

**DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND
HOMELAND SECURITY COORDINATING COUNCIL
MINUTES
May 12, 2005**

Attendees: Joseph Albanese, YNHHS; Timothy Baldwin, SFD; Chuck Beck, OEM; Matt Bruns, HH; Peter Boynton, USCG; Sandra Brown, HH; David Brown, PDH; Bob DiBella, OEM; Patricia Checko, CREPC; Judy Dowd, OPM; Robert DiBella, DEMHS; Mike Edgerton, USCG; Fran Evon, CMD; Kerry Flaherty, OEM; Thomas Flaherty, POSTC; Libby Graham, OPM; Leonard Guercia, DPH; Betsy Hard, BPD; Donald Janelle, Nbfd; Melanie Kerr, OPM; Robert Kenny, DPH; Richard Kleindhirst, YNHHS; Bob Labanara, CCM; Mike Maglione, WFD; Thad Martin, CMD; Jeffrey Morrissette, CFPC; John Mengacci, OPM; Dan O'Brian, AMR; Bill Palomba, DPUC; William Podgerski, CSP; Susan Rainville, POSTC; Peter Rockholz, DMHAS;; Jane Stahl, DEP; Gary Stango, HtfD; Danny Stebbins, USAG; Carl Stephoni, CCRPA; Michael Varney, DOIT; Daniel Warzoha, GFD; Edward Wilds, DEP

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 AM and introductions were made.

Public comment: none.

Minutes: a motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded, and the minutes were accepted with one correction; that the next meeting should read May 12, 2005. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Direct communication to Council: none.

Connecticut Hospital Radiation Response Planning Committee: Mr. Nicholas Dainiak, M.D. gave a presentation on the Radiation Response Plan and next steps for training first responders, including police, fire, EMTs, and Emergency Department and other hospital staff. The Planning Committee requested support from the Coordinating Council for \$110,000 to fund the training. Discussion regarding this request ensued. Mr. Leonard Guercia made a motion that this request be directed to the Training Committee for review. The motion was seconded and approved.

Subcommittees

Public Safety Communications Interoperability: Mr. Michael Varney reported that the federal deadlines for submitting an Interoperability Plan has been extended to May of 2006. He reported that representatives from the Interoperability Committee will attend two upcoming events – the CT Conference of Municipalities Technology Expo and the Fire Prevention and Control annual conference.

A discussion ensued about the 108 communities that have received ITAC/ICALL radios. A motion was made that Commissioner Thomas send a letter to all of those communities stating that a systems approach must be used, and that the radios should not be altered to meet individual needs. The motion was seconded and passed. Mr. Varney will draft a letter for Commissioner Thomas.

Captain Peter Boynton reported that the Coast Guard is undergoing a national reorganization for local commands. Currently, the Coast Guard in New Haven is responsible for the Connecticut shore and the north shore of Long Island. At the end of May, New Haven will also assume responsibility for the south shore of Long Island.

Captain Boynton reported that as part of TOPOFF an incident management assistance team (IMAT) was used to support the Incident Command Structure. He asked Council members whether a model should be developed for a local or regional IMAT team. Members of the Council requested that the Coast Guard provide a presentation on the CG IMAT at the next Council meeting.

Regional Boundaries Committee: Mr. Leonard Guercia stated that a final report has been submitted to Commissioner Thomas. The proposal will cause minimal disruption and will keep the regional planning agency boundaries in place. A motion was made to accept the report and put it on the Coordinating Council agenda for discussion at the June 9, 2005 meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

It was recommended that a separate group be convened to develop a proposal for the distribution of funding based on the new regional boundaries. The group will be led by Mr. Leonard Guercia and Ms. Judy Dowd.

Training Committee: Mr. Morrisette stated that the committee hopes to have a report outlining a general plan for the delivery of training available for review by the Coordinating Council in June.

Grants: Ms. Libby Graham reported that the ISIP for 2004 has been submitted to the federal government for review and approval. A great deal of time was spent meeting with involved parties at the local level to develop the ISIP. Equipment processing is moving forward, and CORE CT will be up and running for the new agency over the next several weeks. Grant applications have been mailed out to those communities who are self administering their funds. Two applications have been returned.

Organizational Structure of Subcommittees: The Interoperability Committee is looking for guidance on voting at the subcommittee level.

Additional Coordinating Council Members: Deputy Commissioner Sandford reported that DEMHS is considering the addition of two new members: The Red Cross and the POST. He asked for Council members' feedback on this. After some discussion it was agreed that DEMHS should develop guidelines for adding new members, including what purpose they would serve and what their role would be on the Council. It was also

recommended that DEMHS develop recommendations on what role the subcommittees should play relative to the Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 AM.

Next Council meeting: Thursday, June 9, 2005, 9:00 AM, Office of the Chief State's Attorney.