

HazMat TAC Minutes
November 21, 2006

The meeting was called to order and the TAC roster was updated with contact information. No new members present.

Verification of team typing

It was noted by Greg Locher that Mel House of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) has offered support to the verification process through the Field Liaison Officers. Information collected on team typing, inspections, and verification could be maintained at Ohio EMA.

Mark Vedder distributed draft copies of the verification process that his subcommittee developed, titled the Ohio Response System Hazardous Materials WMD Response Teams Resource Typing paper. This was the major topic of discussion for the meeting.

The concept behind the proposed verification process for resource typing mirrors the State Process for Charter Fire and EMS Organizations. The Review/Inspection Team would be made-up of two (2) members of the Hazmat TAC and one (1) OEMA Field Liaison. TAC members reviewed the concept proposal and several suggestions concerning the wording were made:

- ❑ Public Safety should be stricken from paper.
- ❑ Mel House to assist in reworking the first paragraph.

The information obtained by the equipment self-assessment and verification processes will assist the Ohio Fire Chiefs Response Plan in developing/updating their database and will assist local emergency management with resource typing/identification. There were several discussion points concerning all the identified hazmat teams in the state and how they would fit into the Response Plan.

Discussion Points included:

- ❑ Teams will be taken out of the Response Plan if they are not checked/verified, paperwork not filled out and turned in. After discussion it was suggested that the all identified teams that have completed the typing survey should be included in the Ohio Response System database. Initially the team type would be entered as described in the self-assessment survey completed by each team. This information, although not yet verified, is better than currently exists in the database. A separate box in the database will be added for hazmat teams that have undergone the verification process and this information would be added as teams submit applications for verification.
- ❑ Teams not wishing to respond outside of their response area should self-verify. This will result in valuable resources not being wasted in making a site visit.

- ❑ If regional grant money is accepted by a response team, they must be willing to respond within their region per the grant guidance. **This Point must be made clear to any team accepting grant money.**
- ❑ Regions / Areas of response were discussed. The TAC needs to define a regions area, and number of regions. **Future Action Item.**
- ❑ The committee discussed the priority for verification, i.e. Type III, II, I, which type of team to look at first? The committee decided to verify each team as the paper work came into the system. It was generally felt by the members that there would not be such a high demand on request that the committee would need to prioritize a specific type of team for verification.
- ❑ There was a discussion concerning private industry and non-public safety hazmat teams and if they would be included in the Ohio Response Plan database. Some regions have industrial teams and private non-public safety hazmat teams that have mutual aid agreements within the county. After discussion it was decided that if one of these teams was willing to respond off-site within the region, they should be included in the database. They should also be included in the verification process.
- ❑ There was a question concerning if these private industry and non-public safety teams are eligible for the regional grant funds. This will need to be checked with the OEMA Grant Section. **Action Item.** It was noted that one of the NIMS requirements is to tie in Private/Industry responders (mutual aid). The concern by TAC members was that response teams be funded versus private contractors that perform environmental clean-up activities.

Ohio Fire Chief Response Center-Additional notification contact

There was additional discussion concerning potential implementation methods of the information collected by the TAC to date within the Ohio Fire Chiefs Response System database. Tom Beatty requested that (1) 24 hour Point of Contact (POC) be provided for each identified hazmat team in the database. Tom would like the Hazmat TAC Regional Coordinators to work with the Ohio Fire Chief Regional Coordinators in collection and providing the data concerning hazmat teams. After discussion the TAC decided that:

- ❑ Hazmat team information is to be supplied by TAC Regional Coordinators to the Ohio Fire Chief Response Plan Regional Coordinators that includes (1) POC and a 24-hour contact number. Both coordinators will be responsible to cross check the information collected by both regional coordinators to assure information is the same and matches.
- ❑ The Hazmat TAC Regional Coordinators are to use the form found in the Ohio Fire Chief Response Plan of needed information. **Action Item:** Tom Beatty to send to Greg Locher who will send to the TAC Regional Coordinators.
- ❑ Ohio Fire Chief Regional Coordinators will be responsible for entering the POC information and team typing information into the Ohio Response Plan database.

SOG's

□ Communication SOG

Tim Flock handed out the Ohio Fire Service Emergency Response Plan / Hazardous Materials/WMD Incident Response – SOP 2.0 Communications Procedures. Tim presented this SOG to the Communication TAC for review and comment. A few minor changes were recommended which were incorporated into version 2.0 of this SOG. Tim Flock reviewed the changes and TAC members agreed with changes made. The Communication TAC appreciated the efforts in developing this SOG and will use as a template for other SOG's.

One item that was discussed by the TAC was the different names attached to the Ohio Response Plan. Tom Beatty to address and forward the correct verbiage to Tim Flock.
Action Item.

Action Item: Mel House to distribute Communications SOG to all of the TAC's after the corrections have been inserted by Tim and Tom. Communications procedures will be shared with all who need to know.

□ Notification SOG

Tom Beatty presented the SOG to the Ohio Fire Chiefs Response System for review and comment. No changes recommended. This SOG will be brought to the TAC by Jeff Branich at the next meeting for approval.

□ SOG Progress Update

Due to time constraints Sil Caggino was not able to provide an overview of his subcommittees progress. Sil will update the chair after the meeting and receive direction on the next SOG to develop. **Action Item**

New Business

Mel House discussed IMAC and EMAC differences and the reimbursement requirements for EMAC, including the use of equipment reimbursement schedules. The FEMA Schedule is a standard used for reimbursement. For IMAC and EMAC reimbursement each responding agency should utilize the FEMA schedule or should adopt a local schedule, as reimbursement requests must be supported.

Mel House briefly described the role of Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) in radiation response. OEMA is currently reviewing their capabilities and determining their response role. Mel asked the Hazmat TAC to assist in determining what capability for radiation response is recommended at the state and regional levels. **Action Item:** OEMA and ODH representatives on the TAC, John Wills and David Lipp, volunteered to present an overview of the ODH/OEMA current capability at the next TAC meeting.

Greg Locher reminded all TAC members that regional inclusiveness is a concern. Some regions/organizations are not represented at the TAC meetings due to a lack of attendance. Regional coordinators need to look at the TAC roster and update. If members have been attending, they need to be contacted and asked if they wish to continue participating. If not, new members from the region/organization should be recruited to attend the TAC meetings. Greg Locher will update the TAC roster and send to all members. **Action Item.**

Committee voted to cancel the December 19, 2006 meeting. **The next scheduled meeting is January 16, 2007 @ OEMA, RM 104, @ 10:00 AM**

ACTION ITEMS:

- ❑ Mel House to ask Ohio EMA Grants Division to determine if private industrial / non-public safety hazmat teams are eligible to receive Regional HSGP funds.
- ❑ Tom Beatty to send Greg Locher Ohio Fire Response System form to collect POC and team typing information. Greg Locher will send to TAC regional coordinators.
- ❑ TAC Regional Coordinators will contact each team within their region to obtain the POC information. TAC Regional Coordinators will then match and cross check information with the Ohio Fire Chief Response System Regional Coordinators for eventual entry into the database by the Ohio Fire Chief Response Plan County Coordinators.
- ❑ Mel House to assist Mark Vedder with first paragraph of the draft Verification Process Document.
- ❑ Tom Beatty to obtain the proper name for the Ohio Fire Chief Response Plan for consistency to Tim Flock for insertion into the Communication SOG.
- ❑ Tim Flock to insert changes recommended by the Communication TAC and approved by the Hazmat TAC into the Communication SOG and send to Jeff Branic/Sil Caggino.
- ❑ Mel House to distribute Communication SOG to other TAC's and EMAs after corrections are made by Tim Flock and Tom Beatty.
- ❑ Jeff Branic to bring Notification SOG forward for approval at next TAC meeting.
- ❑ John Wills and David Lipp (ODH) to prepare a briefing concerning ODH's radiation response capability and present at the January TAC meeting.
- ❑ SOG Subcommittee to develop SOG that addresses what strategic objectives should be accomplished by on-scene IC when requesting mutual aid/regional response for hazmat incident.
- ❑ Greg Locher to update the TAC roster and send to all members.

FUTURE ACTION ITEMS:

- ❑ Regional Coordinators to contact members within their region that are not regularly attending TAC members
- ❑ Discussion of Regions/areas of response.
- ❑ Discussion on future regional/state build-out of hazmat capabilities.

