



**Region D Homeland Security Oversight Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**April 16, 2008**

**9:00 A.M.**

**University of Missouri – Columbia Southwest Center  
14548 Highway H  
Mt. Vernon, MO**

**Attendance:**

**RHSOC Members**

Tom Martin, Emergency Management  
Mike Seibert, Police  
Angela Ford, County Health  
Greg Hickman, HSRT  
Gary Lewis, Industry/LEPC  
Kavan Stull, Utilities  
Kevin Tweedy, EMS  
Kent Vanderpool, 911  
Rick Lewis, Volunteer Groups  
Michael Pfander, Agriculture  
Douglas Domer, Schools

**Ex-Officio:**

Greg Dickens, DFS  
Debby Black, DSS  
Larry Forgey, MDA  
Steve Runnels, NWS  
Lt. Colonel David Boyle, 7<sup>th</sup> CST (WMD)  
Candy Adams, SEMA  
Diane May, SMCOG

**RHSOC Alternates:**

Chris Harmon, Volunteer Groups  
Kathleen King, County Health  
Larry Beatty, EMS  
Gary Lewis, Industry/LEPC  
Bonnie Witt-Schulte, 911  
Kavan Stull, Utilities

**Guests/Visitors:**

Tom Ryan, Barton Co. OEM  
Paul Fennewald, OHS  
Debbie Cheshire, SEMA  
Shea Lane, Greene Co. OEM  
Jaci McReynolds, Spfd-Greene Co. OEM  
Bob Kitsmiller, Dade Co. EMD  
Julie Frank, Lawrence Co. 911  
Mike Rowe,  
Debi Meeds, Red Cross

**Staff:**

Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren, SMCOG  
Stephanie Campbell, HSTCC  
BJ Straw, KBRPC  
Holly Johnston, Mass Care/Volunteers Asst.  
Amanda Marney, Agricultural Prep. Spec.

**Open Meeting**

Tom Martin called the meeting to order at 9:05 am. Self introductions made.

**Approval of Agenda**

Gary Lewis moved and Rick Lewis seconded the motion to approve the agenda for the April 16, 2008 meeting. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

Rick Lewis moved and Douglas Domer seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the February 23, 2008 meeting. Motion carried.

### **OHS Updates—Paul Fennewald, Office of Homeland Security**

Paul Fennewald discussed the Interoperability Grant awards and provided a summary sheet listing the awards made to jurisdictions in Region D. He indicated that the funds were awarded for projects that could be quickly completed; the grant funds must be spent by August 2008.

The 2006 homeland security grant funds must be spent by March 2009. The state is working on the investment justifications for the 2008 fiscal year homeland security grant; the state's application will be submitted by the end of the month. The investment justifications are aligned with eight national priorities. Agricultural risk mitigation will be rolled into the infrastructure protection investment justification. They are hearing that the 2009 fiscal year grant program will require matching funds from local jurisdictions. Following discussion, it was recommended the region should make sure that legislators know as soon as possible that locals cannot afford to match the federal grants.

**State Interoperable Committee.** The state's strategy for interoperability has been approved in Washington and approximately \$5 million has already been released to the state for the program.

**Homeland Security Regional Response Systems.** Due to the substantial reduction in the homeland security funding levels to Missouri, the state will have to make hard decisions on how much aid it can provide to regional response systems. Regional teams that are more robust and that could deploy outside of their own region will probably get more funding. If state funds stay at the same level, the state will be hard pressed to allocate more for regional response teams. Input from the locals is needed on this.

**MERIS.** The MERIS system is looked to as being the answer on how to have visibility on emergencies over the next 15-20 years. The system will only be as good as the locals that use it. Another tool purchased with homeland security money is ERIP for schools. The ERIP system if actively populated and can be accessed by even law enforcement that will help in response to school emergency. ERIP will be updated periodically to determine what other information needs to be added or improved. The program will open up to licensed child care within the next couple of months. The MERIS tool is free to local entities.

**Emergency System Network.** Another available information program is the emergency system network; 80 percent of schools participate. Emergency alert information can be disseminated through various media. There is no cost for the schools to participate in the program. OHS will provide a list of schools that are using ERIP and Emergency Alert so that local emergency management directors will know which schools are participating and which schools they may need to communicate with to determine why they are non-participating.

**NOAA Alert System Grants.** Mr. Fennewald mentioned the NOAA alert system grant program for rural communities and the short lead time for applications. He noted that there is a shortfall at the state level to find out about all the various grants that are available and then notify the locals in time. If we have any ideas on improving visibility on grants, please let SEMA know.

A school safety and security conference will be held in Branson in August 2008. Experts on school and childhood violence will be speaking. The Missouri Sheriff's Association will be doing active shooter training as well. Tom Martin responded that cost is a factor in attending the conference. Mr. Fennewald said to let him know if anyone cannot afford it and they will see if they can find private assistance to help sponsor some registrations.

### **State Training Brief-Debbie Cheshire**

Debbie Cheshire gave a power point presentation on the training needs assessment tool used by SEMA to put together the training courses and systems for next year. The RHSOCs will be the focal point for distribution and the RHSOC representatives are asked to send out to their disciplines. The survey tool is web based and the training schedule for next year will be published. The program year for training starts October 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Cheshire is requesting everyone to respond to the survey. So far, there have been only 23 responses from Region D. To sign up, generate certificates and access links to other training providers, go to the following website address: [training.dps.mo.gov](http://training.dps.mo.gov).

Everyone is encouraged to visit the site to update their personal information, which should be done on an annual basis. If regional training is requested, a room with basic characteristics is needed for training. SEMA will pay for hotel and travel if attendee is more than 50 miles from the training site. SEMA prefers to have 20 students from the area for any course taught regionally. Ms. Cheshire reviewed several training programs, some of which included the FEMA online independent study program, the residential course at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) at Ft. McClellan, and Counter Terrorism Operations Support (CTOS) located at the Nevada Test Site. For MERIS, there will be master training to train the intermediate trainers. The intermediate trainers will then train the locals. The intermediate training will be in May.

### **Report on HSAC meeting of March 7, 2008-Dorothy Wittorff-Sandgren.**

Ms. Sandgren reported on the March 7<sup>th</sup> HSAC meeting. MERIS has been nominated for a Computer World Award and has been selected as a finalist. The HSAC has a higher education subcommittee and is looking for a representative to sit on that committee. If a 911 dispatch center is located with fire and/or law enforcement for these services, then the 911 would be eligible for grant funds.

Paul Fennewald said that approval of the 2007 grant program awards for the regions should be announced next week.

### **2006 Grant Program Report**

Ms. Sandgren distributed a summary sheet on the status of procurement for the 2006 grant. She noted that there was a calculation error in the funds available for reallocation at the February meeting and that we were over budget by approximately \$23,000. However, with the cost savings on items that we know will invoice for less than the purchase order amounts, the actual overage is about \$10,000 for the budget reallocation. She noted that Mass Care subcommittee agreed to drop the trailer from the 2006 reallocation and this would then bring the reallocations within budget.

Gary Lewis moved and Rick Lewis seconded the motion to approve the revised 2006 reallocations. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried.

<u>RHSOC Member</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>RHSOC Member</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Tom Martin	Yes	Kevin Tweedy	Yes
Mike Seibert	Yes	Kent Vanderpool	Yes
Angela Ford	Yes	Rick Lewis	Yes
Greg Hickman	Yes	Michael Pfander	Yes
Gary Lewis	Yes	Douglas Domer	Yes
Kavan Stull	Yes		

### Staff Reports

Amanda Marney, Agricultural Preparedness Specialist, was not in attendance. Her activity report was distributed to the meeting attendees.

Greg Gaines, Mass Care/Volunteer Coordinator, handed out activity reports. He reported that there will be a pet sheltering meeting at the Southwest Research Center on May 29, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

### Other Business

Ms. Sandgren provided a summary of the 2007 grant allocation approved by the RHSOC at the February meeting.

Douglas Domer moved and Kevin Tweedy seconded the motion to approve the 2007 year funding allocation summary as presented. Motion carried.

Tom Martin asked if the RHSOC wants to take a stance on the issue of a local match requirement for the 2009 grant funds. Several members agreed that RHSOC should take a position. Kevin Tweedy stated that this is the way grant programs are going. Angela Ford said that a lot of agencies are funded through federal grants and federal funds can't match federal funds.

Ms. Sandgren discussed the RHSOC website. She asked for pictures of equipment purchased through the homeland security grant and pictures of any recent disaster events.

Angela Ford indicated that some communities have the idea that local health departments were totally responsible for special needs shelters. This is not correct. She noted that \$400,000 is coming from the federal government for supplies that health departments might want for a special needs shelter. Local health departments are to send in a list of what they need locally to the state department of health; the list is to be turned in by April 18<sup>th</sup>.

The next RHSOC meeting will be on June 18th. Mike Seibert moved and Kent Vanderpool seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

  
Tom Martin, Region D RHSOC Chair

June 18, 2008  
Date Approved