

Attendance:

Council Members:

Chief Jack McArthur, Yuma Fire Department

Chief William Robinson, Yuma Police Department

Sheriff Ralph Ogden (Proxy Leon Wilmot), Yuma County Sheriff's Office

Others present:

Lou Miranda, Yuma County Office of Emergency Management

Kim Eavenson, Yuma County Office of Emergency Management

Gretchen Thomas, Yuma County Sheriff's Office

Eliseo Rivera, YPG

Lt. Larry Parks, AZ DPS District 1

Joy Orsini, US Bureau of Reclamation

Danny Culley, Arizona Western College

Major Ken Hewitt, Arizona Department of Corrections

Lt. Steve Suho, Yuma Police Department

Rose Sanders, AZ Department of Corrections

Michele Sundwall, AZ Department of Corrections

Regina Hudson, AZ Department of Corrections

Lt. James Hummer, AZ Department of Corrections

Lt. John Ullery, AZ Department of Corrections

Captain Mark Stroh, Yuma Fire Department

Dylan Mattina, Arizona western College

Michelle Smith, Yuma County Health Department

Dan Mitchell, Arizona Western College

Earl Hamilton, MCAS Yuma

Charles Richardson, MCAS Yuma County Sheriff's Office

The Emergency Management Advisory Council Chairman Chief McArthur opened the EMAC meeting at 2:05 pm in room 142 at One City Plaza, Yuma AZ.

**Emergency Management in Yuma County.**

## **Item 1a, Public Meeting Notice**

Posted in accordance to Arizona revised statutes.

## **Item 1b, Minutes.**

The minutes of the May 10, 2007 EMAC meeting were reviewed and approved with no objections.

## **Item 1c, Office of Emergency Management.**

Lou Miranda updated the council on projects conducted by the Emergency Management Office. He highlighted information from the May SITREP. Some of the highlighted items were:

**Yuma County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Lou briefed the council on the multi-jurisdictional planning team held on May 11, 2007. The presentation provided updates to established goals and objectives. A written report will be drafted and the status of the plan will be presented to the Board of Supervisors and also included into the Yuma County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**NIMS Assessment:** Emergency Management has begun the process of identifying NIMS compliance requirements for all Yuma County stakeholders. New system requirements were handed out to attendees of the EMAC meeting and are available to anyone else who would like to receive a copy from either Lou Miranda or Kim Eavenson.

- **Emergency Management Accreditation Program:** The State of Arizona is one of only twelve accredited states, and we are seeking re-certification. This process should begin in approximately 2009, but there are 58 accreditation standards which evaluate a jurisdiction's emergency preparedness and response against national standards, including benchmarking progress which is included as part of this process, so preparation must begin now.

**Fire District Stakeholder Meeting:** Lou Miranda has been attending meetings with Foothills residents who are attempting to form a fire district. The next scheduled meeting is tonight, June 13<sup>th</sup>. The agenda includes discussion of an implementation plan as well as the multi hazard mitigation plan.

- **Safe Schools Planning Team:** Several team members including Lou Miranda, Mike Erfert and Jeff Denman evaluated two schools yesterday in School District One. This assessment involved taking a look at their preparedness and emergency response plan along with other safety factors. The team will continue working with School District One to ensure that they are prepared for any eventualities.

**Upcoming Meetings and Trainings:** Lou Miranda will be meeting with the technical advisory committee meeting of the Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization on June 14, 2007.

**Public Information Officer training on June 28, 2007 at County Public Works.** This training is being sponsored by the Office of Emergency Management and anyone who wishes to attend or would like additional information regarding the training should contact the County Emergency Management office for additional information.

**TOPOFF Four:** Arizona will be participating in the exercise which will be held October 16th through 19th in Phoenix. Lou is looking for additional participants to serve as controllers, evaluators or observers. He will have more detailed information at future meetings.

### **Item 1d, Grants.**

Council members reviewed the grant funding report prepared by Kim Eavenson on June 11, 2007.

Kim Eavenson updated the council on the County Emergency Management Grants. The update included the creation of an Emergency Management Other grants account that was approved by the County Board of Supervisors and budget and spending authority on our FFY06 grants. Kim also updated the council on the Emergency Operations Center grant. The Office of emergency management has encumbered \$49,999.99 of the \$150,000 grant by ordering laptop computers for the Emergency Operations Center.

Chief McArthur asked if Emergency Management was pursuing the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program now that funds are available to undeclared counties. Kim advised him that Emergency Management had not been working on the HMGP and suggested that they meet with the City and discuss a game plan for applying for this grant.

### **Item 1e, Training and NIMS requirements**

Lou Miranda advised the council, stakeholders and public attending to view the NIMS implementation information included in the EMAC packet. Lou reviewed the guidelines with everyone and stated that he feels that Yuma County will be able to sustain our level of NIMS compliance through September 07. Lou did receive an email from the state of Arizona that stated ICS 300 and ICS 400 level classes are not required for the 2007 federal Fiscal grant year. Also, for FFY'06 the IS 300 and IS 400 are not a tier 1 requirement but they will be.

Lou also advised the council and stakeholders that the Emergency Management office has requested all county agencies go through their staff and determine who needs the IS 300 and 400 classes. Please report these figures back to the Emergency

Management office so we can make arrangements for instructors for these courses to be taught here in Yuma. Currently there is only one instructor for Yuma County.

#### **Item 1f, Appointment of a South County Representative and a Member at Large**

EMAC Chairman, Jack McArthur asked for nominations of a South County representative. Major Wilmot, representing Sheriff Ogden with a formal proxy nominated Somerton-Cocopah Fire Chief Paul DeAnda. The nomination was seconded by Police Chief Robby Robinson with all in favor. There were no nominations at this time for a member-at-large. Chairman McArthur asked that nominations for the member-at-large be made at the next EMAC meeting.

#### **Item 1g, EMAC bylaws.**

Draft copies of the EMAC bylaws were included in the EMAC meeting packet. EMAC members and stakeholders were asked to review the bylaws and make recommendations on them to either himself or Chief McArthur by submitting their comments with an email. Further discussion and possible action of the EMAC bylaws will occur at the next EMAC meeting.

#### **Arizona's Regionalization Plan**

The Regional Advisory Council is meeting tomorrow, June 14, 2007 in Tucson. The grant initiatives for Yuma County have gone to the state and are now at the federal level awaiting review. The feds are behind schedule and it was anticipated at the last meeting there would be some word on the grant allocations for FFY'07 at this upcoming meeting but it appears that will be delayed.

#### **Interoperability**

Greg Wilkinson updated the council on the Yuma Regional Communications System. He reported that the City of Yuma Fire and Police have cut over to the new system and DCD, Public Works along with several other agencies will be cutting over soon. He also reported that user agreements for the new communications system have been sent out to the various agencies and some of the user agreements are currently in place.

#### **4. Emergency Planning Committee, CERT and CCC**

Item 4a: **LEPC** – Ellen Baxter reported on the Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting that met earlier on Wednesday June 13, 2007 in room 190 at City Hall from 10:00 am to 10:45 am. There were various reports from emergency management as well as the chairman of the LEPC. Other business included the creation of a committee to review the current Emergency Response Plan for Yuma. The committee also discussed concerns of hazardous cargo routes in the Yuma area because interest has

been expressed by various members of the LEPC and industry representatives in forming a sub-committee to establish hazardous cargo routes in the Yuma area. The LEPC decided that since this involves transportation and planning it should go through the technical advisory committee of the YMPO rather than forming another sub-committee.

4b: **CCC and CERT** – Captain Mark Stroh with the City of Yuma Fire Department reported on Citizens Corps Council (CCC) and CERT. He reported that CCC held a meeting last month and Donna Rico was appointed interim chairman. They are in the process of having their articles of incorporation and 501(c) 3 status created. Mark's wife is working with the CCC to get this done. He reported that Citizens Corps Council continues pushing forward to become a stand alone entity away from the City of Yuma and Yuma County.

He also reported that Kofa High School is starting a teen CERT program and Arizona Western College will start handling continuing education credits for CERT. Michelle Smith with Yuma County Health Services reported that they may be able to request to have funds redirected to fund three additional CERT classes in South and East County

4c: Yuma Area Ammonia Safety Days – No business to report at this time.

## 5. **Open Discussion**

Next meeting date is July 18th at 1400 hours.

### **Call to the Public**

Ken Hewitt, Chief of Security for Arizona State Prison Complex-Yuma introduced himself to the EMAC council and attending stakeholders and asked if his associates could introduce themselves and brief the committee on what services they have to offer that we can incorporate into our Emergency Operations Plan. Chairman McArthur graciously accepted the offer.

The team members included:

Rose Sanders, she explained that they can offer inmate labor to include but not limited to the making of sandbags and clearing of debris and a trained wild land fire crew. She also added that they are interested in community based betterment programs for their prisoner population to assist them in their transition back into the general population upon their release.

Michele Sundwall, she reported on their crisis negotiator team that has been trained by the FBI and is expanding to include seven members. They would like to network with other agencies negotiating teams.

Regina Hudson, she reported on their CERT team. They are interested in expanding their CERT training involving children. She added that their CERT leader is out of Tucson.

James Hummer is the tactical team leader and reported that they have a thirty man team and they can respond to an incident in less than one hour.

John Ullery is the assistant chase team leader. They have two hounds available for search and rescue missions and three K-9's.

**Conclusions:**

The motion to adjourn was made by Chief Robby Robinson seconded by Sheriff Ogden (Leon Wilmot). The meeting was adjourned at 1435 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

    /s/ Kimberly Eavenson

Distribution to:

Sheriff Ralph Ogden, Yuma County Sheriff's Office  
Chief William D. Robinson, Yuma Police Department  
Chief Jack McArthur, Yuma Fire Department  
Lou Miranda, Yuma County Emergency Management Director  
Robert Pickels, Acting County Administrator  
Mark Watson, City Administrator  
Bob Stull, Assistant City Administrator  
Greg Wilkinson, Member of Regional Council  
USBR representatives  
All county stakeholders  
Staff members

Guests