



Minutes – April 26, 2021

The regular meeting of the Michigan Citizen-Community Emergency Response Coordinating Council (MCCERCC) was held on Monday, April 26, 2021, via *Microsoft Teams* (virtual).

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by the Chair, Captain Sweeney. Roll call was taken and the following Council members were present: Chief Deputy Michael Bradley, Mr. Brad Deacon, Mr. Jay Eickholt, Ms. Krystal Fields, Mr. Steven Frisbie, Mr. Tutt Gorman, Chief Daryl Green, Mr. Hassan Hammoud, Chief Kerry Minshall, Ms. Eileen Phifer, Ms. Jennifer Lixey-Terrill (on behalf of Ms. Linda Scott), Mr. Kevin Sehmeyer, Ms. Sara Stoddard, Capt. Kevin Sweeney, and Ms. Abigail Watkins.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Deacon moved to approve the April 26, 2021, agenda. Motion was supported by Ms. Fields. Agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Hammoud moved to approve the January 25, 2021, meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Eickholt. Minutes were approved as presented.

Reports of Committees

Citizen Corps

Mr. Karry Smith reported on behalf of Ms. Holmes. Mr. Smith has been involved in the Ford Field vaccination clinic in Detroit. When the clinic started on March 21, the goal was to vaccinate 5,000 people per day, and they are currently vaccinating 7,500 or more per day. They are working in conjunction with the Michigan State Police, Department of Defense, Ford Field staff, and the City of Detroit Police Department. The AmeriCorps teams are contributing to the success by conducting volunteer coordination items. The end date for the clinic is May 17 and they will try to get as many vaccinated as possible. Mr. Smith reported that from a Citizen Corps perspective, he has obtained contact information from CERT leadership in every region in the state. They plan to schedule a meeting in the next week or two to begin discussing best practices and training with the goal of getting CERTs back to their prominence. Participation is down in many regions, and they are discussing processes for recruiting a younger base while tapping into the knowledge of those who have been involved with CERT for years.

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know

Mr. Eickholt announced the committee met on April 12 with updates from the Michigan State Police and Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). He recognized Ms. Brenna Roos* and Mr. Mike Young to report.

Ms. Roos announced they have 50 counties participating in the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant this grant cycle. They expect to receive approximately 160 emergency response plans and over 1,500 plan updates. Grant agreements will go out to locals to fortify their participation in the grants. The semi-annual HMEP progress report is due to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) this Friday. The report is complete but is currently with EMHSD command for review and approval. Ms. Roos attended the annual National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials (NASTTPO) meeting this week. The main objective was to nominate board members and regional representatives. There were some new additions, but most were the same individuals, and the presidency remained the same as well. PHMSA conducted a session at the meeting regarding HMEP grant updates and indicated they would be sending an information request to states regarding high hazards flammable trains, as

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they want to ensure states are receiving those reports and disseminating them to affected counties. In Michigan, those counties include Lenawee, Monroe, Wayne, and Washtenaw. Ms. Roos attended the Michigan Safety Conference two weeks ago and was able to present on Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) explaining how a committee typically operates and how facilities can better work with their LEPCs.

Ms. Roos announced they pushed back the due dates for emergency response plans and plan updates to September. This began last grant cycle during COVID and proved to be a more convenient schedule than the previous July date, based on feedback received from emergency managers. Moving forward, emergency response plans and updates will be due September 15.

Mr. Mike Young from EGLE provided an update on the past reporting season for SARA Title III, which concluded on March 1. To date, 7,008 annual Tier II reports have been submitted. These include facilities not only reporting hazardous materials but extremely hazardous substances (EHSs). During the reporting season, they offered a free Tier II webinar basics course and over 400 people joined. They also conducted a three-part series Microsoft Teams workshop to assist with how to do Tier II reporting. They received great feedback on the training format for both the webinar and workshop. A new tutorial was distributed at the beginning of the year on how to navigate the online Tier II Manager program. Mr. Young commented it was a great reporting season with no issues. Reminder emails have been sent to facilities regarding who reported last year and did not report this year. He is also in the process of reviewing Tier II reports, looking at facilities that are storing EHSs and chemicals of concern and contacting them if there are errors in reporting.

Mr. Eickholt announced they have contacted the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program within the Department of Homeland Security, which focuses on the security of large bulk chemicals. Mr. Young will be reaching out soon to organize a small workgroup involving representatives from the FBI, MSP, MDARD, MDOT, and State Fire Marshal, which will convene in early June. The purpose of the group is to focus on how information can be shared from the Tier II Manager system with agencies that are conducting field inspections. Those individuals do not have the ability to do a lot of site visits and ensure things are stored properly, but CFATS staff does have time. Mr. Young commented that Michigan is the only state in Region V and across the country that has reached out to CFATS. In addition, the EPA is seeking to do more education outreach with the SARA Title III program.

Hazard Mitigation

Ms. Phifer thanked Council members for electing her as chair of the Hazard Mitigation (HM) Committee. The current committee includes Mr. Deacon, Mr. Eickholt, and Ms. Watkins, and they convened earlier today.

Ms. Phifer made a motion to add Ms. Jennifer Lixey-Terrill from the Department of Health and Human Services, as a member of the HM Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Deacon. Motion carried.

Mr. Matt Schnepf* provided an update on the overall status of hazard mitigation grants. There are currently 55 ongoing, approved mitigation grants for about \$31 million federal share—32 are from various fiscal years of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program and 23 from the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. There are 11 grant applications at FEMA pending approval. Mr. Schnepf reported they have 10 HMGP applications at FEMA for Disaster 4381 and the newer disaster from last summer—Disaster 4547. They are working with FEMA on the approval those, but several projects are somewhat delayed due to mitigation grant staff from FEMA being deployed for vaccine operations. The last estimate for Disaster 4547 was approximately \$6 million available through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. This is a reminder that the amount received for HMGP is based on how much FEMA spends in the recovery programs for public assistance. They received the six-month estimate, and it bumped the amount up to \$10.3 million. Two cycles of soliciting applications have occurred. The first time around was for floodplain acquisition proposals from within the declared area. That yielded two grant applications—one for the village of Sanford and one for the city of Midland. Those are the two 4547 applications currently at FEMA for approval. During the second cycle, the proposals were opened statewide. They received 15 new proposals for about \$7.6 million and staff is currently working through eligibility review on those. Mr. Schnepf reported a couple of projects withdrew their applications in the final weeks for the 2020 BRIC program. Ten grant applications for BRIC 2020 were submitted and those are still undergoing the FEMA selection process. When FEMA finalizes that process, they will make announcements across the country for all the projects they received.

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Mr. Schnepf stated the HM Committee met today to discuss overhaul of the ranking and scoring process. The mitigation grants scoring process the committee follows is outlined in the Michigan Hazard Mitigation Plan, as well as the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program administrative plans. It is a limited criterion they review relating to the quality of the application; likelihood of success of the proposed mitigation solution for the project; MCCERCC priorities; and the funding program priorities. For the 2020 BRIC program, FEMA developed a more robust ranking and scoring system for applications, which involves a qualitative review and technical review of their scoring of applications. They would like to revisit how Michigan does its scoring through the MCCERCC HM Committee and possibly put something new in place to assist with that ranking process for the next time applications are reviewed.

Old Business

Ms. Jennifer Lixey-Terrill provided a report on the Coronavirus update. Currently, approximately 6.4 million vaccinations have been completed in Michigan; 2.5 million of those are second doses. They continue to work toward the 70 percent goal for herd immunity. A meeting was held last week nationally regarding the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, and they have lifted their pause on the vaccine for 18 years and older. Allocations for the Johnson & Johnson vaccine have not yet been received. With other vaccines, they have been allocated 8.4 million of the vaccinations, so they are still receiving the quantity in Michigan from the federal government. Ms. Lixey-Terrill reported they continue to see multiple variants. The B.1.1.7. has been identified in every county in Michigan to include about 5,000 different variants; 4,700 of those are the B.1.1.7. and they are monitoring the B.1.617., which is the variant from India. There will be a press release tomorrow regarding vaccinations. They have also received over 4,100 applications for funeral assistance, and those are being processed. Ms. Lixey-Terrill reported they have provided 210,319 vaccinations at Ford Field; 186,307 of those have been provided onsite and 23,932 have been mobile. As of yesterday, they have vaccinated 6,285, passing their goal of 6,000 per day. Refer to their the MDHHS website for updates.

Mr. Tom Weber* presented on Strategic Plan stakeholder feedback results. A survey was disseminated in February 2021, which was a follow-up to surveying state emergency management coordinators during bimonthly meetings. It was sent to over 30 people—primarily a mix of MCCERCC members and local emergency managers. A little over half replied, and the responses were generally favorable. Mr. Weber summarized some of the direct comments and suggestions received for the Council's consideration. They will also be considered in the division as they move forward with the next round of updates to the plan. The comments fell into broad categories to include diversity, equity, and inclusion; regional training opportunities; funding opportunities; operational; and leadership. Under diversity, equity and inclusion, there were several comments thanking the division for reaching out to other organizations. In the past, the division strategic plan has been primarily an internally created document. Comments included preparing and promoting statewide and local disaster preparedness for individuals and organizations that are not usually aware of the disaster response process. This included ensuring entities from various organizations are represented, including more local emergency management agencies and programs, and engaging in an internal peer review of the emergency management program. This is similar to what the division's EMAP accreditation does. Mr. Weber suggested this would also fall under the purview of this Council and could be discussed more in the future. Under regional training opportunities, there was a comment specific to the division's Professional Emergency Manager (PEM) Program. They requested the program be more formalized and structured, as it currently relies heavily on self-educating. There were comments relating to the possibility of creating a mobile team of educators who could travel around the state to different regions. The Emergency Management and Homeland Security Training Center (EMHSTC) conducts some regional classes and activities, but there were several comments seeking an increase in that and a partnering with institutions around the state, such as Michigan Tech University or Northern Michigan University, and other regionally based universities and schools. In terms of funding opportunities, it was suggested that emergency management needs more offerings that circulate around the state and credentialed trainers from the ranks of the local programs, including providing funding to make this happen. There was a comment suggesting pursuing sustainable, legislatively supportive funding streams to support EMHSD operations, allowing more pass-through opportunities and establishing and developing a state funding mechanism to allow county emergency managers to assist in statewide disaster situations. Operationally, suggestions included developing a district-level support team, led by district coordinators, that is comprised of training liaison officers from state departments. Mr. Weber remarked this also speaks to the incident management teams the division has been in the process of working on for several years. There was a suggestion to direct SEOCs, state agencies, and district coordinators to focus squarely on supporting the local EOCs and coordinate with the local emergency planners and EOC efforts. Board member comments suggested the plan itself be more specific, identify who the objectives are directed to, and

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enhance state and local EOC interfaces by more participation in training, drills, and exercises. There were some comments relating to leadership, both indicating the division should work on a strategy to improve the sustainability of command and leadership. A question was posed regarding how EMHSD works to keep members in this specialty area and not use it as a springboard to other opportunities. Mr. Weber summarized that there were additional comments, questions, and suggestions that came from the survey, and he will incorporate them into conversations for future development of the plan.

Captain Sweeney noted that several of the items Mr. Weber reviewed are already being incorporated. The PEM Board is reviewing training classes and developing recommendations on what should be added or deleted. In addition, division staff met with Representative Jack O'Malley regarding professionalization of emergency management.

New Business

There was no new business.

Ms. Lixey-Terrill announced they have updated Michigan guidelines for implementation of higher standards of care and ethical allocation of scarce medical resources and services during emergencies and disasters. It is scheduled to be approved next month and then made public. She will share the website with Council members.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Mr. Deacon moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was supported by Mr. Sehlmeier. Meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Mr. Brad Deacon, Secretary