



## NORTHEAST CENTRAL OHIO REGION 5 Steering Committee Meeting February 22, 2007

*Attendees:* Mike Hildreth, MedCentral Mansfield/Shelby; Ricki Gerber, Wadsworth-Rittman Hospital; David Randall, MORC Health Dept.; Mary Derr, Mansfield-Ontario-Richland Co. HD; Nancy O'Diam, Mansfield-Ontario-Richland Co. HD; Jim Smith, Shelby City Health Dept.; Sandy Swann, TCHD; Selene Layton, TCHD; Terry Merrick, GCHD; Rita Spahlinger, TCHD; Debbie Mokash, TCHD; Greg Smith, Medina Hospital; Christine Snow, Lodi; Vicki Rosser, Samaritan; AC Rick Anderson, Ashland Fire; Ray Herbst, Ashland County City Health Dept; Lori Josefczyk, Dunlap Memorial Hospital; Laurie Weaver, Wooster Comm. Hosp.; Vaughn Anderson, Holmes County; Susan Varnes, Wayne County Health Dept.; Al Sanders, Ashland Co-Ci Health Dept.; Don Waldron, Trumbull Co LEPC/HazMat; Clyde McKenzie, Ohio Fire Chiefs; Jim Williams, Kent Fire; Tim Gemind, Bath Fire; Kathy Coleman, Summit Co. Health District; Linda Beil, Trumbull EMA; Jeff Funai, Barberton Citizens Hospital; Gary Melcor, Holmes Co. EMA; Scott Balder, Holmes Co. Dist 1 Fire; Annette Petranic, Summit County EMA; Buck Adams, Medina County EMA; John Wise, Wayne Co. EMA; Steven Bosso, Chief, Ravenna Township Fire; John Mason, Portage Co. OHS/EMA; Mark Terzel, Intern, EMA/Fire; Joel Decker, Carroll County EMA; Tom Cottis, Carroll County EMA; Patty Levengood, Tuscarawas EMA; Darci Knack, Tuscarawas Co. EMA; Brooks Ross, Dover Fire Dept.; Scott McKibben, Canton Twp. FD; Vince Harris, Greentown FD; John Sabo, Plain Twp. FD; Howard Hunt, Summa/Cuyahoga Falls General Hospital; Bruce Shade, RMRS-NECO; Amy Ascani, Stark Co. HD; David Nunley, Summit Co. HD; Sarah Metzger, NECO Hospitals; Don McDonald, Stark Co. LEPC; Willie Brantingham, Columbiana County LEPC; Michael Urick, Canton Fire Dept.; Richard Peterson, Nimishillen Fire Dept/Stark County Fire Chiefs Assoc.; Tom Burgasser, Massillon Fire Dept.; John Ferlito, Kent City Health; DuWayne Porter, Portage Co. Health; Kelly Engelhart, Portage County Health Dept.; Robert Walker, Robinson Memorial Hospital; Art Olah, Lodi Comm. Hosp.; Melanie Campbell, Carroll Co. Health; Dianne Possage, Columbiana Co. HD; Suzanne Albury, Tusc. Co. HD; Joan Robis, New Philadelphia City HD; Judy Tornabene, Tusc. Co. HD; Leanne Beavers, Barberton Health District; John Vincent Sr., Barberton Health District; Janet Brown, Twin City Hospital; Amy Risinger, East Liverpool City Hospital; Deanna Dannen, Salem Community Hospital; Peter Christ, Mercy Medical Center; Jim McGeehen, Alliance Comm. Hosp., Larry Knight, Affinity Medical Center/Doctors Campus and Massillon Campus; Greg Smith, Medina Hospital; David Rothel, Union Hospital; Susan Kovach, Mahoning Co. BOH; Howard Hunt, Summa/Cuyahoga Falls General; Deb W\_\_\_, Red Cross; Terry Merrick, Girard City HD; Rita Spahlinger, Trumbull Co. Health Dept.; Cathy S\_\_\_, Northside Med Center; Deb Yauman, Northside Med Center; Lori Sylvester, Trumbull Hosp.; Al Sanders, Ashland Co-Ci HD; Joseph Diorio, Mahoning County; Laurie Weaver, Wooster Comm Hosp.; Margo Erme, Akron Health Dept; Berni Martin, Summa/ACH; K\_\_\_ Paston, Summa/ACH; Sara Stutzman, Holmes-Pomerene Hosp.; Scott Martin, Akron General; Bob Pattison, Canton City HD; Kim Bergert, Children's; Danil Raub, Medina Co. HD; Larry Knight, Affinity Medical Center/Doctors and Massillon; Justin Bechtel, Medina Co. Health Dept.; Tom Decker, Medina Co. Health Dept.

**Meeting was called to order** by Chair John Sabo at 11:12am.

**Motion to approve the minutes** from the December 2006 meeting was made by Bob Pattison, seconded by Larry Knight. Unanimous approval.

### Exercise Status Update

Bruce Shade, Sarah Metzger and David Nunley presented an overview of the functional pandemic flu exercise held on January 25. Nine counties and 34 agencies participated. The exercise was reportedly a marked improvement over previous exercises. The hot wash was conducted immediately afterwards via conference call and an after-action was conducted a week later. David will be sending the after-action report to the region once it's completed. Identified issues included:

- Communication –
  - Operability of the phones/MARCS radios
  - Importance of redundancy in communication systems and the need to know in what order the communication systems will be used
  - Need a frequency matrix to know who can communicate on what
  - Blast faxing not effective
  - Internal communication needs to be improved so that players working at their desks receive updates, etc.
- The Fire Service was an excellent asset to use for expertise in ICS and communication.
- Discussion held about the formation of a regional JIC but there is no mechanism in place to do it.
- Having hospital liaisons in the EOCs was beneficial.
- Having EMAs participate in the ODH conference call would be helpful
- Pre-exercise conference calls worked very well
- Unclear what role ODH will take in an event
- Practical ICS training essential for all disciplines
- Hospitals need to be on board with OPHCS.
- Need more practice among agencies

### **Work Group Member Solicitation**

Six of the new work groups discussed at the December meeting have been implemented: NIMS; PIO; Resource Management; Communications; Mass Care/Sheltering; and MRC. The workgroups will be meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at the Akron Regional Hospital Association. Members were encouraged to sign up to participate in the work groups and to share the information with their coworkers. It was stressed that these groups are not intended to be ongoing; they will be disbanded once the work of the group is completed.

### **Vice Chair Reports**

**EMA** – Continuing to work on networking and interacting with all disciplines.

**Public Health** – Melanie Campbell reported that the Public Health workgroups are being restructured; there are now 10 functional work groups. David Nunley is working on getting another ICS300 training together for the region. Regional Epidemiology drill was discussed.

**Hospitals** – Kim Berger reported that hospitals are focusing now on training. RFPs for an assessment of the region's preparedness and training for the next 3 years were sent out this week.

**Law Enforcement** – No report.

**Fire/EMS** – John Sabo announced that there will be a statewide drill on March 8 in Columbus. It will be a full scale exercise testing the Emergency Response Plan. Our region will not be involved, but the 10 counties contiguous to Franklin County will be participating. Thirty fire engines, thirty EMS vehicles, thirteen law enforcement agencies, many federal agencies and observers will be coming from all 50 states to observe Ohio's Emergency Response Plan.

### **Other**

John Sabo announced that Wayne Johnson has returned from overseas and will be back to work on March 1. It is expected that he will complete his elected term as Chair of the Steering Committee.

David Nunley announced that a workshop entitled Children in Disasters will be held on March 8 at NEOUCOM; flyers are available in the vestibule.

**Motion to adjourn** was made by Bruce Shade, seconded by Kim Berger.