



MID-AMERICA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

March 11, 2010

MEETING SUMMARY

MEMBERS PRESENT

H. David Williams, North Kansas City Fire Department, *Chair*
 Paul Dolak, Brenntag Mid-South, *Vice Chair*
 Steve Bean, KCMO Emergency Management
 Donna Maize alternate for Richard (Smokey) Dyer, KCMO Fire Department
 Bill Fiser alternate for Richard Carrizzo, Southern Platte Fire Protection District
 Kevin Fightmaster, Missouri Gas Energy
 John Greene, Independence Fire Department
 Betty Knight, Platte County Commissioner
 Mike Latta alternate for Darryl Coontz, Metropolitan Ambulance Services Trust
 Jack Laptad for Greg Moerer, Bayer CropScience
 Mike O'Neal, Platte County Sheriff's Department
 Mark Owen, Platte County Sheriff's Department
 D.C. Rogers, Clay County Sheriff's Office
 John Spencer, Lee's Summit Fire Department
 Chuck Thacker, Grandview Fire Department
 Mike Van Aken, South Metro Fire Protection District
 Frank Tittone, Kansas City Fire Department
 David Williams, US EPA Region 7
 Michael Williamson, Emergency Management Strategic Health Care Group

GUESTS PRESENT

Gary Birch, Liberty Missouri Fire Department
 Les Boatright, KCPL
 Jason Bonney, CJCFPD
 Jon Brady, North Kansas City School District
 Robert (Bob) Christopher, Kearney School District
 Hank DuPont, Overland Park Fire Department
 Christine Hill, Roberts Dairy Co.
 Roarke Holzschuh, MO DNR EER
 Dr. Bob Hull, Kansas Center for Safe & Prepared Schools
 Lou Jones, National Starch
 Mike Jenkins, North Kansas City Fire Department
 Mike Klender, Kansas City Missouri Water
 Annette Lanfranca, Choctaw Kaul Distribution
 May May, Johnson County KS LEPC
 Dayle Reynolds, Roberts Dairy Co.
 Ken Roggenkamp, US Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration
 Eddie Saffell, CJCFPD
 Bill Stewart, Kansas City Terrorism Early Warning
 Ken Smith, Lake Winnebago Emergency Management
 Jerry Tenbrink, Kansas Center for Safe & Prepared Schools
 Russell Thompson, Missouri Center for Safe Schools
 Carolyn Wells, Liberty Hospital

MARC STAFF

Chris Allen, Emergency Services, MARC
 Keith Faddis, Public Safety, MARC
 Lisa Elsas, Emergency Services, MARC

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Dave Williams welcomed everyone and self-introductions were made.

- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MEETING SUMMARY** – Captain Owen had a question about page 9 and no information in the summary about the regular batteries that was discussed in the meeting. Ms. Allen shared that there was no reference since Ms. Danbury had shared that she would follow up and provide disposal information for these batteries at a later date. Mr. Fightmaster made a motion the minutes be approved, it was seconded by Chief Fiser and the motion was passed.

- 3. FINANCIAL REPORT** – Ms. Lynch shared that there was \$50,000 CEPF funds to be spent. The HMEP showed \$55,000 available with \$5,000 for planning and \$50,000 for training. These funds will not be received prior to expenditures, but will be reimbursed. The Training Committee is working on programming these funds which need to be expended by Sep 2010.

- 4. Presentation: Hazardous Materials Incident – Acid Spill – Kansas City Fire Department Hazmat Chief Donna Maize will provide an overview of the incident and lessons learned.** – Chief Maize shared a PowerPoint on the incident which occurred on Nov 30, 2009 at approximately 7:10 a.m. in the northbound lanes of I-35 Hwy, on the Paseo Bridge construction area. It was estimated that the tanker involved was carrying 3,750 gallons of hydrochloric acid and over half was recovered. Multiple 911 calls were received since it occurred during a heavy traffic time. Both North Kansas City (NKC) and Kansas City Missouri (KCMO) Fire Departments received calls and were dispatched. Along with this dispatch the Police Department medical also responded. The vehicle operator was able to call KC Fire Department himself and was connected to the Dispatch Center. He reported that he was trapped; his tank was leaking and it contained hydrochloric acid. The hydrochloric acid was reacting to the asphalt and off-gassing. It was good that the winds were favorable and blowing in the opposite direction away from the driver. They were blowing toward the Isle of Capri Casino. This is a gas which is usually colorless or light yellowish with a pungent and irritating odor. The main concerns were respiratory, inhalation issues and it can cause skin burns. Once responders arrived, they did a follow up with the National HazMat Center where they learned that an off-duty police officer was in the traffic going northbound when the accident happened and had immediately started controlling traffic. This was very helpful since traffic was another concern. Even with the plume, the Incident Commander, his Safety Officer and one of the company's on the scene decided to go ahead with the rescue of the trapped driver. They used full PPE gear and respiratory equipment to affect the rescue. Another issue was controlling the runoff. The decision was made because of the way the acid was flowing and crossing over the highway to the dirt that they would use the KCIION crews to create 3 burns/dams to help contain the fluids. Because of the winds were 3-5 miles an hour out of the northwest, discussions were done on isolating distances, shelter-in-place (s-i-p), evaluation or what should be done to protect others in the area. Also, an issue was access to the scene and if emergency vehicle would be allowed to travel under the Paseo Bridge to access the command post. Shelter-in-place was recommended for Isle of Capri and air monitoring was done. There were discussions on the other businesses in the area and the possibility of sheltering-in-place for them. Regional collaboration was used to handle this event with NKC & KCMO Fire Departments, HazMat 71, Northland Hazmat team, MAST, KCICON Construction Crew, MODOT, MDNR and phone contact with some of the railroads. The EOC was activated early in the incident because of the community issues and the incident being on one of the major traffic routes. Also, a decision was made to ramp up the hazmat responses and Overland Park, Lee's Summit and the Tri-District HazMat teams were activated and held close by the scene. HazMat 71 did air-monitoring, plugged the leak to stop it and made recommendations to the Safety Officer based on models. The Northland HazMat team provided air-monitoring at Isle of Capri and in some remote surrounding areas.

Since the incident: 1) work has been done on updating the regional hazmat team's contact information. 2) working on development of ESF #10 in the RCG and discussions around what makes up a hazmat team, what is sent on an initial response and how the teams should be requested?

A Regional Incident Survey Team (RIST) did an overview of the incident. They will do Lessons Learned and will create training materials for a report for other hazmat teams across the nation which may be used when responding to a similar type of incident. This incident may be used as a reference or incorporated into their training. The report has not been concluded yet, but the interview and surveys are done.

The question was asked how well the shelter-in-place worked, how long it lasted and if people tried to leave? Had good cooperation from the management at Isle of Capri, used multi-rays which were just getting a hint of changes in the tubes and not in their air ducts and shelter-in-place was only done for a couple of hours with no problems. Chief Tittone shared that he has a video of the rescue and other activities and their crew had received citations. Mr. Thompson asked how long it took to get the plume and it only took 5 - 10 minutes since this equipment is on the hazmat unit. Mr. Holzschuh asked if there had been any follow-up with Isle of Capri and Chief Maize had not, but Isle of Capri has made contact because of insurance reasons. The question was asked if the Isle of Capri was very knowledgeable of their HVAC systems and their engineering staff was very helpful and knowledgeable. Mr. Fightmaster asked what caused the accident and it is believed that the driver was going a little fast for the conditions and construction. Co-chair Dolak shared that this is one of the reasons the school districts had been invited to attend; hydrochloric acid is a very common transported item and is on the roads all the time. Hydrochloric acid hits you right away if you are in the plume it can overtake you instantly. Mr. Boatright asked if the rescue was extrication and it was not. The driver had been trapped by his seat belt. Co-chair Dolak asked if soot ashes were used to clean it up and they were. He also shared that another characteristic of hydrochloric acid was that you get a gas anytime there is humidity in the air. During this incident, several police officers were exposed and sent to the hospital.

5. Subcommittee Reports

a. Public Outreach

Captain Owen shared that there was information about the commercials shared at the last meeting and their committee had worked with Ms. Hensley (MARC) and done the RFP. A company named Thill developed two 30 second commercials. The scripts were pretty much finalized yesterday and will be checked with the MEMC Committee this afternoon. One that talks about tornados and severe weather and shows people going down and the other one talk about chemicals and hazardous emergencies shows people going up. Then, there is a brief statement about shelter-in-place. The commercials will start around April 5th. Their committee is still finishing up the purchasing policies/procedures on the time, but they will be on all the channels for a 6-9 day period depending upon pricing and Time Warner. The PCA for the weather radios will start on April 5th and some radios are already in the stores. The purchase for promoting the all-hazard weather radios was around \$40,000 and their committee did specific work to make it an all hazard and not just a PCA on tornadoes. They are currently working on the PCA part to do some media printing; special needs populations and possibly with newspaper ads/doing media in the areas with language barriers.

Safety City – Asst. Chief VanAken shared that it went well and quite a few people came through. He noted that there needs to be something done to get the siren collection next to the trailer next year; like in the past. Also, need to work on a collection to go outside the trailer that would lead people to it. He received positive comments on the history items inside the trailer.

b. Training Committee Report – Chief Maize

- The HazMat IQ Training was held at the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in Lee's Summit, Missouri March 2, 3 and 4. All sessions were well attended with registrations 27, 26 and 30 respectively. This course describes a response tool that incorporates Smart Charts, an integral part of the HazMat IQ system that communicates how HazMat Teams can respond to a spill and best mitigate the incident.
- Co-chair Dolak shared that Brenntag has sent employees to these courses which would be good for industry and for the schools if you are working with hazmat. Anyone in industry or the school district interested in attending a course he asked to make contact. He noted that it is good to sit down with individuals doing this work and learn from them.
- A total of six HazMat Technician representatives will attend the Special Operations HazMat Symposium in Manhattan, New York.
- Kearney Fire Department is hosting the Hazardous Materials Incident Response: Awareness Level training on April 17, 2010 and the 24 hour Hazardous Materials Incident Response: Operations level several dates in April through May.
- The training committee continues to identify trainings to program HMEP funds.
- Asst. Chief VanAken asked if the Training Committee could prepare information on training synopsis for Safety City that could be displayed in the LEPC Trailer next year. Maybe pictures or videos. Chair Williams suggested training hours done and the number of students that have been trained. Chief Maize agreed this could probably be done.
- Ms. Lynch shared that the Pipeline Association of Missouri will be having a meeting May 19th at Liberty Community Center from 11:30 – 2:30.
- April 7 – Mass Casualty Exercise - Ms. Lynch shared that a flyer was in the handouts. This incident will involve multiple locations in the metro and include a HazMat component which would be used to review the LEPC Plan in relations to the scenario that comes about. Anyone interested in observing were asked to contact the site coordinators (their contact information was on the flyer) and let them know in advance. She also noted that there were a couple of

open positions for experienced controllers, evaluators or subject matter experts. Those with these skills that were interested in participating were asked to let Ms. Lynch know after the meeting.

- A question was asked about any upcoming plans for a Technician Class and Chief Maize shared that these are usually scheduled in the fall.

6. Hazardous Materials Reporting – Ms. Lynch shared that no incidents had been reported since the last meeting. The deadline for the Tier II reporting occurred March 1. The LEPC received 746 reports which was around 70 down from last year and down about 150 from what the MERC received. One thing with electronic filing to figure out is if the Tier IIs are still going to all the places they need to go. Follow up will be done with the MERC to try to get better information. Also, it is not unusual for reports to continue to be sent. She also reminded everyone that Fire Departments and Emergency Managers should have access to the Tier II reports through the state system. Those that did not have an access code were asked to see her. Mr. Klender shared that he had received an email saying that Tier IIs did not need to be sent to the MERC; only to the LEPC and fire department. Ms. Lynch responded that this information was incorrect. You do need to send Tier II reports to the MERC, the LEPC and your local fire department. Co-chair Dolak had a question about the local fire department and shared that he was told to deliver Brenntag's to Chief Maize. The reports go to the HazMat. Chief Maize shared that fire departments are good at funneling the reports they receive.

7. HOMELAND SECURITY ACTIVITIES – Mr. Faddis shared that in 2005 planning started for an interoperability solution for the region and the solution decided upon was RAMBIS (Regional Area Multi Band Integrated System). Beginning in 2006 with UASI funds, construction of RAMBIS began and it is now ready to go online. The Office of the Emergency Communications will be in the region on Saturday at the Snake Parade watching our region's interoperability solutions in action. Then a train-the-trainer RAMBIS video was shown. The video displayed a building collapsing somewhere in the greater KC region which called for multiple jurisdictions to respond. In the video, emergency crews are racing to the site juggling three different radios on three different bandwidths to coordinate essential aid. In the minutes it takes to relay and repeat information, lives can be lost. Today, those lives can be saved. Several years ago public safety professionals in the MARC region saw a need to streamline communications between first responder agencies and began to develop a plan for one line of communication which is called Interoperability. With funding from the Department of Homeland Security, the RAMBIS network was created to fill this need. RAMBIS blends the 800 megahertz, UHS and VHS bandwidths into common channels. Police Department, Fire Department and Paramedics in 9 counties can access the RAMBIS network to communicate in real time during an emergency; even across the Kansas/Missouri state line. This new system will help to coordinate communications during events that require cooperation between jurisdictions and disciplines. The video showed how RAMBIS works, when and how to use it and the procedures to test the system. This system operates through 10 radio towers located throughout the MARC region. All communications over RAMBIS should be NIMS compliant. All personnel using RAMBIS must be trained to use the RAMBIS standard operating procedures. This system will be tested by participating agencies 3 times a month with individual field units responding at their agencies discretion to ensure full operational status. The test will be initiated by the Johnson County Emergency Communication Center and will be conducted in a roll call format over the RAM Call channel only. Any agency that does not respond to the test can be spot checked after the test is completed. Mr. Faddis shared that in the train-the-trainer classes, a CD will be provided with all of the resources and a copy of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) which was included in this meeting's packet. Even though the region is ready to accept RAMBIS, there is an additional tower still being constructed in Harrisonville which should be done by the end of June. Once this construction is completed, they will have to break the ring to connect this tower; so the system will be down for a period of time. Notification prior to this break will be sent out. The train-the-trainer dates are on the website and on the training calendar. The dates are March 19, April 14 and May 20 and June 17. Ideally, the agencies that are able to use RAMBIS now should be the ones that sign up and take the first classes. Originally, the thought was that Kansas City would be tough with their rebanding prior to RAMBIS coming on the air. RAMBIS will use a new 800 frequency package and KC and the region are now on the old frequency and the new and old frequencies are being rebanded. Nextel was recently here with their recommended solution which did not work and was back today working on installing their Plan B. Chief Tittone asked if the tower's backup units were at the base of the towers and they are at the base next to the shelter itself. Then, Chief Tittone asked if the backup was under water wouldn't that county lose RAMBIS. Per Mr. Faddis it is a ring so, you may not be able to use that tower, but you may hit another tower, but the RAMBIS sites are up high. Sites include KCI, Tonganoxie, Easton, Trimble Wood & Harrisonville (new sites). Chair Williams shared that RAMBIS was another example of UASI funds being used and multi-state, agencies and jurisdictions working together.

- 8. LEGISLATION – Chair Williams** shared that the Spiller Pay Bill went to committee and to his knowledge has not come out yet. Chief Tittone shared that he had attended and there was nobody from the west side. Chair Williams acknowledge that our region may need to do a better job of getting the meeting information to the west side.
- 9. Kansas LEPC COMMENTS – Mr. May** shared that the Kansas side was looking forward to getting the response back from the questions MO had sent to KS which KS has sent back the answers to and scheduling a meeting with MO and KS representatives along with the State. Chair Williams shared some background: the MO LEPC is composed of 5 counties and there are 3 KS LEPCs. Work is being done to see if it is possible to merge these LEPCs. Each state has different rules, regulations, issues and funding to work through. The former MO LEPC chairs are a part of the committee working with the KS representatives on this possible merger. A meeting will be set soon to discuss the questions and where to go now.
- 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS – Chair Williams** shared that Ms. Lynch and himself had met with Mr. Thompson and representatives from the MO school districts. It was a very good meeting where cooperation with the school on getting the shelter-in-place into the schools and to the students. The school representatives understood it and the need to do it. There was quite a few ideas shared and there will be another meeting soon. The goal is to have a school district representative on the LEPC committee. They also discussed public and community outreach which is one of the goal/mission of the LEPC and it is thought that the schools are a good area to work on shelter-in-place. He introduced Dr. Hull, Director, KS Center for Safe & Prepared Schools that was in attendance. Dr. Hull shared that KS has 20 schools that make up the KS School District and about 1 year ago they formed a new organization where they are under the direct supervision of General Tod Bunting in the Division of Emergency Management. He shared that they are eager to collaborate.
- 11. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 12. NEXT MEETING:** April 8, 2010

Handouts:*March Agenda**February Summary**Financial Report**RAMBIS Standard Operating Procedure**MEIS Calendar**Perfect Storm (Mass Casualty Exercise) Flyer**Training & Exercise Notebook*