

SERC All Hazards Planning Committee  
March 17, 2009, Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Call to order was conducted at 10:05. Those present for the meeting at the U.S. Federal Building Annex, FEMA Alaska Area Office, Anchorage, AK were:

Ted Smith, DHSS  
George Mayberry, DHSS  
David Kang, DMVA  
Brian Fisher, DMVA  
Kim Pontbriand, DMVA  
Andy Jones, DMVA  
Lisa Witzleben, DMVA  
Mark Roberts, DMVA  
Robert Purcell, FEMA  
Ramona VanCleve, FEMA

Those attending via teleconference were:

Pete Petram, ANTHC  
Duane Dvorak, Kodiak Island Borough  
Warren Cummings, Alaska Fire Chiefs Association  
Alan Wien, DEC  
Pat Marcham, FEMA  
Kattaryna Stiles, Municipality of Anchorage

II. Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and introductions were done by members attending the meeting.

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

David asked for a motion for comments or approval of the January 20, 2009 meeting minutes. No comments were provided for discussion. **Kattaryna Stiles motioned for previous meeting minutes approval; Lisa Witzleben seconded.** Duane Dvorak commented that his name was misspelled throughout the minutes. David Kang will fix the names. **No further discussion followed, minutes were approved.**

IV. Consent Agenda

Agenda approval for March 17, 2009 was entertained by David Kang. **Kattaryna Stiles motioned and Lisa Witzleben seconded. No objection was made by the committee members. Agenda was passed without comment.**

V. DHS&EM Update

David Kang provided a brief synopsis of current events impacting DHS&EM operations within the near future. As of this meeting, there are no major events ongoing. DHS&EM has been monitoring the possible eruption of Mount Redoubt.

Mt. Redoubt was in the Orange/Watch status which potentially could impact the Municipality of Anchorage as well as the Kenai Peninsula Borough for potential ash fall. Although the volcano has not erupted, preparations were made to impacted communities, which benefit individuals, communities, and private industry in the event of an eruption. January through March are the traditional months when Alaskan communities are potentially exposed to long periods of extreme cold weather and severe storms. Communities impacted were Aleutian/Pribilofs, Alaska Peninsula, and Western Alaska; no requests for State assistance have been received.

Preparations are beginning for the annual River Watch operations. The Division is in the process of updating the annual Spring Breakup/Flooding Guide for communities. It will be made available via our website and distributed to riverine communities and school districts. For the second year the Division will be standing up the SECC during River Watch operations, both to support the deployed teams and to exercise internal SECC operations. The River Watch program usually runs early to mid or late May. The NRCS/NWS Spring Flood Outlook Report and briefings usually take place in the middle of April. The Outlook report is the initial indication of the flood potential based on basin snow depth, ice depth, and long-term weather modeling.

## VI. Old Business

### a. Current Plans for Review

- i. Valdez EOP. Several committee members commented that the Valdez EOP was too large. Kim Pontbriand stated that Valdez was in the process of refining their plan; one aspect was to shorten it. Duane Dvorak would like to see the picture on the cover to be identified. Brian Fisher answered that the picture was of Keystone Canyon.
- ii. Skagway EOP. No comments were made for the Skagway EOP.
- iii. Air Space Coordination. No comments were made for the Air Space Coordination plan.

David would like to remind the committee members that they should provide the Chair written comments for the plans that are submitted to the committee. The preferred method is through an e-mail submission. Written comments not only help the community but it helps with the information sharing amongst the committee members. The value added for the committee is that best practices and lessons learned are shared.

- b. COOP/COG Activity. There have been multiple on-going COOP and COG initiatives during the past two months. DHS&EM just completed the vendor selection for a contractor to complete the Division's COOP plan. Ted Smith wanted clarification if this plan was only for the DHS&EM. Brian Fisher stated it was. Brian continued that the Statewide COOP working group has been meeting regularly and that the next one is scheduled for March 26, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. June Usou from FEMA Region X will be joining the workgroup to connect the State and Region X activities. David Kang summarized that National COOP

Conference activities revolved around introducing how COOP activities relate to existing DHS/FEMA initiatives. Presentations of vital records, resource typing, funding, target capabilities, pandemic influenza, and critical infrastructure were done within the context of COOP. The conference is projected to occur annually as part of the federal COOP push. DHS&EM will also present COOP training at the March Alaska Partnership for Infrastructure Protection meeting. Additional training is planned with the University of Maryland in Anchorage for May 13-15, 2009. This will be the third training held by University of Maryland, the other past training was held at Fairbanks and Juneau. Lastly, DHS&EM has put up COOP planning templates on the DHS&EM website for communities, business, and other agencies. The templates can be found on [www.ready.alaska.gov](http://www.ready.alaska.gov).

- c. Gap Analysis. The Alaska Gap Analysis Worksheets have been tailored from the federal gap analysis initiative. The purpose of the gap analysis is to identify a community's present capabilities and to understand more clearly what immediate needs maybe requested during the response and recovery of an event. The Emergency Management Planning Guide (EMPG) grant communities are required to complete the Alaska Gap Analysis Worksheets. These particular communities have until the termination of the third quarter to complete their worksheets. Once complete, DHS&EM will begin working along with the communities to begin resource typing the present capabilities defined by the community. If there are any concerns or questions regarding the Alaska Gap Analysis and/or resource typing, questions can be directed to Lisa Witzleben.
- d. APIP: Alaska Partnership for Infrastructure Protection is continuing to grow in member participation via monthly meetings and Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) information sharing and information management. An exercise regarding Mount Redoubt allowed critical infrastructures and organizations to detail limitations that maybe enacted if Mount Redoubt erupts and ash fall of at least minor amounts begins
- e. Mitigation Update. HMGP applications. PDM grants. NRCS. Hazard Mitigation plans. Tsunami/Earthquake outreach. Tsunami test. 5 year upgrade of Tsunami warning. 2010 Exercise is earthquake focused.

## VII. New Business

- i. Plans Review. No new plans have been submitted to DHS&EM for review during this review cycle.
- ii. Planning Topics
  - 1. PDDA. During the recent SERC AHPR committee meeting Casey Cook from DHS&EM provided the following regarding PDDA progress over the last two months: Discussions have occurred at the state level regarding program liability, and which SOA department may cover that. Discussions have also occurred at the state level regarding statues/statutory authority for the program,

and how to implement the program into existing departments, as well as making contact with the MOA to discern how they have solved the problem of authority to begin PDDA in the Municipality of Anchorage. Two SOA employees have recently attended and become certified in PDDA, and are in the process of evaluating the training, (regarding what may need to be added or removed), both for SOA employees, as well as private PDDA responders. Discussions have begun to develop SOP's for the SECC/OPS at the SOA, as the PDDA program will likely be headed up by this section of the division while being supported by the training department in the DHS&EM. Contacts have been made with AFCA and AFD to return to active participation on the USAR subcommittee and getting that committee staffed and going again. Claude Denver will be heading up this subcommittee.

2. CI/KR Update. Interest and activity in the Automated Critical Asset Management System has increased since the last SERC AHPR Committee meetings. The protected database is being populated by DHS&EM as well as private sector staff. Security Vulnerability Assessments are being planned for Mat-Su borough for the upcoming months.
3. TCL Update. David is planning a half day workshop that would provide additional training opportunities for Committee members on some of the larger federal guidance and initiatives. Presentations for NIMS, NRF, TCL, are currently planned for now.
4. Homeland Security Strategy Update. The Division has published an updated Homeland Security Strategy that will provide guidance on how funding streams will be allocated. The goal for the revision is to better align the multiple funding streams that DHS&EM receives from different funding sources.

#### VIII. Other Reports

No report outs were made by the Committee members.

#### IX. Comments

No comments were made by the Committee members.

#### X. Next Meeting

David proposed that the next meeting be 10:00 a.m. May 12th in Anchorage. The meeting will be held at the U.S. Federal Building Annex, FEMA Alaska Area Office.

XI. Adjournment

David entertained a motion to adjourn. **Brian Fisher motioned, Andy Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.** The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.