

Minutes of the Meeting
Emergency Management Advisory Council
Yuma County Public Works
4343 E Avenue 5 ½ E
20 March 2007
1400 hours

Attendance:

Council Members:

Chief Jack McArthur, Yuma Fire Department
Lou Miranda, Interim Yuma County Emergency Management Director
Chief William Robinson, Yuma Police Department
Sheriff Ogden, Yuma County Sheriff's Office

Others present:

Kim Eavenson, Yuma County Office of Emergency Management
Major Wilmot, Yuma County Sheriff's Office
Michelle Smith, Yuma County Health Department
Lt. Darren Simmons, Yuma County Sheriff's Office
Chief Paul DeAnda, Somerton-Cocopah Fire Department
Lt. Steve Suho, City of Yuma Police Department
Captain Mark Stroh, Yuma Fire Department
Captain Dustin Fields, Yuma Fire Department
Earl Hamilton, MCAS-Yuma
Gretchen Thomas, Yuma County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Ogden opened the meeting at 1406 hours at the Yuma County Public Works Office.

1. Emergency Management in Yuma County.

Item 1a, Notice and 1b, Minutes.

The public notice was posted in accordance with state statutes.

The minutes of the September 19, 2006 EMAC meeting were reviewed and approved with no objections.

Item 1c, Office of Emergency Management.

Lou Miranda reported that since being named the interim Director of Emergency Management the office has completed the following items:

- Adopted a new vision statement and plan
- Held a Disaster Planning Seminar for Special Needs Facility Operators: This was a hands-on community training for understanding disaster planning.

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- Conducted a 3 hour Pandemic Flu TTX with AEA Credit Union
- Met with the Commanding Officer and staff of YPG
- Met with Yuma Area Safety Council
- Briefed the Mesa Del Sol Homeowners Association with Lt. Simmons on the status of the Emergency Management office.
- Met with YUHSD#1 to begin a risk and vulnerability assessment and developing an Emergency Operations Plan
- Implemented first steps of purchasing process for the EOC enhancement project, purchasing to begin by end of March.
- Coordinated with the City of Yuma on purchasing equipment that will fit their needs at the alternate EOC.
- Developing a COOP plan involving the County Directors
- Rewriting the Emergency Operations Plans, it is ½ way completed, anticipate having it completed in the next 3 weeks
- Presented a multi-jurisdictional plan to the BOS
- Lou attended hospital emergency management response to terrorism for mass casualty incidents in Anniston, AL and is now the only trainer in Yuma County.

Item 1d, Grants.

Council members reviewed the grant funding reports as prepared by the City of Yuma accounting staff and Yuma County Emergency Management Office for the period ending February 28, 2007.

Kim Eavenson updated the council on the Emergency Operations Center enhancement grant and advised the council that preparations were being made to begin ordering IT equipment the week of March 26, 2007.

The council was also advised that the FFY'06 grant monies final award letter was received but Emergency Management has not gone before the Board of Supervisors to accept the award and request budget and spending authority.

Chief McArthur advised the other council members that Emergency Management is seeking Hazard Mitigation Grant Funds to assist the Humane Society with the relocation of their existing facility out of the current flood zone. We will not be applying for this grant year but are preparing for the next grant year and will be asking for approximately \$3 million.

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The Yuma County Sheriff's Office reported that they will be receiving \$322,745 from Border Patrol for radios through Operation Stone Garden.

Item 1e, Exercises

May 8, 2007 the Southern Region Exercise is scheduled to occur in Yuma at the MLK center located at 300 S.13th Avenue from 0900-1400 hours. Invitations were mailed out to all elected officials and one will be going out to our stakeholders shortly.

2. Arizona's Regionalization Plan

No new business.

3. Interoperability

The council was updated on the new system prior to the meeting via email by Greg Wilkinson.

Emergency Planning Committee, CERT and CCC

Item 4a: LEPC – Next meeting is Wednesday April 11, 2007 in room 190 at City Hall from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Captain Dustin Fields reported on the meetings that were held on 10/05/06, 12/07/06 and 2/14/07. During the December 7, 2006 meeting a presentation was made by Justin Boeson, Environmental Scientist from AMEC Earth and Environmental on the Hazardous Material Commodity Flow Study that was recently completed by his company for the Arizona Emergency response Commission.

There was no quorum for the LEPC meeting on 2/14/07.

Fields also noted that the YMPO (Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization) recently spoke to Captain Mark Stroh concerning the HazMat study and pointed out that the study did not have Hazardous cargo routes in Yuma County listed in the report. Captain Fields will be contacting the AMEC company to have those included in the report.

4b: CCC and CERT – The last CERT class that was held in January had 20 people who attended, most of whom were staff from the Department of Corrections. They have expressed interest in additional training and there is still interest in the community for CERT.

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Chief McArthur added that funding for CERT will be coming from the City of Yuma budget as grant monies have dried up. He also noted that future funding for CERT can happen two different ways until more grant monies are received either by instructors volunteering to teach or include CERT in the budget.

4c: Yuma Area Ammonia Safety Days – Captain Dustin Fields reported that the event was a success with 250 attendees. The next YAASD meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2007 to begin preparations for the next Safety Days scheduled for February 14, 2008.

5. Open Discussion

There was discussion on the EMAC bylaws and Chief McArthur along with Lou Miranda will begin drafting the bylaws for EMAC. It was determined by the council that EMAC was a useful group and has accomplished many things and should continue to act as an oversight committee to focus on resources and what is really important for Yuma County. All members agreed that perhaps the committee should meet quarterly instead of monthly and that a new member representing South County should be appointed.

Sheriff Ogden proposed that Chief Jack McArthur be the new Chairman of EMAC and requested this item be placed on the agenda for 17 April 2007.

Next EMAC meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2007 at 1400 hours at Yuma County Public Works, 4343 E. Avenue 5 ½ E.

6. Call to the Public

Michelle Smith of the Yuma County Health Department advised the council that there will be a Western Region Exercise held on May 3, 2007 in Parker. She also informed the council that Yuma County Health Department has successfully formed a Medical Reserve group and their first meeting will be on Monday March 26th.

There meeting was adjourned at 1505 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

 /s/ Kimberly Eavenson

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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
David Garcia, County Administrator
Mark Watson, City Administrator
Bob Stull, Assistant City Administrator
Greg Wilkinson, Chairman of the Southern Region
Delete Nelson USBR representatives
All county stakeholders
Staff members