Energy	Teresa Jackman from Eversource shared that she has been meeting with each EMD to ensure that their generators are working and are serviced. She indicated that she is looking at the Single Points of Contact information and the Municipal Hub to make sure it is ready for you. She encouraged EMDs to ask tree wardens to look at any hazardous trees and she is working together with the EMDs on road clearing.
RESF 13	Public Safety and Security	Wilfred Blanchette, the new Executive Director of the Law Enforcement Council stated that he was happy to attend this meeting and that he is looking forward to working with everyone.
RESF 14	Long Term Community Recovery and Mitigation	Mike Caplet reported out for this group. He said there are no significant updates. The COGs are working directly with the municipalities and the deadline for FEMA funding is July, 2022. Mike

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		encouraged the EMDs to ensure that their finance people see his email regarding the deadline for FEMA funding.
RESF 15	External Affairs	No report.
RESF 20	Marine	Chairman Anthony Manfredi, Jr., said his group is gearing up for Sailfest and 7 boats will be participating on July 9, 2022. The Port Security Grant has closed and everyone is gearing up for the summer boating season.
	Exercise Planning Committee	No report.

Update from the DEMHS Region 4 Coordinator: Mike Caplet provided his briefing to the Committee. Mike shared that the regular (RESP) Regional Emergency Support Plan meetings continue on a monthly basis, and that there have been no recent operational updates regarding the Covid-19 response.

Mike shared that a WebEOC User Account & Position Access form is available on the DEMHS website for new users and changes. You can go to Demhs.webeoc@ct.gov to access the form. There will be a municipal Debris Management virtual workshop scheduled for June 29, 2022 at 10 a.m. and again at 6 p.m. For more information see the email that Mike sent out on June 22, 2022. Additionally, Mike shared that he sent out an email on June 1, 2022 a “Debris Management Site Reminder” listing all of the details for preparing for debris management for hurricane season.

Mike indicated that John Gustafson will be retiring soon, and the DEMHS Region 2 Coordinator position should be filled shortly. An announcement regarding the new Region 2 Coordinator should be made as the interviewing process is complete. The next quarterly High Band Radio Test will take place on June 30, 2022 at 11 a.m. and again at 5:30 p.m. For details please refer to Mike’s email dated 6-6-2022. Over time we expect that we will switch to the portable 800’s as they are much easier to work with and you do not need a large antenna at your EOC. EMD Paul Barnes of Montville asked Mike if it is worth it to get their High Band Radio repaired. Mike stated that yes, it is 100% reimbursable under the EMPG program. We maintain High Band Radios as a back-up and down the road it is possible that we might not fund it, but right now we are providing a 100% reimbursement for these repairs.

Mike reminded the Committee that there are still a few schools that have not responded to our July 1st deadline of submitting their School Drill Logs. As the new school year starts, schools will need to electronically submit their school plans by November 1, 2022.

Old Business: None

New Business--Discussion regarding next meeting for 7-27-2022—Hybrid meeting?

The Committee decided to cancel the July meeting. The next meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting via Zoom at the Colchester Town Hall at 1:30 p.m. This meeting is very important as we will go over the proposed budgets for the FY2022 HSGP funding.

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Adjournment: The meeting ended at 2:19 p.m.

Meeting Handouts:

Meeting Agenda

Previous REPT STC Zoom Meeting Minutes for 3-23-2022 and the May 25, 2022

Meeting Notes

Respectfully Submitted by: Darlene Richards, DEMHS Region 4 Secretary