

**SUMMIT COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
March 18, 2010**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chief Mike Kallai, Chairperson (P)
Inspector Bill Holland (P)
Valerie De Rose
Rick Dobbins (P)
Chief David Calderone (P)
Jill Skapin (P)
Deputy Chief Rob Ross (A)
Dale Panovich (P)
Al Bollas (P)
Fred Zuch (P)
Heidi Swindell (A)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Chief Gus Hall (P)

ALTERNATES, GUEST AND STAFF

Tommy Smoot (S)
Jill Adams (S)
Chief Paul Moledor (G)
John Carney (G)
Sgt. Dan Nivens (G)
Jonathan Bastock (G)
Kerry Kernen (G)
Carly Lange (S)
Chief Bob Carter (A)
Chip Westfall (G)

The meeting of the Summit County Emergency Management Executive Committee was called to order, by Chairperson Mike Kallai, on Thursday, March 18, 2010, in the Summit County Emergency Operations Center, Akron Municipal Building, 166 South High Street, Akron, OH 44308.

GRANT APPLICATION PRESENTATIONS

SUMMIT COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

Kerry Kernen of the Summit County Health District was present to provide the presentation of the ReadySummit Special Needs Registry.

Mr. Kernen provided a background of the application, stating that the After-Actions of Hurricane Katrina has encouraged a federal focus on the special needs population across the country.

The Summit County Health District has received direction from the Ohio Department of Health to plan for the special needs populations, in the event of a disaster. Ms. Kernan provided an overview of the categories within the special needs population.

The Summit County Health District has used previous grant funding to develop a special needs registry, ReadySummit.org. The Health District worked with the International Institute, Asian Services and Area Agency on Aging to assist with surveying information within the population.

Ms. Kernan stated that the ReadySummit website has not yet gone live. It currently holds secure information and is housed on the Summit County Health District server.

Ms. Kernan stated that the information gathered will be shared with the Emergency Management Agency, law enforcement and fire/EMS personnel across the county.

Ms. Kernan reported that the current feedback is a concern with providing information to government agency as well as a concern of what is going to happen with the information once provided.

Mr. Kernan stated that the Area Agency on Aging and Summit County DD have committed to working with their clients, through the case managers to gather information in the registry.

The Summit County Health District is working actively to provide the ability to view the website in other languages.

Ms. Kernan provided an overview and demonstration of the website.

Mayor Bollas inquired about the capability of the special needs population to have access to the internet and ability to input the information.

Ms. Kernan stated that there will be a limitation for some of the population. The goal of working through the social service agencies is to reach as many people as possible to provide those capabilities.

Ms. Kernan reviewed the grant application, requesting \$51,400.00. The funding would support 90% of a salary of a nurse to actively work with the social service agencies and clients; 10% of a salary of a staff person to adjust the website, as needed, as well as some promotional materials for the website.

Chief Calderone inquired about how the information will be used.

Ms. Kernan stated that the information will provide the ability to plan for the special needs population, in the event of a disaster. The information provides a better sense of where they are and what they need, as well as provide a better response to the population.

Ms. Kernan stated that the information will also assist with the shelter component of a disaster, working with Red Cross to ensure that shelters are compatible to the current needs.

Chief Calderone inquired about sustainment of the website.

Ms. Kernen stated that she has received confirmation the Public Health Infrastructure funding will continue to be available for a minimum of five years, however the sustainment costs will not be as high.

Mr. Zuch inquired about the participation of the other health departments in the county.

Ms. Kernen stated that both the Akron Health Department and the Barberton Health District have provided letters of support to the program and will have access to the information, as needed.

Mr. Zuch asked about similar plans in other states.

Ms. Kernen stated that a similar registry has been implemented in Kentucky and Oregon. The registry in Oregon is currently in place and she is gathering information based on the challenges faced with that project.

Mr. Zuch suggested utilizing the faith-based organizations with this project.

Ms. Kernen stated that approaching the faith-based organizations is the next step with this project.

Mr. Zuch suggested contacting the food banks as well.

Ms. Skapin inquired about the ability to be notified of concerns with a loved one.

Ms. Kernen stated that there is not currently contact person information but it could be added.

Ms. Skapin asked if there was any connection with the Take Me Home project through the Sheriff's Office and the Prosecutor's Office.

Inspector Holland stated that there may be a way to cross reference the information.

Chief Calderone encouraged a connection to Reverse Alert and the WENS program throughout the county, as there should be a collaborative effort in notification.

Ms. Swindell inquired about the format for sharing information.

Ms. Kernen provided the current specifications of the system.

Chief Ross inquired about the previous grant funding received to initiate this project.

Ms. Kernen stated that the initial grant funding was a one-time grant specific to vulnerable populations.

Chief Ross asked what would happen to the project if no funding or limited funding was provided.

Ms. Kernen stated that she would continue to search for funding to support the project.

Mr. Dobbins inquired about the strategies to reach those citizens not involved with social service agencies or limited in internet capabilities.

Ms. Kernan stated that the first step of the project is to work with the social service agencies and from there move forward with the challenges of those home bound and with limited capabilities. She intends to work with Info Line and the Minority Health Round Table to determine the best way to reach the remaining population.

Mr. Dobbins suggested that Ms. Kernan work with Dan Stimmel of the Emergency Management Agency, as he is currently developing a plan for notification in a Heat Emergency.

Ms. Kernan stated that she has worked with Mr. Stimmel regarding the Heat Emergency Plan. In the event of a Heat Emergency, she would utilize the Medical Reserve Corp for notification. If necessary, the volunteers would travel door-to-door to provide notification.

Ms. Panovich inquired about the process of being removed from the registry in the event someone has relocated, expired or non-responsive to communication.

Ms. Kernan stated that in the event that someone is non-responsive to a mailing or phone call, that person will become inactive in the registry, as the program is voluntary.

Ms. Panovich noted that there will be people that will not be reached with this information; however she believes that the Summit County Health District will likely reach 90% of the population.

SUMMIT METRO CRASH RESPONSE TEAM

Dan Nivens and Jonathan Bastock of the Summit Metro Crash Team were in attendance to provide a presentation.

The Summit Metro Crash Team is requesting funding for a piece of equipment to investigate fatal crashes throughout the county. The Sokia Total Station will be utilized to map crash scenes.

Officer Bastock reported that there is currently one Total Station in the county and is owned by the Sheriff's Office. It is their understanding that the equipment is not currently operational and that the Sheriff's Office does not have the personnel to respond to scenes at this time.

Officer Bastock reported that the Total Station provides the capability of a quick, efficient report and the opportunity to re-open the roads sooner.

The Total Station is a surveying tool to determine how fast the cars were going and how the crash occurred.

Officer Bastock stated that the Total Station also helps to provide answers to families with an explanation of how the crash happened and is also beneficial in court, providing detailed

information.

Sgt. Nivens reported that the Summit Metro Crash Team averages approximately eight to nine call-outs a year. The team has responded to two call-outs so far in 2010.

Sgt. Nivens stated that the equipment can be set-up and run by one person, reducing the number of personnel needed in a response.

Sgt. Nivens reported that there are fifteen participating agencies on the Team. The role of the Summit Metro Crash Team is to gather and report information to the local agency.

Sgt. Nivens stated that if awarded, the equipment would be stored in Silver Lake or Stow and would be deployed anywhere in the county.

Mr. Zuch asked how the equipment works.

Sgt. Nivens stated that it operates as a surveyors instrument on a tri-pod.

Officer Bastock stated that it is a laser tool to document data.

Ms. Skapin asked if any other counties have similar equipment.

Officer Bastock stated that the closest county with the similar equipment is Geauga County.

Ms. Skapin asked if there was an opportunity to charge for use of the equipment.

Officer Bastock reported that there are currently provisions in the Summit Metro Crash Team Operations Manual that allows the team to charge.

Ms. Skapin asked if it would be possible to charge insurance companies for the reports.

Officer Bastock stated that insurance companies have the ability to hire private companies to generate similar reports.

Ms. Swindell asked if the Summit Metro Crash Team would be willing to work with the County GIS department.

Officer Bastock stated that the Team has worked with the GIS department since their inception.

Inspector Holland asked if there are any annual costs or subscription fees.

Officer Bastock stated that there are on-going costs associated with the equipment.

Mayor Bollas inquired about the requirements to participate on the Team.

Officer Bastock reported that the agreement is to share personnel and/or equipment for us by the Team, with the home agency funding the personnel time.

Sgt. Nivens stated that the equipment can be used by fire departments as well.

Chief Calderone inquired about the use by fire departments.

Officer Bastock reported that the equipment can be used for arson scenes, debris and drownings. It can be used anytime a diagram is needed for a scene.

Mr. Zuch asked if there was any other funding available for the equipment.

Sgt. Nivens stated that the Team has had several pieces of equipment donated, but there is no other funding available.

Sgt. Nivens reported that the Team also provides awareness and preparedness presentations to communities and schools.

SUMMIT COUNTY SPECIAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE TEAMS

John Carney and Chief Paul Moledor were in attendance to review the application for the Summit County Special Operations Response Team.

John Carney provided a PowerPoint presentation to review the grant requests and demonstrate the need for the equipment.

Mr. Carney reported that the first request is a side-scanning sonar, to provide diver safety, enhanced mission effectiveness and efficiency. This equipment costs approximately \$29,299.00 and includes two days of training.

Mr. Carney stated that the Water Branch currently uses a drop-sonar which is excellent but has limited capabilities. The side-scanning sonar provides a very detailed picture and comes with a plotting system to search for drowning victims.

The second request is a jon boat and motor. Mr. Carney demonstrated the type of boat needed for swift-water rescue in the county. There is not currently another boat in the county with the same specifications.

The jon boat would be used with a two-boat tether for swift-water rescue.

The third piece of equipment requested is a two system rope pack. This equipment will be stored on the trailer at Bath Station #2 and used for swift-water rescue.

The fourth request is a Hazmat Branch trailer. Currently the Hazmat Branch has two trailers to store equipment. There are both outdated and un-repairable, as they were purchased approximately twenty-five years ago.

Mr. Zuch asked if there was any other funding available to support the equipment.

Chief Moledor stated that the Special Operations Response Team is supported by the per-capita through the Emergency Management Agency; however there is no other grant funding available to support water rescue.

Mayor Bollas asked if there were charges associated with responses for water rescue.

Chief Moledor stated that the Team does not charge for any responses, with the exception of hazmat response, per the Ohio Revised Code.

Ms. De Rose stated that with the per-capita, the communities are already paying for the team.

Chief Ross asked how the Team would move forward if the equipment was not funded.

Chief Moledor stated that the Team would continue to search for funding and work as is.

Mr. Zuch inquired about the number of water rescues in Summit County.

Chief Moledor stated that all of that information was provided in the grant application.

Mr. Carney noted that floods make up approximately 75% of federal responses.

Mr. Zuch asked if this equipment would be used for response or recovery.

Mr. Carney reported that due to the time needed to deploy the equipment, it may initially be used for some rescue, but then would be used for recovery.

Chief Moledor stated that the sonar could also be used to search for evidence, if needed.

Mayor Bollas asked where the sonar would be stored.

Chief Moledor stated that the Water Rescue equipment is currently stored at Bath-Copley Station #2.

Mr. Dobbins inquired about any statistical analyses regarding safety and reduced time for divers in the water.

Mr. Carney reported that with the sonar, there would not be a need to put a diver in the water.

Chief Ross asked if this equipment would be deployed across the state, if needed.

Chief Moledor stated that it would be determined on a case-by-case scenario. He stated that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources currently has two side-scanning sonars available across the State.

Chief Moledor stated that it would have to be worked through the SORT Executive Board and would be dependent on the current need within Summit County.

NEXT MEETING

Chairperson Kallai stated the next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, April 15, 2010 at 10:00 a.m., at the Emergency Operations Center, Akron Municipal Building-Basement**
SCEMEC Meeting, 03/18/10

Level, 166 South High Street, Akron, OH 44308.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Kallai thanked the presenters for coming to the meeting and answering questions pertaining to their grant application. He then adjourned the meeting for the presenters so the Executive Committee could discuss the applications and make recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie De Rose
Secretary