

**Legislative Coordinating Commission
Preparedness for Terrorism and Disasters Working Group
Monday, December 17, 2007
3:00 PM
Room 112, Capitol**

Present:

Rep. Carolyn Laine
Rep. Ryan Winkler
Sen. Terri Bonoff
Sen. Linda Higgins
Sen. Warren Limmer
Karen Anderson
Steve Andreasen
Rocco Forte
Dr. Michael Osterholm

Excused:

Rep. Chris DeLaForest

Sen. Higgins called meeting to order at 3:07 pm.

St. Paul Emergency Management Funding

Tim Butler, St. Paul Fire Chief and former St. Paul Emergency Management Director, gave an overview of emergency management funding in the City of St. Paul. Chief Butler reviewed the three primary funding sources which are: the general fund budget, Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and federal and state homeland security grant programs. Chief Butler stood for questions.

Ramsey County Emergency Management Funding

Judson Freed, Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security for Ramsey County and Chair of the Association of Minnesota Emergency Managers (AMEM), gave an overview of the role of emergency managers. Mr. Freed noted it is important to have professional emergency managers whose role is solely to carry out the duties of emergency management.

Mr. Freed then gave an overview of emergency management funding for Ramsey County. He stated that EMPG funds are given to the county and, if possible, the EMPG dollars are then distributed to the cities. Mr. Freed stated that emergency management in the county is also funded through competitive grants. Mr. Freed stood for questions.

Minneapolis Emergency Management Funding

Kristi Rollwagen, Deputy Director of Emergency Preparedness for Minneapolis, gave an overview of emergency management funding for Minneapolis. Ms. Rollwagen spoke specifically to how the city addressed emergency management gaps identified from a 2002 gap analysis. Ms. Rollwagen stated the funding to fill in the gaps derived from city investments, competitive homeland security grants and city matching of the competitive

grants. Ms. Rollwagen noted a recent gap analysis indicated the city's Emergency Operations Center was inadequate and the city would be requesting \$8 million to construct a new facility. Ms. Rollwagen stood for questions.

Emergency Management Funding Outside the Metro Area

Ann Finn, Assistant Intergovernmental Relations Director for the League of Minnesota Cities, gave an overview of emergency management funding in greater Minnesota. Ms. Finn spoke specifically to efforts to address emergency management policies and funding requests in the 2008 legislative session. Ms. Finn stood for questions.

Approval of Minutes

Karen Anderson moved to approve the minutes from the December 10th meeting.
MOTION PREVAILED.

State Emergency Management Funding

Brent Gustafson, Financial Planning Director for the Minnesota Department of Finance, gave an overview of the state budget and how resources are directed for emergency preparedness spending. Mr. Gustafson pointed out most agency funding for preparedness is used for ongoing operations. He also noted that there is not a precise number for state preparedness spending due to the lack of a standard definition for emergency preparedness activities. Mr. Gustafson stood for questions.

Roger Ehresmann, Operations Legislative Coordinator for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), addressed the role DHHS plays in funding emergency management. Mr. Ehresmann noted that DHHS generally plays a support role in funding to larger government agencies. Mr. Ehresmann stood for questions.

Aggie Leitheiser, Director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness for the Minnesota Department of Health, gave an overview of public health and healthcare emergency preparedness funding. Ms. Leitheiser pointed out the funding for both began in 2002. Ms. Leitheiser spoke specifically about federal and state funding in regards to the pandemic influenza. Ms. Leitheiser stood for questions.

Kris Eide, Director of the Department of Public Safety Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM), gave an overview of preparedness funding in the state. Ms. Eide highlighted items funded for emergency management such as training and discussed funding sources as well. Funding sources include both state appropriations and federal funding. She noted federal funding is the primary source of preparedness funding in Minnesota in the form of homeland security funds and EMPG. Ms. Eide stood for questions.

Next Meeting

Due to time constraints, the presentations on state emergency management funding by Cathy Clark, Acting Director of Emergency Management for the Minnesota Department of Transportation, and Scott Wiggins, ARMER/911 Director for the Minnesota Department of Public Safety were postponed until the January 7, 2008 meeting.

Sen. Higgins announced the meeting on January 7, 2008 was moved up from 3:00 pm to 2:30 pm. Sen. Higgins also announced the January 21, 2008 meeting would be rescheduled as it falls on the Martin Luther King holiday.

There being no further business Sen. Higgins adjourned the meeting at 5:34 pm.

Senator Linda Higgins, Co-Chair

Representative Ryan Winkler, Co-Chair