



Minutes – November 4, 2019

The regular meeting of the Michigan Citizen-Community Emergency Response Coordinating Council (MCCERCC) was held on Monday, November 4, 2019, at 7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by the Chair, Capt. Emmitt McGowan. Roll call was taken by the Secretary and the following Council members were present: Chief Deputy Michael Bradley, Mr. Brad Deacon, Mr. Jay Eickholt, Mr. Steve Frisbie, Mr. Tutt Gorman, Mr. Hassan Hammoud, Mr. Garry Gross (on behalf of Ms. Ginna Holmes), Capt. Emmitt McGowan, Chief Kerry Minshall, Ms. Eileen Phifer, Dr. Phil Schertzing, Ms. Linda Scott, Capt. Brad Smith, Col. Sean Southworth, and Ms. Sara Stoddard.

Approval of Agenda

Captain Smith moved to approve the meeting agenda. Motion was supported by Colonel Southworth. The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chief Deputy Bradley moved to approve the August 12, 2019, meeting minutes. Motion was supported by Colonel Southworth. Minutes were approved as presented.

Chair McGowan announced that a meeting was held today with Mr. Gorman and his staff regarding assessing the Disaster and Emergency Contingency Fund. Mr. Gorman would like to establish an advisory committee to review and provide clarity regarding Section 19. Chair McGowan is in support but believes such a committee is beyond the scope of the MCCERCC.

Mr. Gorman thanked Chair McGowan for entertaining his proposal and wants to ensure the rules are clear moving forward. It was his hope that the MCCERCC, which he believes is comprised of the best emergency professionals in the state, would be charged with the task.

Reports of Committees

Citizen Corps

Mr. Gross presented on behalf of Ms. Holmes. He reported that the Medical Reserve Corps has conducted a variety of awareness trainings for communities across the state. Region 3 held a news conference on October 19; Region 7 will hold its statewide CERT training on April 24-26; and Region 2 is developing a region-wide family reunification plan, completing tabletop and live exercises, and are continuing to evaluate with regional partners. Funding was received from the Corporation for National Community Service. They have completed a statewide training evaluation of the CERT program involving almost 260 respondents. Data will assist in directing a planning session with the regional council, leadership, and statewide focus groups.

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know

Ms. Roos reported that 42 counties participated in the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grants this year. They received 85 emergency response plans overall and 73 of those were reimbursed using HMEP funding. The remaining plans not reimbursed were received from communities that did not apply for the grant but were reviewed and approved. The three-year application for 2019-2022 was approved by the Federal Department of Transportation. Ms. Roos announced she will present LEPC best practices as the St. Clair County LEPC meeting next week and at the Michigan Safety Conference in April. She was recently part of a panel discussion on LEPC best practices at the Michigan Chemistry Council Conference.

Mr. Mike Young, Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), provided a brief overview of Sara Title III reporting.

* Denotes employee of the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division

Mr. Eickholt indicated that as EPCR Committee chair, he took the liberty of adding to their portion of the MCCERCC Annual Plan which states their committee is going to look beyond what extremely hazardous substances are and look into chemical hazards impacting communities across the board. He indicated there was a hazardous materials release earlier this year in Belding, Michigan that could have grown out of control causing the entire city to evacuate. Chemicals stored onsite were biproducts and waste products but were not regulated under any groups of chemicals. There is a portion of the law that states LEPCs can designate other possible chemicals or threats for planning and the EPCR Committee has pushed that as much as possible.

Hazard Mitigation

Dr. Schertzing reported the Hazard Mitigation (HM) Committee has not convened since the last full Council meeting but have been communicating via email. He recognized Mr. Mike Sobocinski* to report.

Mr. Sobocinski announced he has taken over local planning work, as Mr. Mitch Graham, the local planner, left EMHSD in August. Regarding the State Hazard Mitigation Plan, the April plan had included an analysis of FEMA-required natural hazards, but the deadline didn't allow an update of the chapters for technological and human-related hazards. These are currently being updated for compliance with EMAP re-accreditation and should be completed sometime next year. Although he has been occupied with local planning and meetings, progress will continue to occur on the state plan. Primary HM Committee discussion recently involved editing the MCCERCC Annual Plan.

Ms. Roos provided a Hazard Mitigation update on behalf of Mr. Matt Schnepf.* She reported they are currently managing 43 approved Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grants for \$32 million federal share. Eight applications for \$3.9 million (federal share) are awaiting FEMA approval. The application period for the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program opened on September 30, 2019, and applications are due January 31, 2020. The EMHSD released a notice seeking proposals and staff is working with the jurisdictions to develop applications. The FEMA funding total was received in August for Disaster 4381 (the 2018 Upper Peninsula flooding) through the HMGP. There is \$3.7 million available, which is less than expected by almost \$1 million dollars. This was the result of a lower funding total for public assistance grants. The application deadline is January 29, 2020, and EMHSD staff is working with jurisdictions from Houghton County to develop 14 project proposals into applications.

MIReady Advisory Panel

Ms. Wendy Galbreath* reported their panel met a few weeks ago to review the newsletter template and outreach calendar. They are in the process of mocking up a sample to the panel in December to ensure it is what they want and what they anticipated.

Old Business

Ms. Roos stated that Council members should have received the MCCERCC Annual Plan draft, but copies are also available on the table. She asked if there were any edit issues or comments.

Ms. Scott stated that on page 6 under "Goal 2," she believes "Volunteer Resource Centers" should be "Volunteer Reception Centers." On page 7, she believes "active shooter events" should be "active shooting training." Ms. Roos will consult with Mr. Chad Veaser regarding these corrections and make appropriate changes. With Council approval, she will then submit the plan to EMHSD command for approval and submission to Colonel Gasper for his signature.

Mr. Deacon made a motion to approve the MCCERCC Annual Plan, as presented, with the latitude to make necessary corrections suggested by Ms. Scott and in support of the Council. The motion was supported by Captain Smith. Motion passed.

Ms. Roos clarified that if Council members are interested in being a part of a subcommittee, they should either contact her or the chairs of those committees: Citizen Corps is Ms. Ginna Holmes, Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know is Mr. Jay Eickholt, and Hazard Mitigation is Dr. Phil Schertzing.

Ms. Roos stated that Council members must decide whether or not to post the approved MCCERCC Annual Plan to their website. Mr. Eickholt indicated that five years ago it was posted but subsequently removed at the request of the EMHSD commander. He is in support of posting it again, as there is no site-specific information in their committee's portion of the Plan, which he believes was the potential concern in past years.

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Mr. Frisbie made a motion that once approved, the MCCERCC Annual Plan be posted on the website. The motion was support by Mr. Eickholt. Motion passed.

Ms. Roos indicated that at the last meeting, Ms. Jenifier Boyer, Midland County Emergency Manager, expressed concern regarding accessibility of MCCERCC meetings and the potential for conference call capabilities. Ms. Roos advised that although microphones have been installed in the MSP 1917 Room, current technology does not allow for this capability. She believes it would be fiscally irresponsible for the Council to purchase the equipment necessary just to expedite the process, and she suggested the topic be tabled for a future meeting when more information is presented. There was brief discussion regarding a timeframe for installing the technology and the possibility of moving the meetings to different locations in the state. Ms. Roos explained that relocating outside of MSP Headquarters would not allow for public accessibility. In addition, most Council members work in the Lansing area and the Council chair and liaison are housed in the building. Chair McGowan stated that installation of the technology necessary will likely occur within the next six months and a definitive date will be provided at the next meeting.

New Business

Mr. Frisbie reported on Southwest Michigan’s insecticide spraying to combat Eastern Equine Encephalitis. He introduced Ms. Brigette Reichenbaugh, Deputy Health Officer for Calhoun County, who provided a brief overview of what occurred.

Ms. Roos thanked Council members for their work during the past year, especially their input for the MCCERCC Annual Plan. Prior to today’s meeting, she disseminated a proposed MCCERCC 2020 Schedule of Meetings and is seeking comments or changes prior to approval.

Captain Smith made a motion to approve the MCCERCC 2020 Schedule of Meetings. Motion was support by Mr. Eickholt. Motion passed.

Mr. Deacon announced registration is currently open for this year’s Food and Agriculture Border Gateway Summit being held on Wednesday, November 13, 2019, at the Vistatech Center in Livonia, Michigan. He will provide details to Council members via email.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Mr. Eickholt moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was supported by Colonel Southworth. Meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Mr. Brad Deacon, Secretary