



SUB PANEL 2: FIRST RESPONDERS, SHELTERING/EVACUATION, BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details	
Title	Sub Panel 2: First Responders, Sheltering/Evacuation, Business and Industry
Date/Time	February 16th (10am-12pm)
Agenda	Welcome/Introductions Sub Panel Purpose and Objectives Sheltering/Evacuation Discussion Virginia Communications Strategic Reserve Open Discussion Closing Remarks/Action Items
Location	Henrico County Training Center, Room # 2031
Future Dates	
March 16	Commonwealth Preparedness Working Group meeting, Governor's Cabinet Conference Room, Patrick Henry Building
April 6	Sub Panel 2 (10am-12pm) and 3 (2pm-4pm) meetings, Henrico County Training Center, Room #2030
April 27	Secure Commonwealth Panel, TBD

Agenda Items

Topic	Welcome/Introductions	
Discussion	Co-Chair, Anna McRay provided welcoming remarks and asked that introductions be done around the room. Everyone in attendance went around the room indicated who they were and what their role was within the Sub Panel.	
POC	Action Item	Deadline
	N/A	

Topic	Sub Panel Purpose and Objectives	
Discussion	The Sub Panel's purpose and objectives were reviewed and there was consensus among the Sub Panel that they accurately captured what the group should focus on and what was accomplishable. The Sub Panel noted that sheltering and evacuation should be a main focus for the group, as it is one of the Governor's top priorities during this administration.	

POC	Action Item	Deadline
	N/A	

Topic	Sheltering/Evacuation Discussion	
Discussion	<p>Michelle Pope, and Perry Cogburn, provided updates to state initiatives focusing on sheltering and evacuation. Michelle Pope began first and briefed the group on sheltering by providing an update on the status of current State Managed Shelter capacities and efforts underway to put Quick Connects in colleges and universities to enable prompt use of generators within the state managed shelters. SMS (19 in total) are intended to supplement, but not replace, locality shelters. Agency heads are encouraged to become involved in this process as well as other initiatives pertaining to sheltering and evacuation. Michelle also discussed a new program to be deployed in Virginia shelters called EWA Phoenix whereby driver's licenses can be scanned to provide a log of individuals within shelters and assist with connecting individuals with their families following a disaster by keeping track of which individuals are within certain shelters. (See Presentation).</p> <p>Perry informed the group that evacuation planning has largely been focused in two phases: planning and simulation of data. The planning phase has involved coordination with VDOT, VDEM, VDSS and other state areas along with entities from neighboring states and the District of Columbia. VDOT and other state agencies recognize the difficulty in exercising current plans due to the inability of physically exercising a no-notice evacuation of the Hampton Roads or Northern Virginia areas. In order to "exercise" plans, Virginia and other states are using simulators to score how well their plans may work in the event of a no-notice evacuation. Mike McAllister discussed that sheltering and evacuation are top priorities for the Governor. Perry largely discussed the role of lane reversals in the Hampton Roads area and the need for disaster declarations to be declared 4 to 5 days out from hurricanes. He also discussed the role of the VECTOR and Field Operations managers. (See Presentation).</p>	
POC	Action Item	Deadline
Megan Samford, Mike McAllister, Michelle Pope, Perry Cogburn	VDSS, VDOT and VDEM to send "challenges" to Mike McAllister	COB March 16 th

Topic	Virginia Communications Strategic Reserve	
Discussion	<p>Chris McIntosh provided an overview of the Virginia Communications Strategic Reserve and how it can be used as an asset for the state when current communications infrastructures are destroyed or otherwise disrupted during disasters. The STR is also available when more communications resources are needed than are currently available within a locality during an emergency or disaster. (See Presentation).</p>	

POC	Action Item	Deadline
Chris McIntosh	N/A	N/A

Topic	Open Discussion	
Discussion	Mike McAllister asked that VDSS, VDOT, and VDEM send to the Governor's Office of Commonwealth Preparedness items that they are experiencing difficulty within Sheltering/Evacuation in order that OCP assist these agencies in overcoming some of the challenges they are experiencing.	
	Action Item	Deadline
		COB March 16 th

Parking Lot Items

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