



Town of Mansfield Emergency Management Advisory Committee

DRAFT

Minutes of Regular Meeting

May 17, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL – Mayor Paul Shapiro, as Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers at the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building. He invited each present to introduce himself, providing name and position in agency or neighborhood. *Members present:* Robert Miller (Eastern Highlands Health District), Linda Painter (Town Planner), Curt Vincente (Parks & Recreation/Community Center), Dennis Stanavage (Superintendent Region 19 High School), Fran Raiola (Emergency Management Director and Fire Marshal), Paul Shapiro (Mayor), David Dagon (Fire & Emergency Services), Steve Baker, Carol Scott, Scott Crawford (Natchaug Hospital) and Emile Poirier. *Staff present:* Jennifer Thompson is attending to serve as secretary.

II. APPROVAL/REVISION OF MEETING MINUTES - Chairman called for discussion or a motion to accept or revise the minutes of the November 24, 2015 meeting. Motion was made by Scott Crawford to accept the minutes and seconded by Steve Baker. Motion passed unanimously.

III. BUSINESS MEETING

➤ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – Emergency Management Director, Fran Raiola

- a. Emergency Management Performance Grant has been awarded by the State based on per capita to the Town in approximately \$12,000.00. These funds are used to off-set salary of the Emergency Management Director and Assistant Emergency Management Director.
- b. HeartSafe Community recertification received from the American Heart Association. Town recognized for past 8 years for its efforts to provide high level of educational programs, CPR training, EMS response.
- c. Hazard Mitigation Plan vetted through the State and finalized. Delay in process was caused by transition of regional association of municipalities from Windham Region Council of Governments (WINCOG) to Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG).
- d. Staff started building pre-messaging templates in the CodeRed system. This would be for police emergency, fire or hazmat situations at town buildings to stay away from that area. Coordination is in progress with Board of Education to assure consistent message is relayed to the public in both the CodeRed and schools systems.
- e. Bicentennial Pond Dam Safety Plan draft is complete and progressing with DEEP to finalize.
- f. Equipment for communications is housed at the middle school. Reliance is on generator power. Funding is being sought for transfer switch and work anticipated to be done this year.
- g. An Emergency Preparedness Day to be co-sponsored by Youth Services and Emergency Management is planned for September 10th, to be held at the Community Center. This will be an event for general public attendance, informational tables all ages and interactive games for children. Anticipate participation by Red Cross, Eversource, Emergency Management and Fire/EMS. Scott Crawford said that Natchaug Hospital would also be interested in having a

table. He also mentioned interest for Natchaug Hospital to participate in Celebrate Mansfield {f/k/a Festival on the Green} to be held on September 18th in the Town Square. It was suggested by members at this meeting details of the two events be shared with Glenridge and Jensen's, the Senior Center and through media such as various Facebook pages.

➤ EASTERN HIGHLANDS HEALTH DISTRICT – Director of Health, Robert Miller

EHHD recently participated in a State-wide “Point of Dispensing” (POD) mass dispensing clinic exercise to dispense meds in response to a community-wide exposure that includes the EHHD and University populations. The objective of the exercise is to test plans to dispense meds to the population in response to a community wide anthrax exposure. Community and region 4 partners that supported and participated the exercise included UConn Student Health Services, UConn OEM, Mansfield Emergency Management, Medical Reserve Corp, Community Emergency Response Team, E.O. Smith High School, CT State Police, and all Region 4 Health Districts. Community volunteers totaling 120 people participated in the mobilization, setup, activation, “just-in-time” training for the POD exercise at the site established at E.O. Smith High School. Through this activity it was measured approximately how long it would take to setup and activate the clinic location, and progress population through the clinic process. . Through this activity strengths and weaknesses were identified, and lessons learned will be applied, and used to improve existing plans. Seventeen minutes per person entry to exit was the average through-put time. After-action assessment meetings are being held to review overall outcome of the exercise further. Across the State, eight POD sites were activated. The state DPH received and transported strategic national stockpile assets to all 41 mass dispensing areas in the state. All stakeholders learned from this event. It provided critical opportunity for training for public health emergency and deployment of this level of response. It allows all agencies a means to stay prepared as well as keep community volunteers engaged. An evaluation of the event is important. Survey was taken for feedback from participants plus formal evaluators performed critique. Final report of the State is pending.

➤ PUBLIC SAFETY : FIRE/EMS – Fire Chief, David Dagon

With respect to water supply for fire protection, the Department is installing 2 new dry hydrants. A grant for \$1,500 reimbursement of some of the installation cost has been obtained through the State. Pressurized hydrants on Route 195 serve less than 10% of town area. This is then supplemented through use of hoses to ponds as source of water. The goal is to reduce distance between water supply to mile and half with dry hydrants. At this time 90% of goal met. Water is also carried on apparatus. Department is acquiring tanker with capacity to hold 3,000 gallons of water for fire suppression operation.

Although Town has own ambulance program, it partners with Windham Hospital for paramedic services. An advisory committee was created to address the needs of the community. Local fire chiefs evaluate data and advocate for level services expect as effort to secure and make improvements to the program.

It was noted that Spring Weekend for UConn has changed from the event it was over the past few years that no longer requires major mass emergency readiness. Activities are more organized by the University, become more manageable for all the various agencies that would be involved, and the student memory lost. There was concern and need for watch/monitoring in august when

students move in and begin classes. As the weather is nice in evenings and no exams yet, students' tendency is to be looking for party.

IV. REVIEW FALL MEETING DATE SCHEDULE – Next regular meeting of this Committee shall be set for Tuesday, November 15, 2016.

V. ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business to be presented to the members, Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Dennis Stanavage and seconded by David Dagon. Upon unanimous agreement of the members, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Thompson