



Governor's Emergency Management Advisory Council Quarterly Meeting

*October 26, 2016
12:00pm – 3:00pm*

Attendees

Members: Clay Stamp (Chairman), John Allen, Jr., Mike Berna, Becky Brashear, John Butler, Timothy Cameron, Richard DeVore Jr., Jonathan Favorite, Ronald Gill, Joseph LaFleur, Howard Safir, David Willenborg. *Guests:* Pete Landon (GOHS), Gen. Sean Casey (DMIL), John (Jack) Markey (Frederick County Emergency Manager). *MEMA:* Russ Strickland, Terry Thompson, Lydia Simonaire.

Meeting Notes

The Governor's Emergency Management Advisory Council (GEMAC) meeting began with welcome and announcements from the Chairman. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Subcommittee Actions

Ronnie Gill, Chair of the SERC subcommittee, informed the Council that the SERC subcommittee had voted to approve the recommendations from the Talbot County Council for reappointments to the Talbot County Local Emergency Planning Committee.

The full Council voted to confirm the SERC subcommittee's approval of the reappointment recommendations.

GEMAC Report Update

The Chairman thanked the Council for their work on developing the report and confirmed that it had been delivered to the Governor's Chief of Staff. In regard to the recommendation to co-locate the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC) and Maryland Joint Operations Center (MJOC) at the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), Director Strickland noted that any additional facility expansion necessary to accommodate the co-location would need to be added in to the scope of MEMA's capital renovation project by March 2017.

The Chairman also reminded the Council that the GEMAC's annual report is due to be submitted by December 1 and that a draft will be sent out shortly for review.

Emergency Management in Maryland

Director Strickland provided the Council with an overview of the vision and focus for emergency management in Maryland moving forward, and asked that the Council provide their input/feedback.

- The current law/policy governing emergency management in Maryland (MEPP) designates prevention/protection to the Maryland State Police and mitigation, response, and recovery to MEMA
- Looking to readdress this system/organization in the future and develop a comprehensive emergency management program (Maryland Emergency Management System) with a focus on consequence management and risk reduction
- Mitigation and recovery build on each other and lead to prevention/protection, all of which enhances resilience
- A comprehensive emergency management program should include emergency managers/programs from all 26 local jurisdictions, State, National Capital Region, Washington Council of Governments, Baltimore Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), and Delmarva Emergency Task Force
 - o Given the number of partners, there is the (negative) potential for silos/separation
 - o Need to work towards shared information/direction/effort; reduce unnecessary redundancy; foster 24/7 situational awareness with resource management
- Need to develop comprehensive interoperability (plans, training, exercise--not just limited to communication)
- Incident Command System (ICS) is not currently integrated/used consistently as it should be
- Incident Management Teams (IMTs) - need to enhance and coordinate existing in-state assets/resources – need a better system/organization
 - o Need to define/identify and threshold/triggers for mutual aid vs escalation to IMT
 - o Need to capture and coordinate state capability, identify trigger to justify EMAC process
 - o IMTs provide a way to sustain command staff for major incidents; building local EOC staffing capability should be a consideration
 - o Building an in-state IMT is a heavy commitment – substantial investment has been made in building in-state capability – need to utilize
- Consideration should to be given to coordinating with fairgrounds/large facilities that could support large volumes of people during emergency events/incidents; need to coordinate capacity, facilitate expectations, identify triggers
- Need to recognize the importance of private/public partnership – look for role models around country

Next Generation 9-1-1

Jack Markey, Director of Emergency Management for Frederick County, provided the Council with an overview of the anticipated transition to Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG911) and the following considerations:

- Currently 911 in Maryland is a county based effort; the legislation that created 911 system in MD has not been (significantly) changed since inception
 - o Changing model in moving to NG911; integration will need to happen at a new level, State will need to take on more of a facilitation role
 - o How to implement coordination at state level without losing local initiative
- The nexus of cyber and emergency management with transition to IT-based emergency communications
- The welfare of 911 workforce regarding impact of exposure to disturbing material with additional technological capability (live video stream, pictures)
- The challenge of adding a major technology overhaul to current vulnerability regarding capacity to deal with 911 on a daily basis; the human side is a larger challenge than tech (training, policy, procedure, retention)
- The expectations of 911 in MD need to be defined – can build toward a desired outcome

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15

