



Stanislaus County Operational Area Council



July 17, 2014
Meeting Notes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm.

II. Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

III. Attendance

JPA Members: Stanislaus County, City of Turlock, City of Riverbank, City of Modesto, City of Waterford, City of Patterson, City of Hughson.

Partner Agencies: American Red Cross (ARC), CSU Stanislaus, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services (BHRS), Cal OES, Turlock Irrigation District (TID), Congressman Denham's Office, Yosemite Community College District, Gallo, Community Services Agency, HSA/Public Health, Modesto City Schools, Mountain Valley EMSA, General Services Agency (GSA), Advancing Vibrant Communities, National Weather Service Sacramento, United Way.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the April 17, 2014 meeting was made by Chief Hall and seconded by Matt Erickson. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Introduction of New Projects

The Emergency Operations Plan Revision Project was introduced. Deborah Thrasher explained that the Federal Comprehensive Preparedness Guide requires that a collaborative planning team work on the development/revision of the plan. She asked that those interested on serving as a part of this Specialist Group, contact OES and plan to attend a kick-off meeting on August 19, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The location to be determined.

VI. Task Force/Specialist Group Status Report Updates

- a) Disaster Council Structure Draft Ordinance
Deb Thrasher explained that we have updated the County Ordinance and are planning to take it to the Board of Supervisors for final approval by the end of August. The approved ordinance will be sent to all of the cities and we are available to assist the cities in updating their ordinances.

- b) Agreement for Operational Area Organization
Deb Thrasher reported that the Operational Area Organization Agreement has been approved by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors. As each city approved the Agreement, Deb will send the original to be signed. The City of Patterson has approved the Agreement and the City of Waterford is scheduled to approve tonight. Deb would like to have all cities approve and sign the Agreement by September 2014.

VII. Informational Items

- a) National Weather Service Presentation – Michelle Mead with the Sacramento National Weather Service presented a Power Point Presentation explaining our weather patterns, drought conditions, and predictions for the coming rainy season. With the rainfall of the past three years, we are missing nearly a year's worth of precipitation. For this year, Modesto is now at 54% of normal precipitation to date. This year ranks 6th in the driest years since 1930. This year has also been the hottest year on record. Michelle explained that a majority of Stanislaus County is classified as D4: Exceptional Drought and it is expected that the drought will persist or intensify. The Weather and Water Outlook shows that above normal temperatures are favored and Southern California has an El Nino climatology introduction. There is a potential for El Nino, but no good indicator for what our Fall will be like in No. California. We have equal chances for Above/Near/Below Normal temperatures. We should plan for anything.
- b) Hiplink Protocol
Deborah Thrasher discussed the Hiplink Protocol that everyone received in their packets. She explained the importance of following the protocol and asked for questions or comments.
- c) NIMS/TEP
Deb Thrasher explained that she has not heard anything yet regarding the NIMSCAST deadline. Kyle Norderer reported that the State's deadline is October 10. Deb will send out the information as soon as she gets it and will let you know the deadline. She stated that it will be completed on an Excel spreadsheet as it was last year.

Deb also discussed the Training and Exercise Plan (TEP) for 2015-2017 that was included in the packet. The TEP is a component of NIMS. She has requested that any information that you have be submitted to her by August 15, 2014 in order to comply with NIMS requirements.

VIII. Operational Area Discipline Reports

- a) Law Enforcement
No representative.

b) Public Health

- Jim Ferrera reported that on September 12, 2014, the National Guard, Special HazMat Unit, from the Bay Area will have an exercise at John Thurman field and the Medical Health Branch is ready to go.
- The American Red Cross has teamed up with the Medical Reserve Corps for a Fire Stoppers program for high impact areas for house fires. On May 17, they will distribute Fire Awareness, Prevention and Safety Packets inviting them to a Safety Faire the following week. The Safety Faire will provide 7 different stations including CPR and if the participants complete each station, they receive a bag with carbon and smoke detectors, a fire extinguisher, and other items. They will initially hit 5,000 homes, and would like to reach all of Stanislaus County this year.
- Jim Ferrera also noted that Dave Funk has finished the Security plans for the Strategic National Stockpile Site Pods being developed for 15 locations for emergency medical supply and/or vaccine distribution. They are planning an exercise next year in March to practice distributing medical supplies to the 15 locations.

c) MVEMSA

Tom Morton reported that they are working on grants for the implantation on the First Watch Surveillance System. They will do a presentation at the October OAC meeting on this system and how it is a real time link to the real time CAD system as well as a link to the AMR CAD. Tom explained that the State wants a standard electronic tracking system for patients. They are working with Public Health. They will test the system at the September 12 exercise.

d) Emergency Management

- Chief Skiles reported that there is Hazmat money for training and that Fire Agencies will partner with DER. He also noted that there is money set aside for NIMS training. He discussed EOC management and functionality and noted that there is money allocated to expand to schools and districts and that there is grant money to help develop a standard.
- Chief Skiles also reported that the next Drought Task Force meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2014 at 2:30 p.m. at Harvest Hall.
- Calvin Curtin reported that as of October 8, the TID season will end. It has been a good season compared to the West side. They delivered less water than anticipated. Conservation by farmers was high and they were very frugal.
- Chief Skiles reported that cities are practicing conservation efforts. The City of Riverbank shared at the last Task Force meeting. Chief Skiles noted that our office forwards information from the Operational Area to Cal OES and requested that information continue to be sent to us.
- Chief Skiles also reported that the Modesto Regional Fire Authority (MRFA) has been dissolved. He introduced Ray Jackson who will be overseeing the Operational side, and Paul Gibson, who will be overseeing the Administration side.

- Chief Skiles also announced that Deborah Thrasher has resigned, effective September 5, 2014.
- e) Fire
- Chief Hall and Chief Slamon reported that it is the worse fire season ever. Chief White noted that he is glad the 4th of July is over.
- f) Cal OES
- Kyle Noderer reported that the drought is causing more issues. If anyone is experiencing any issues, please send them to Stanislaus OES and they will forward it to Cal OES. Expect to hear from water districts on conservation efforts.

IX. Roundtable/Announcements

1. Pastor Mike with Advancing Vibrant Communities noted that if anyone knows of any Senior Citizens with limited income and no air conditioning, to let him know. They have resources to help.
2. Kellie Marshall, with CSU Stanislaus, reported they are gearing up for the academic year.
3. Becky Crow noted that Yosemite Community College District will be doing a functional exercise on October 10, which will involve an airplane crash into their Ag Building. She also announced that she is retiring as of December 31, 2014.
4. Mike Anderson with Congressman Denham's office said that it is business as usual.
5. Michael Zahr, with Gallo, announced that Joe Aha has retired and Mike now has Joe's position.
6. Debbie Calcote, with American Red Cross, reported that the boy scouts and girl scouts are helping to assemble container bags for 500 homes. They will be in the Yosemite Blvd. area on July 27 with high risk homes receiving the container bags. The ARC will distribute bags to two areas per month. PG & E is helping with supplies and community workshops where participants are given a bag that they can fill. They also practice evacuation. Seniors and Access and Functional needs populations are also targeted.
7. Estrella Garcia with United Way provided an overview of the services that they provide.
8. Calvin Curtin with TID reported that Don Pedro is less than half full and they are 40 feet lower than last year. Storage at the end of October was 680 feet and has been dropping six inches a day. They are using less water than expected. Farmers are pumping groundwater and being frugal. TID is using water saving measures such as electronic flow meters to measure canals. On the electricity side, they have the CARES program which provides lower rates to seniors and those with low income.
9. Cherie Dockery, with Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, noted that there is a correlation with the hot weather and increases in psychological patients. There is an increase in hospitalization and more police responses to mental illness calls.

10. Sam Rush, with the City of Hughson said they being more aggressive with their water conservation. They have a code enforcement officer as well as Sheriff citing violators. They have had a 28% reduction of water usage over 4 years ago.

X. The next OAC meeting will be in October 2014. Date to TBD.

XI. Meeting Adjourned – 3:20 pm.