



Meeting Minutes

Meeting Description: IEMAC Spring Meeting 2015

Report Date: July 24, 2015

Location: Charlottetown, PEI, Canada

Meeting Begin Date: June 2, 2015

Meeting End Date: June 3, 2015

Present: See Attached Attendees List

Regrets: Guy Laroche (QC); Andrew Lathem (NS); Louis Morneau (QC); Perry Plummer (NH); Kurt Schwartz (MA); Tara Ayotte (ME)

Invited Guests: Mark Gillan, Emergency Solutions International

- 1.0 Proxies:** Terry Lynn Slaunwhite for Andy Lathem (NS); Jean-Thomas Bilodeau-Fortin for Louis Morneau (QC); Cynthia Tangney for William Hackett (CT); Jennifer Harper for Perry Plummer (NH).
- 2.0 Approval of Minutes:** Fall 2014 (MA) minutes were approved – Vermont moved to approve, Nova Scotia seconded; motion carried. Final document will be translated and posted to the IEMG website.
- 3.0 Definitions & Acronyms:** To be reviewed annually.
- 4.0 Legal Status of IEMG:** All 11 jurisdictions are officially full members of the IEMG.
- 5.0 Administrative Support Position (Secretariat):** No changes as the State of Maine will continue to hold this position.
- 6.0 Website:** Web address is www.iemg-gigu-web.org. The website continues to be utilized as a central depository for documents. Everyone is encouraged to view the website. Member only section contains nonpublic information. Presentations from this meeting will be posted in the member only section of the site.
- 7.0 Report from Each Jurisdiction:** Each Jurisdiction Director gave a summary of what has been going on in their jurisdiction with staffing, lead changes, financial matters, disasters, and upcoming exercises/events. Key comments listed below:

NB –Director MacCallum reported that New Brunswick has had an average year; Had an average spring with no significant flooding; Two train derailments occurred this spring, largely due to aging infrastructure; NB has had no Provincial Declarations of State of Emergency, however, did have two declarations of States of Local Emergency in Perth-Andover (flood threat) and Saint John (heavy snowfall event); NB is training heavily for Exercise INTREPID 2015, which will be conducted in November, with emphasis on communities exercising their emergency plans; NB attended an exercise in Maine with MEMA re: dam failure; Communities participation and education in community preparedness and resiliency; NB EMO departmentally recognized for exemplary services during a year laden with emergency operations; Staffing is stable.

approved 12.1.15



NS – Terry Lynn Slaunwhite (proxy) reported the province had six (6) activations largely due to weather events, in support of a municipality with a major dam leak, and for suspicious package; A weather event in December 2014 led to Disaster Financial Assistance claims; NS participated in a bridge exercise in Halifax/Dartmouth as the bridge will be closed for road work starting in August 2015 and ongoing for 18 months; Participation in a trucking event exercise in April; Ops centre undergoing review; Emergency Communications course updated/enhanced to reflect social media and other new means of communications; The NS 911 system continues to move forward and have implemented province-wide capabilities for texting 9-1-1, new video released to address updates with social media and the way the public is reaching out to NS 911; Terry-Lynn noted that the jurisdiction report sheets that Tara distributed are being used.

QC – Jean-Thomas Bilodeau-Fortin (proxy) reported that since December the provincial EOC had activated twice due to a diesel spill in water in Longueuil, and a partial activation in March due to a major chemical leak in Varennes, near Montreal, which released large plumes of toxic smoke; Spring flooding in the province was a non-event with no issues; Conducted flooding exercise with Eastern portion of the province in the spring; Weekly training exercises being conducted at their EOC over the next few months, and also a HazMat field training exercise and a hurricane training exercise; Public report released following the big fire in Bay Verte in 2013 concluding that the volunteer firefighters are not adequately trained for an event of that magnitude; The national alerting system test was conducted and was less than successful.

PEI – Director Campbell reported that they a heavy rainfall event in December causing major damages including to all primary infrastructure; Heavy snowfall events in January, hitting record snowfall in Charlottetown; no declarations of states of local emergency; Exercises and training focus on business continuity management; ICS and Public Information courses conducted; Pilot testing of the mobile communications radio systems and going live in November 2015; PEI has a new Premier who is also the PEI Department of Public Safety's Minister, Wade MacLachlan; EMO has additional staff to augment their team.

VT – Director Flynn reported that they activated their EOC for significant December 2014 weather event and in January 2015 due to snow event causing significant damage to electrical infrastructure; In February, Vermont National Guard responded to a EMAC request for assistance from the City of Boston, MA; In November 2014, Vermont had a E911 system collapse when Fibre Ops lines were severed during a wind event; Issues with sub-zero weather, deep frost and frozen pipes from January to March which caused much public sector damage; Wildland fire concerns stemmed state-wide fire ban in May, involving 300+ acres to date; Conducted Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station Hostile Action Based TTX (table top exercise) in January with exercises in March and April; Planning underway with the Vermont National Guard for Vigilant Guard '15 in July 2016; Deputy Director Ross Nagy retired in April and Robert Schell was appointed.

RI – Director Gaynor reported that Rhode Island had a heavy snowfall event on 25 January, with state and local road closures for 72 hours, and snow and cold temperature records in February; Hurricane season started June 1 to 30 November, hurricane exercises will be conducted throughout the season; Cyber security initiative implemented, a series of cyber security TTX's (table top exercises) will be conducted; Train, hazmat, first responder training on-going; ICS training on-going; Radio interoperable system being used and maintained; New government in place, new RIEMA director, Peter Gaynor.

NH – Assistant Director Harper (proxy) reported that Perry Plummer sends his regrets; Snow events in January and February, EOC activated twice; Presidential Disaster Declaration for blizzard in March for winter blizzards; Training with workshops and exercises, and earthquake drills in March and May; EM staff trained in EOC Operations and Planning course; ICS training for State Troopers; Active shooter exercises



and training took place; NH involved in First Net project, presentation on broadband, communications on June 9; new house and senate leadership; School Preparedness program with security assessments completed on 157 of 480 schools; Security Operations Center (SOC) is monitoring Department of Safety's network re: cyber security, with mandatory staff cyber security training being implemented; State Notification system launched on 5 January and has an app with 15,000 followers to date; Planning under way for upcoming Bike Week, Nascar; No spring flooding issues; State under forest fire watch/alerts.

ME – Director Fitzgerald reported that winter presented with many blizzards during season; Declaration of States of Emergency for two blizzards and for fuel delivery drivers during difficult winter travel conditions; I-95 saw a 75+ car pileup resulting in coordinated response and EOC activation; Activation of Cyber Security Response team for a Denial of Service Attack on Maine.gov state website; Small wildfires statewide due to dry Spring conditions; Maine participating in PLGS INTREPID 2015 exercises with NB; Conducting cyber security exercises and participating in Cyber Storm 2016; NIMS/ICS training at county/local levels, PIO training, first responder training, specialized training for response to Bakken Crude rail incidents.

CT – Cindy Tangney (proxy) reported that the State of Connecticut received national accreditation through the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP); Activated the Emergency Operations Center twice for winter storms in January; CT received Presidential Major Disaster Declaration with Snow Assistance for four counties in January for winter storm; Radiological Exercise with state EOC activation on 17 June; Host Community exercise in New Haven on 25 June; 4th Annual Governors Emergency Planning and Preparedness exercise scheduled for October 2015, focusing on unified command and school security; Joint Field Office in Portsmouth offering ICS courses; Radiological Emergency Preparedness Planners course in November; President and Vice President of United States visited the State for VIP graduation ceremonies in the spring.

NL –Director McCormack reported that NL did not activate their EOC for winter storms they've had; Active monitoring of flooding situations; State of Emergency declared on a costal Labrador community due to loss of water from frozen water supply system and damaged pipes, they remain under State of Emergency at the time of this report; Active monitoring of suspicious packages incidents in May, information debriefing sessions for First Responders and government due to same; Major exercise in the fall, key players will be three levels of government, private sector and off-shore oil supply industry, based in St. John's; Validation of municipal plans on-going; Annual training exercise in May for Fire and Emergency Services; Provincial 911 was activated on 1 March 2015; Partnered with Coalition for Persons with Disabilities, developed a preparedness kit for First Responders and persons with disabilities; National Alert Ready broadcast-intrusive testing in early May; Provincial election will be held prior to next fall meeting.

MA – Not present.

8.0 Operations Manual: The May 2013 version is available at www.iemg-gigu-web.org. Bylaws indicate that the Operations Manual needs to be reviewed annually. Joe Flynn discussed an edit to Section 3.7 (pg. 15) at the Board of Directors meeting. Motion to edit the Operations Manual and the addition of "Approved June 2015" to the cover page was moved by ME and seconded by NB; motion was carried. Suggestion was brought up by Greg MacCallum that there be one standardized cross-border form created and used in the Operations Manual that will be used by both US and Canada border crossing agencies to facilitate movement of people across the border during an emergency incident. Once one is developed by both sides,



it will be included in the Manual. Operations manual will be updated by Secretariat and added to the website.

9.0 Strategic Planning: Discussion held on the existing strategic plan. Some suggestions moving forward included translation not being required for documents on the secure side of the website, Mission Ready Packages (MRP), and After Action Reports (AAR) for website. Follow-up during the fall meeting required.

10.0 Board of Directors:

11.0 Presentations and Discussions: All the presentations provided electronically from the fall 2014 meeting in Boston, MA, are now posted to the IEMG website.

IEMG Website was discussed, both the public and secure side. Dave McCormack went through the website and the information it contains including the operations manual, training and exercise calendar, and reports/minutes; the website provides a good source of information for those who are newly involved with IEMG/IEMAC. The secure side of the website offers the user access to forms, reports, presentations and jurisdiction contact sheets. Discussed what other information should be included on the website. Question asked on whether the reports and minutes should be made available on the secure side or the public side.

Mark Gillan presented update on Eastern Canada/New England Hazardous Material Project discussed at last fall's meeting in Massachusetts, including two presentations; discussion on the Hazmat Exercise between PEI and NS.

Dr. Adam Fenech, PEI Climate Research Lab, presented on Climate Impact Visualization Environment (CLIVE).

Presentations noted above, if provided electronically, will be made available on the IEMAC website.

12.0 Table Top Exercise: PEI hosted a Confederation Bridge Exercise including simulated events and situation reports. Its objective is to build on situational awareness, mutual aid, training and exercise coordination, and assets crossing the border. High level objectives included disruption of the International Bridge. Hotwash was completed after the exercise. AAR to be presented at Fall meeting.

13.0 Canadian Co-Chair: Greg MacCallum is now the new Canadian Co-Chair, motioned by Terry-Lynn Slaunwhite, seconded by Aaron Campbell; motion carried.

14.0 Fall 2015 Meeting Dates & Agenda Items

The Annual Fall Meeting will be held in Portland, Maine, on October 5-7, 2015. This is slated to be 2 full days with a Monday travel day.

15.0 Appendix

- Attendees list

approved 12.1.15



IEMAC SPRING CONFERENCE, CHARLOTTETOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
 JUNE 2 – JUNE 3, 2015
 LIST OF ATTENDEES

Last	First	Agency	Jurisdiction
Banner	Greg	US DHHS	
Belliveau	Mark	Public Safety/ Emergency Management	PEI
Bilodeau-Fortin	Jean Thomas	Ministere De La Securite Publique	QC
Campbell	Aaron	Public Safety/ Emergency Management	PEI
Cooling	Stacey	Emergency Measures Organization	NB
Djoukeng	Ronnie	FEMA	
Drover	Tracey	Public Safety Canada	FED
Essery	Maggy	Public Safety/ Emergency Management	PEI
Fitzgerald	Bruce	Emergency Management	ME
Flynn	Joe	Emergency Management and Homeland Security	VT
Folland	Barry	Public Safety/ Emergency Management	PEI
Gillan	Mark	Emergency Solutions International	Presenter
Hackett	Cindy	Emergency Measures Organization	NB
Harper	Jennifer	HSEM	NH
Johnson-Montigny	Laura	Canadian Red Cross	PEI
Loppie	Dwayne	RCMP L Division	PEI
MacCallum	Greg	Emergency Measures Organization	NB
MacDougall	Cindy	Public Safety/ Emergency Management	PEI
Malinnis-Meagher	Adele	Public Safety Canada	ATL Region
McCormack	Dave	Fire & Emergency Services	NL
McElhinney	Dan	US Homeland Security	
Mullally	Tanya	Emergency Measures, Office of Public Safety	PEI
Peter	Gaynor	Emergency Management	RI
Robichaud	Claude	Public Safety Canada	NB
Rossiter	David	Fire Marshall – Public Safety	PEI
Scharf	Jo-Anne	Public Safety Canada	NS



Singer	Rick	Public Safety/ Emergency Management	PEI
Slaunwhite	Terry Lynn	EMO Nova Scotia	NS
Tangney	Cynthia	Emergency Services and Public Protection, Emergency Management and Homeland Security	CT
Thistle	Jason	Public Safety/ Emergency Management	PEI
Warren	John	Emergency Services and Public Protection, Emergency Management and Homeland Security	CT
Williams	George	Canadian Armed Forces	
Wiper	LCDR Stacey	Canadian Armed Forces	ATL Region