

Secure & Resilient Commonwealth Panel

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Approved Meeting Minutes

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September 18, 2018
West Reading Room- Patrick Henry Building
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m

Attendees:

Brian Moran, Chairman and Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Ryant Washington, Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Shawn Talmadge, Assistant Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Hon. Justin Fairfax, Lieutenant Governor
Col. Gary Settle, Superintendent Virginia State Police
Mark Sneseavage, Designee of Senator Bryce Reeves
Anna McRay, Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Management, Henrico County
Marci Stone, Battalion Chief, Emergency Management & Community Preparedness, Roanoke County
Joe Bourchard, VNA Consulting
Dr. Jeff Stern, State Coordinator of Emergency Management
Dr. Jonathan Newmark
Gena Berger, Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources; Designee of Secretary of Health and Human Resources
Margaret Vanderhye- Senate Committee on Rules Appointment
Jim Redick, Director of Emergency Management, City of Norfolk
Pat Davis, Designee of Executive Secretary Karl Hade, Supreme Court of Virginia
Cathie Hutchins, Designee of A.G. Mark Herring
Carlos Hopkins, Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs
Krystel Jordan, Vector Corp
Michael Hamlar
Benjamin Cline, Chairman of the Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety
Dr. Andrew Ramsey

Welcoming Remarks

Sec. Brian Moran, Chair, opened the meeting and thanked all for their attendance.

Member Introductions

All Panel members introduced themselves.

Adoption of Minutes

Panel Member Jim Redick submitted a motion for adoption, seconded by Panel member Joe Bourchard. The minutes were unanimously adopted.

Homeland Security Division Updates

Assistant Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security Shawn Talmadge provided an update on the Homeland Security Programs.

Interoperability – Assistant Secretary Talmadge introduced Tom Crabbs, the new Interoperability Program Manager. The Statewide Interoperability Plan revision will begin in January 2019, followed by an exercise assisted by the Department of Homeland Security. Legislative funding provided in the FY 19/20 State budget has been allocated to an independent contractor tasked with conducting a comprehensive assessment of the state’s COMLINC system. The statewide planning and implementation efforts for the National Public Safety Broadband Network created by FirstNet are ongoing.

Cyber Security- The Cyber Security Program Manager recently completed 7 Regional Cyber security Workshops that engaged local government information technology staff and public safety disciplines to review and educate the community on resources available for strengthening local government cyber security. The National Guard has completed 17 local jurisdiction cyber security network and system assessments. The Guard is currently in need of additional funding to continue providing this resource to localities. Public Safety has partnered with Dept of Elections and VITA to improve the security posture of the election process. Included in this work was a cyber table top exercise which engaged participants from state public safety agencies, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Elections, and local registrars.

Comments from the Panel:

Panel Member Margaret Vanderhye suggested that the team conduct a dual process of identifying and requesting both public and private funds to continue the National Guards cyber security assessment initiative.

Critical Infrastructure- Virginia’s Hampton Roads Urban Area received a 50% increase in grant funding as a result of better reporting from state and local officials but also from their efforts to influence a change in FEMA’s State and Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) Risk Profile methodology. The Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack (CCTA) program in progress, VDEM’s Training and Exercises Division recently hosted a workshop attended by 70 public safety professionals to identify problem areas that state and local officials feel need to be addressed relative to CCTA. The Critical Infrastructure State Agency Working Group convened

in 2017 and completed a Workshop Series focusing on state-agency infrastructure of concern. The Final Report was issued in December 2017 and contains their findings and recommendations.

Comments from the Panel

Panel member Secretary Hopkins requested a copy of the State Agency Focus Group Report. Assistant Secretary Talmadge assured Panel members a copy of the report would be distributed to all.

Panel member Jim Reddick suggested that flooding be added to the Risk profile for Hampton Roads, VA. The Critical Infrastructure Program Manager Stacie Neal advised that FEMA has recently released a pilot natural hazards risk profile for use in determining a state and/or locality's risk to natural hazards (vs. terrorism). The current risk profile focuses strictly on terrorism because it is used for funding allocation of terrorism-specific grants.

Secretary Moran proposed that the Homeland Security Division reach out to the group working on recurrent flooding to gain insight of their future legislative proposals.

Secretary Moran requested an update on the Resilience Coordinator appointment; Assistant Secretary Talmadge briefed that the position is currently in the hiring phase and a candidate would be selected in the near future.

Federal Title 3, Public Law 99-799

Virginia Department of Emergency Management and Department of Environmental Quality will meet to develop proposal to meet requirements outlined in the Federal Code. The Panel members agreed to support the initiative. VDEM and DEQ will report back to the Panel on how to address their recommendation.

Hurricane Florence Update

Dr. Jeff Stern presented the panel with a GIS-assisted demonstration of the Hurricane Florence decision making model. The model displayed the initial positioning of the storm and documented the storms track and explained the Executive decisions process, including the Emergency Declaration, mandatory evacuation of Zone A, and the deployment of state managed shelters. The Storm Model will be available for viewing on VDEM's public website. Virginia's Hurricane Florence response posture has shifted into recovery mode as Virginia's Emergency Operations Center remains active and Virginia Special Operations teams have deployed to assist North Carolina with their response efforts. Hurricane Florence's impact to Virginia includes 13 tornadoes across Central Virginia and 3 confirmed fatalities. An After Action Report will be developed.

Comments from the Panel

Panel Member Secretary Hopkins expressed support for VDEM's decision to display the GIS model on its website and also inquired about the sheltering process and ensuring resources are

available going forward. Dr. Stern informed the Panel that the sheltering process utilized was successful and that the public safety agencies would continue to improve coordination for future needs. Dr. Stern also highlighted the Dept. of Corrections successful evacuation of 900 offenders without incident.

Panel Member Jim Redick thanked the State leadership for the decisions made and requested an overview of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) program that allows states to deploy resources to affected areas of disaster response and recovery. Dr. Stern responded with an overview and a summary of Virginia assets currently deployed on EMAC missions.

Panel Member Anna McRay thanked the State leadership for the decisions made and noted that the states communication with the local jurisdictions helped guide her locality's preparedness effort for storm impact and sheltering possibilities.

Panel Member Dr. Jonathan Newmark inquired about the evacuation of healthcare facilities within Zone A. Panel Member Bob Mausekpf advised that three private hospitals and six long term care facilities were successfully evacuated. Patients were evacuated to other facilities outside of the Zone and some out of state to facilities within the healthcare network.

Health and Human Resources Sub-Panel Update

Director Bob Mausekpf presented an update on emerging health and human threats. The Department of Health continues to monitor the Ebola virus, the recent increase in West Nile disease amongst poultry workers and a spike in the Norovirus reported in nursing homes and other communal living spaces. Concerns about HIV are increasing as the Opioid Crisis continues. The Dept. of Health has established an Addiction Incident Management Team, its goals and objectives were presented to the Panel. Mr. Mausekpf also presented the Panel with a visual of the funding trend for the state's Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) and Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program, all of which are 100% federally grant funded. The Department of Health has sponsored and/or participated in four major Training and Exercise scenarios. Mr. Mausekpf also provided an update on the Dept. of Health's Hurricane Florence Response efforts. An open invitation was extended to all Panel members for the Health and Human Resources Sub-Panel's next meeting. A confirmed date in December 2018 will be sent in the near future.

Comments from the Panel

Panel Member Anna McRay requested that the Health and Human Resources Sub-Panel work on developing a plan for sustaining Opioid recovery operations during major disasters; and also expressed the need for localities to receive location data for vulnerable at home patients that require wellness checks. Mr. Mausekpf advised that could possibly be a priority under the Resilience program efforts, and that funding for the Opioid epidemic has been granted to the

Virginia Department of Health (\$4M) and the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health (\$17M) that can assist with providing resources to Emergency Shelters during emergency operations.

Open Discussion

Panel Member Jim Redick proposed that the current Administration look at sourcing ways to move Virginia Department of Emergency Management personnel cost off of federal grant funds. Dr. Stern briefed the Panel on the current reliance of federal funds to operate the state's Emergency Management.

Assistant Secretary Talmadge presented Secretary Moran's Public Safety and Homeland Security strategic priorities which prompted a request to reconvene both the Cyber Security Sub-Panel and Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Sub-Panel. Secretary Moran suggested that UAS sub-Panel partner with Virginia Tech and leverage their efforts and advancements in UAS integration. Both proposals to reconvene the sub-Panels were approved by the Panel

Sub-Panel Member Jim Reddick suggested the continued use of the Incident Command System following the success of the most recent Charlottesville Civil Unrest response. Dr. Stern added that the \$500k per year in funding provided in the General Fund helped to conduct Just-In-Time training for policy and elected officials as well as ICS training for responders.

Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Closing Remarks

Secretary Moran highlighted the job well done by the Virginia Department of Social Services and Virginia State Police during the Hurricane Florence sheltering efforts. A date of March 13, 2019 was proposed for the next Panel meeting. Members were thanked for their attendance and the meeting was adjourned.