



Minutes – November 9, 2020

The regular meeting of the Michigan Citizen-Community Emergency Response Coordinating Council (MCCERCC) was held on Monday, November 9, 2020, via *Microsoft Teams* (virtual).

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by the Chair, Captain Sweeney. Roll call was taken by the Secretary, Mr. Deacon, and the following Council members were present: Ms. Megan Anderson, Chief Deputy Michael Bradley, Mr. Brad Deacon, Ms. Krystal Fields, Mr. Tutt Gorman, Chief Daryl Green, Mr. Hassan Hammoud, Mr. Garry Gross (on behalf of Ms. Ginna Holmes), Chief Kerry Minshall, Ms. Eileen Phifer, Dr. Phil Schertzing, Ms. Linda Scott, Mr. Kevin Sehlmeier, Col. Sean Southworth, and Capt. Kevin Sweeney.

Approval of Agenda

Chief Deputy Bradley moved to approve the November 9, 2020, meeting agenda. Motion was seconded by Mr. Sehlmeier. Agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Hammoud moved to approve the August 10, 2020, meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Deacon. Minutes were approved as presented.

Captain Sweeney presented a service award to Dr. Phil Schertzing for his contributions to the Council. Dr. Schertzing said it has been an honor and pleasure to serve, including some 22 years with the MCCERCC's precursor entities--the Hazard Mitigation Council, the State Emergency Response Commission, and the Citizens Corps Council.

Reports of Committees

Citizen Corps

Mr. Gross reported on behalf of Ms. Holmes. They continue work with donations management, providing PPEs to schools and nonprofits across the state. Their disaster specialist, Mr. Chad Veaser, has taken a position with 2-1-1, and Mr. Karry Smith will take over. Ms. Melissa Sherry will assist him on disaster events and other activities. Much effort was put forth in developing some great CERT training prior to COVID. Currently, they are developing remote training and conducting online trainings.

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know

Ms. Roos reported on behalf of Mr. Eickholt. The SARA Title III Program faced challenges this year with the stay-at-home order. She assisted emergency managers (EMs) on how to write plans via virtual training. The submission deadline for plans was moved to September 15, and they received 123 off-site emergency response plans. All have been reviewed and approved for reimbursement by the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant. They received 1,088 plan updates and are pleased with these numbers, considering EMs were busy with the Coronavirus response.

Mr. Mike Young reported they crossed a milestone with over 7,000 Michigan facilities submitting a 2019 annual report this year. Many education outreach events took place in 2020 with workshops EGLE conducts for facilities every year. They were held in Gaylord, Washtenaw County, Grand Rapids, and Lansing. They also conducted a seminar and hosted a webinar.

Hazard Mitigation

Dr. Schertzing reported the Hazard Mitigation Committee has communicated via email and virtual meetings. He recognized Mr. Matt Schnepf* to provide an update on hazard mitigation grants.

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

Mr. Schnepf reported they currently have 44 ongoing grants for approximately \$34 million, 25 from the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program and 19 from the Hazard Mitigation Program. There are 25 grant applications pending approval from FEMA, many of which are for PDM and Disaster 4381 (Upper Peninsula flooding). For new initiatives related to Disaster 4547 (Midland area flooding), the initial estimate from FEMA for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds is about \$6 million. They will prioritize floodplain acquisition projects from the declared areas. A call for applications was released on September 17 and due October 13. The City of Midland submitted 32 properties for about \$4.7 million; the Village of Sanford submitted 21 properties for about \$1.2 million; and Thomas Township (Saginaw County) submitted a proposal for two properties for \$220,000. The target completion and submission date to FEMA is January 10, and an application development webinar was conducted to assist with the process. More funding will be available after submission of initial applications, and they will release another call for hazard mitigation project proposals. Mr. Schnepf reported the application period for the Building Resilience Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program opened on September 30 with project proposals due October 2. They received 26 proposals for about \$25 million. Draft applications are due November 27. EMHSD staff will review and provide feedback, and applicants have until January 15 to revise them. Between January 15 and FEMA's deadline of January 29, they will work with the Hazard Mitigation Committee to review and rank the applications, roll them into one, and submit to FEMA.

Mr. Greg Ostrander* reported 13 chapters of the Michigan Hazard Analysis 2020 Supplemental was edited to 157 pages, keeping it a concise and relevant document. One chapter on cybersecurity was added, one chapter was removed, and a couple were consolidated. The 13 chapters are related to technological and human-related hazards and will be added to the existing natural hazards from the 2019 supplement. The next step is a grammatical review prior to command approval.

MIReady Advisory Panel

Ms. Wendy Galbreath* indicated the purpose of the MIReady Advisory Panel is to bring state agencies, private, and local partners together to identify hazards potentially faced in Michigan. She coordinated the messaging throughout the state this year, and subsequently the messaging calendar was created and monthly newsletters circulated. Because the panel has little else to do except meet annually to review the calendar, she recommends it be removed from the MCCERCC. The topic will be addressed under "New Business."

Old Business

Ms. Roos reported that the MCCERCC Annual Plan Update draft was sent to Council members last week. She thanked committees for submitting their plans and Council and non-council members for their input. She asked for any changes to the document prior to a vote for approval and then submission to Captain Sweeney for approval. She also requested discussion on whether to post the Plan on the Council's website.

Colonel Southworth made a motion to approve the MCCERCC Annual Plan as presented after it is approved by EMHSD command staff. Motion was seconded by Ms. Fields. Motion passed.

Ms. Fields motioned that after the MCCERCC Annual Plan is approved, it be posted on the Council's website. Motion was supported by Mr. Hammoud. Motion passed.

Ms. Jennifer Lixey-Terrill provided an update on COVID-19. There has been a rise in Coronavirus cases nationwide, and the increase in Michigan over the last 10 days has been higher than the beginning. A state-level vaccination plan was created and submitted to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on October 16. MDHHS also updated its Pandemic Flu Plan, and their goal is to have it approved in a format that can be posted on their website. The Community Health Emergency Coordination Center continues to be activated, and she continues to work in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). There are many questions regarding Phase II of COVID in anticipation for receiving vaccinations. They are currently accepting vaccines from Pfizer. It will require two doses, given 21 days apart, which will create an increased challenge. Partners are robustly planning with pharmacies, hospitals, health departments, and emergency management.

Captain Sweeney indicated the CDC has posted executive summaries for all 50 states regarding vaccination planning. Ms. Scott stated the draft vaccination plan submitted is posted on the MDHHS website.

Chief Daryl Green presented on City of Lansing protests. They have 206 police officers and a population area of approximately 119,000. They practice constitutional policing for their constituents—those who live, work, and visit the City of Lansing. The MSP oversees all safety inside the Capitol and on its grounds. In early

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March, operational plans were mobilized for protests in response to the Governor's COVID-19 Executive Orders. As a result, they reached out to the religious sector, Advocates and Leaders for Police and Community Trust (ALPACT), local American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) representatives, the Michigan Intelligence Operations Center (MIOC), the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), and other stakeholders. Their officers have requisite training in preparation for protests, but they consult with outside police agencies if intelligence supports it will be a large operation. On May 31 there was a protest in response to the George Floyd incident. They offered leadership by contacting partners from ALPACT and other communities and providing information on First Amendment protests and ACLU standard protocols to abide by. The protests started out peaceful, but when organizers left the scene, some unlawful assembly type issues occurred. There were also attempts to set some buildings on fire, so a decision was made to use chemical emissions. There were no reported injuries as a result. They also responded to about 40 different Black Lives Matter (BLM) protests involving crowds ranging from 30 to a couple thousand people. Protesters were mostly disrupting traffic flow and arrests were low. About eight protests occurred at the Mayor's home and multiple other protests in front of police departments involving BLM and other organizations. Chief Green stated there are ongoing disagreements among City Council persons over police defunding, and he has gone on record stating any high-level reductions would result in layoffs. Since Saturday, there have been many protesters in support of President Trump and the election. There were also confrontations between BLM and another unidentified political group seeking to antagonize the protesters. There were about 50 peaceful protesters downtown today. The City of Lansing continues to communicate with MSP Capitol Security to monitor these events moving forward.

Mr. Tom Weber* presented on the MSP/EMHSD Strategic Plan 2022–2022. EMHSD is in the process of a reaccreditation under the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). One of the standards they are responding to fits well with their goal to be more transparent and ensure stakeholder engagement, so they included the Strategic Plan. He shared a condensed version of the plan, which includes MSP's mission and vision and the division's mission and vision. EMHSD has three main goals with corresponding objectives for each: Goal 1 – Build a resilient community to protect lives and property from all hazards; Goal 2 – Invest in employee growth; and Goal 3 – Enhance capabilities and perspectives for the future. Mr. Weber asked Council members to provide feedback about the Plan directly to Captain Sweeney or Ms. Roos by the end of the week.

Ms. Roos presented the MCCERCC 2021 Schedule of Meetings. The proposed dates are February 8, May 20, August 9, and November 9. All meetings will begin at 2 p.m., and meeting locations will be posted on the Council's website. Mr. Schnepf stated that BRIC applications are due at the end of January. They are typically reviewed and ranked by the Hazard Mitigation Committee and then the Council motions to support the recommended ranked order. Captain Sweeney requested Ms. Roos change the February meeting to a date between January 15 and 27. An updated schedule will be sent to Council members.

Captain Sweeney addressed the issue of virtual vs. in-person Council meetings, indicating it would not be feasible to meet in person given the current rise in COVID cases. He recognized Mr. Gorman to express his concerns. Mr. Gorman agrees with the decision to remain virtual. Because the MCCERCC is a public entity which conducts the work of the people, he viewed it as an essential function.

Captain Sweeney addressed continuation of the MIReady Advisory Panel, stating the MCCERCC has three charges from the Governor: 1) Citizen Corps, 2) SARA Title III, and 3) hazard mitigation. He agrees with Ms. Galbreath that the panel would serve a better role outside the Council. Hearing no discussion or objections, the Panel will be removed from the MCCERCC beginning January 2021.

Public Comments

Lt. Nate McQueen, MSP/EMHSD Acting Division Commander, complimented Council members on the great work they do. He remarked that the MCCERCC is often referenced during meetings in terms of their expertise.

Adjournment

Mr. Deacon moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was supported by Chief Deputy Bradley. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Mr. Brad Deacon, Secretary

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