

**Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee Meeting
(DEMHS Region 3) (UASI Region 3)
May 15, 2025
9:30 a.m.
CRCOG, In person and via Zoom**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Vice Chairman Robert McCue.

Public Comment – none

Adoption of the Minutes

Pat Srenaski, seconded by Harley Graime moved to adopt the minutes from January 16, 2025, meeting. All in favor, so voted.

FEDERAL AND STATE LIAISON REPORTS

Hugo Benettieri from Congressman Larson’s office introduced himself and noted that he has recently been appointed as co-chair of the Fire Services caucus. DEMHS Region 3 Coordinator Josh Cingraneli introduced Mike Paradis as a new strategic planning manager and as training manager. He will support exercises and training through the COGs. WEB EOC training is still available the first Tuesday of every month; an evening basic course will be offered on June 3; CERT Day is planned for August 7 at CCSU. Some training classes have had to be pulled because of a new federal requirement to meet a minimum registration threshold. EPPI is scheduled for the week of September 8-12, with a standard daytime delivery and a possible evening option. Mike will assist anyone with problems logging into CT TRAINING. Josh reported that those who responded to and assisted with the Hawthorne fire incident (many from CREPC) were honored by the governor for their services. Josh noted that FY 2021, FY 2022, and FY 2023 grants were all closing out this year. Quarterly radio tests will be held on July 8, 10 a.m. and will continue on the second Tuesday of each quarter thereafter. DEMHS is working on improving its inventory of regional assets, and this is included in the region’s grant oversight requirements. A FEMA review council has been appointed, and severe weather preparations are underway. The ID Badges and scanners were discussed. CT Fire Services has paid for a state-wide license for the badge scanners.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Salamander ID System – (Bill Perkins) Bill has been working with the new ID system: one unit at CRCOG and the second unit is with West Hartford (CERT). The badge scanner app was not purchased with this system.

Everbridge Alerting System – (Bill Perkins) Public Health section update for the new Everbridge 360 platform is nearing the finish. The update will be extended to the CRCOG account - all other teams.

SHSGP Grants update – (Cheryl Assis) – We are currently finishing FY 21 (about \$12,000 left). Some of the remaining funds will be used for DARC training and repair of the third BearCat (Hartford). Spending of FY 22 grant funds is underway. This grant ends at the end of October. Recent expenditures include equipment for the Bomb Squad, HAZMAT team and SWAT training. She outlined purchases being considered consistent with other regions including a new drone detection system through the protection of soft targets set-aside funding and the replacement of 3 law enforcement ATVs purchased about 15 years ago (So. Windsor, Avon, Middletown), and the addition of 3 ATVs/UTV’s for fire departments based on requests after the Hawthorne Fire. There was consensus from the group to proceed on these items.

NEW BUSINESS

Regional Emergency Support Plan (RESP) – (Glenn Buonanducci) Glen described in detail how he has been reformatting the RESP using a modification of DEMHS’s municipal template. Rather than incorporating the Blue Plan and PHERP, these will be included using links. He is engaging with RESFs. Bill Perkins asked those in CREPC to review parts of the plan that are sent out for comment.

Interoperable Communications Report: -- (Mike Boucher) Mike presented a comprehensive description of the communications systems in the region, with detailed Power Point slides (available on request). He described the value of these communications in the region's response to the Hawthorne Fire last fall, including resources that were pulled in from municipalities in Region 3, from other sources. He described the mobile command vehicles, the TICP, STOCS and other resources and noted that on-scene training is available for STOCs.

ESF- SELECTED COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESF-1 Transportation – (Terri Thompson) Teri continues to encourage a statewide coalition for Traffic Incident Management. The current coalition covers most of the state.

RESF-2 Communications – (Mike Boucher). There were three Inter-Ops deployments in April/May – 2 events and one training. More ICOM participants are needed. He noted that WEB EOC has a video on how to set up the STOCS Boxes.

ESF-5 Emergency Management – (Bill Perkins) More duty officers are needed. Four duty officers share 24/7/365 coverage. The ESF and the state are participating in the preparation of an Event Action Plan for a very large NASCAR 3-day event at Lime Rock. They are also presenting basic ICS training for the Canton school system.

RESF-6 Sub-Committee for Volunteer Management – (Don Janelle) Most CERT trainings are now regional rather than local. West Hartford is conducting a CERT Training course on two consecutive Saturdays.

RESF-8 Public Health and Medical Services – (Pat Srenaski) On behalf of Public Health departments in the region, Steve Huleatt accepted the fourth consecutive 5-year term NACHO Public Health Certification award. Medical caches are being replenished at Hartford Hospital. A conference is planned for the Long-Term Care mutual aid plan.

Capitol Region Medical Reserve Corps – (Katherine McCormack) CR MRC had interactions with Bristol CERT Team and Central CT Health Dept. West Hartford, Wethersfield, and South Windsor have been supportive. Janet Leonardi reported that the ***Middletown MRC*** is planning training for psychological first aid for late May, and they are looking for help from the Red Cross in a review of Middletown High School for possible use as a shelter.

RESF-9 SEARCH AND RESCUE – No Report

RESF-10 HAZMAT – (Eric Munsell). Reported joint trainings with HAZMAT and PDs at Mohegan Sun in March. Five team members were sent to New England HAZMAT Conference in April. Many MA HAZMAT teams use this event for their required annual training. He is working with other regional teams to purchase new gear/clothing.

RESF-12 ENERGY (Sam Carmody, Eversource) introduced himself and noted that Eversource would be represented at future CREPC meetings.

Harley Graime was congratulated for receiving a Distinguished Service Award from the Bristol Exchange Club.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for July 17.