



Secure Commonwealth Panel

October 21, 2014 – Virginia Port Authority

World Trade Center, 6th Floor

101 West Main Street, Norfolk, Virginia

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Hon. Brian Moran, Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security

Hon. Angelia Williams, Vice Mayor-Norfolk City Council Member

Cathie Hutchins Designee for Attorney General Mark Herring

Kevin Reynolds Designee for Senator Garrett

Hon. Karen Jackson, Secretary of Technology

Edward Macon, Assistant Executive Secretary and Counsel for Supreme Court of Virginia

Bob Mauskopf, Director of Emergency Preparedness, Virginia Department of Health

Jim Redick, Director of Emergency Preparedness and Response – City of Norfolk

Joseph Bouchard, Director, Government and Wholesale Sales, Cox Communication

Pokey Harris, Director of Emergency Management

Col. Pat DeConcini, Senior Vice President for Product Management & Strategic Development, ZelTech

Mike Hamlar, Hamlar-Curtis Funeral Home

John Bell, Deputy Chief of Virginia Beach Police Department

Mike Matthews Designee for Lt. Governor Ralph Northam

Welcoming Remarks

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

Introductions were made by the Panel.

Recurrent Coastal Flooding Sub-Panel Report

Jim Redick, Norfolk Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response, provided a presentation on the Recurrent Coastal Flooding Sub-Panel Report. One of the recommendations in the Report was that there be an Incident Command System (ICS) approach to recurrent coastal flooding, establishing a resilience coordinator positioned at the state level who focuses on the issue of coastal flooding full time.

Mr. Redick recommended that the Secure Commonwealth Panel, moving forward, maintain the momentum and partnerships they have built regarding recurrent coastal flooding. His third recommendation was to update the Floodplain Management Plan of the Commonwealth of Virginia by assisting with the development of project priorities, pairing potential funding with various projects, and synchronizing messaging for individuals and business.

Health and Human Resources Sub-Panel Update

Dr. Dave Trump updated the Panel on the current health threats facing the Commonwealth of Virginia to include an updated brief on Ebola. In his brief, he provided information that the virus is spread person to person by direct contact with bodily fluids, and that the infected person is contagious only once symptoms develop, 2-21 days after exposure.

Ebola Virus Disease control measures have been put in place by utilizing surveillance (disease reporting, communication, etc.), investigation, implementation of control measure, and risk communication. Dulles Airport is one of the airports conducting extensive checks, although no flights arrive in Dulles directly from Africa. Virginia Department of Health (VDH) provided the Ebola framework for the Statewide Hospital Preparedness Program. All hospitals that are designated for potential Ebola cases are ready to receive and conduct examinations.

Actions being taken by the State Health Commission include maintaining full situational awareness at local, state, national, and international levels; informing and regularly updating the public, healthcare communities, legislators and executive branch leaderships about significant events; and declaring a public health emergency if the situation warrant awareness and communication.

Angelia Williams asked if in the event of a case where cremation is not preferred, are there any particular/additional requirements for funeral homes of its clean up and sterilization? Col. Bob Mauskopf informed her that the body should be sealed at the hospital and should not be opened afterwards.

In-Season Hurricane Review

Curtis Brown discussed the hurricane preparedness and response issues. He identified recommendations to existing plans and identified strategic challenges that require long term solutions.

Mr. Brown informed the panel about evacuation tactics, including: adjusting the hurricane evacuation decision making timeline, lane reversal remaining a tool of last resort, and placing an emphasis on evacuation of citizens from highly vulnerable areas.

Governor's Commission on Cybersecurity

Isaac Janak briefed the panel on the Virginia Cyber Security Commission. The Cabinet Members involved with the Commission are Public Safety and Homeland Security, Commerce and Trade, Education, Health and Human Resources, and Veteran and

Defense Affairs. Mr. Janak discussed the Commission working groups which include infrastructure protection, crime, public awareness, economic development, and education.

Governor's Rail Safety and Security Taskforce

Deputy Secretary Adam Thiel briefed the panel about the Rail Safety and Security Task Force. The Task Force is focused on rail safety and security, since many gas and liquid pipelines are all over the United States. The US Department of Transportation action plans include orders for railroads to properly secure rolling equipment, requiring railroads to provide states with information about Bakken crude oil being transported by rail, and for shippers to properly analyze and classify oil prior to transportation.

Secure Commonwealth Strategy Update and Work Plan

Deputy Secretary Thiel briefed the Panel on the Secure Commonwealth Strategic Plan, stating that there is an opportunity for the panel to redraft the strategy as well as incorporate the new Commonwealth Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (C-THIRA) into the planning process.

Closing Remarks

Secretary Moran adjourned the meeting.