

Minutes
Tulare Operational Area Emergency Council Meeting
Emergency Operations Center
Thursday, April 25, 2019
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Attendees

John Crivello	Rick Land
David LaPere	Charlie Norman
Pete Marquez	Daniel Hobbs
Jon Brown	Doug McBee
Ozzy Dominguez	Luis Nevarez
Annette Burgos	Karl Kassner
Jeff Smith	Jeff McLaughlin
Andrew Lockman	Dave Lee

CALL TO ORDER

Andrew Lockman called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. with introductions.

I. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the October 25, 2018 Emergency Council Meeting were reviewed and approved.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

No report.

III. PRESENTATIONS

A. Don Will will be the lead instructor for the County Fire hosted Type III All-Hazards Incident Management Team course.

IV. STATE UPDATES

B. Report out from State Meetings – MARAC, SEMS Spec(s) / Tech / Advisory

Andrew provided general updates on the January 23, 2019 and the April 24, 2019 Region V MARACs and the last SEMS Technical Group meeting. Cal OES is developing Emergency Management Mutual Aid (EMMA) training, and County OES may invite municipal emergency management organizations to send personnel to this training.

C. Legislative Update: SB 46, AB 291, SB 160, et al.

Andrew briefed the Emergency Council on legislative matters:

- California Senate Bill 46 and Senate Bill 821, which proposed to amend the California Emergency Services Act, would allow local governments (cities and counties) to cross pollinate customer/contact data (name, address, telephone numbers, email addresses) for mass notification systems (e.g. AlertTC) with data from utility companies (water, waste, electric, and mobile telephony), provided that

an “opt-out” function is provided. Senate Bill 821 has become law. However, there is pushback from the utility companies for this type of legislation.

- Assembly Bill 291 propose to establish a Local Emergency Preparedness and Hazard Mitigation Fund, and provide an additional \$500,000 to each county annually, provided that the counties continue to contribute financially to emergency management what they had individually contributed on average over the past five years. If this bill is ratified, this may be a sea change for emergency management in California.
- Senate Bill 160 proposes to mandate integration cultural competence¹ into future emergency operations plan (EOP) updates (emergency communications, evacuation, sheltering, mitigation, planning, preparedness, etc.), and provide a forum for community engagement in geographically diverse locations and culturally diverse communities².
- Assembly Bill 2311 would mandate that future EOP revisions incorporate the needs of persons with disability, access and functional needs for emergency communications, evacuations, and sheltering activities.

D. Mitigation Plan Adoption (AB 2140) & Cal OES Recovery Policies

Andrew briefed the Emergency Council regarding Assembly Bill 2140, which became law, and requires local governments to incorporate the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan into the General Plan’s Safety Element in order to qualify for 0% local share cost for debris removal, and for expanding recovery costs for California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) to cover 25%, with the Stafford Act to cover the remaining 75% .

ACTION ITEM: Can cities satisfy AB-2140 by referencing the County’s General Plan’s Safety Element?

TENTATIVE RESPONSE: County OES is in discussion with Cal OES’ Hazard Mitigation Branch regarding the relevant differences between General Law (Farmersville) and Charter municipalities. The Branch’s general sentiment – in regard to policy – is that, if the jurisdictions have a governing board (i.e. Council) and a General Plan, then the jurisdictions will have to adopt via resolution. A potential caveat or exception to this requirement is if a jurisdiction does not have a General Plan, and is not mandated to have a General Plan.

E. Alert & Warning Guidelines

Cal OES has been developing Alert & Warning Guidelines for Californian jurisdictions in reaction to the Sonoma County Tubbs Fire, and later reinforced by the Butte County Camp

¹ “Cultural competence” means the ability to understand, communicate with, and effectively interact with people across cultures in order to ensure that the needs of all community members are addressed, with priority given to “culturally diverse communities.” “Cultural competence” includes, but is not limited to, being respectful and responsive to the cultural and linguistic needs of diverse population groups.

² “Culturally diverse communities” includes, but is not limited to, race and ethnicity, including indigenous peoples, communities of color, and immigrant and refugee communities; gender, including women; age, including the elderly and youth; sexual and gender minorities; people with disabilities; occupation and income level including low-income individuals and the unhoused; education level; people with no or limited English language proficiency; as well as geographic location.

Fire. This will impact how we use AlertTC as a mass notification tool – along with all other Californian jurisdictions – once the guidance is released. This guidance will also cover social media, and other modes of alerts and warnings.

V. TULARE OA UPDATES & DISCUSSION

F. Upcoming Wireless Emergency Alerts Changes

Andrew briefed the Emergency Council on forthcoming changes to Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA). Tentatively, by May 2019, WEA will have additional message fields for 360-character warnings (up from 90), and a Spanish message field. Tentatively, by December 2019, WEA will be accurate within a one-tenth of a mile overshoot. Currently, we are able to test WEA through WEA, and store authentication.

G. New Everbridge Module: Incident Communications

Andrew briefed the Emergency Council that he is looking into Everbridge's Incident Communications (IC) module as a supplement to Manager. IC will utilize committee-built notification templates to help streamline notification development, and ensure that notifications are formatted in a manner consistent with the best practices prescribed by social science studies.

H. Updates to Tulare OA Alert & Warning Program

Andrew briefed the Emergency Council that County OES has begun incorporating the findings of Cal OES' Tubbs Fire After Action Report and social science studies into the development of alerts & warnings. Notifications – in general – will be formatted to comply with Denis Mileti's 8-component style. This is in addition to the practices established during the Pier Fire incident, where GIS technical specialists utilized interactive maps on the County's Emergencies website, and will be fed by information developed through the Mass Care & Shelter and Mass Evacuation Plans.

I. Revision of Mass Care & Shelter Plan

Sabrina briefed the Emergency Council that the Mass Care & Shelter Plan inventory has 39 assessed shelter sites who have executed a Memorandum of Understanding with the County. The plan will seek to establish enough shelter sites and shelter space to accommodate 20% of the County's population.

J. Revision of Mass Evacuation Plan

Sabrina briefed the Emergency Council that the Mass Evacuation Plan revision is projected to be completed in 5-7 months, with Board adoption in 6-8 months. This plan may take up to a year for full implementation.

K. Fiscal Year 2019 Homeland Security Grant Update

County OES submitted the Operational Area's FY 2019 State Homeland Security Grant Program's (SHSGP) Advanced Application on January 15, 2019, as developed during the Project Proposal Meeting by the Approval Authority, and ratified by the Board of Supervisors. County OES is also working closely with County Counsel to downstream the Cal OES Standard Grant Assurances for FY 2019 SHSGP to subrecipients.

VI. TRAINING & EXERCISE UPDATES

L. Second Reading & Approval of Tulare OA Training Standards

The Emergency Council performed a second reading of the Tulare OA Training Standards, but was unable to vote on its approval due to the lack of a quorum.

M. EOC Credentialing Trainings – Next Steps?

After County OES delivered multiple rounds of CSTI’s EOC Position Credentialing curriculum, the Emergency Council deliberated next steps. County OES will begin the next round of curriculum delivery around October.

N. Upcoming Exercises Scheduled / Needed

Andrew reviewed the Operational Area’s Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan for 2018-2020 with the Emergency Council. Kaweah Delta will hold their annual full-scale exercise in June, and Public Health Emergency Preparedness will hold the Statewide Medical Health Exercise in November. County OES hopes to develop an active shooter exercise and hold that within 12-14 months.

VII. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

- None.

VIII. MEETING WRAP UP

O. Current Meeting Action Item Review

No action items identified

P. Solicitation of Topics for Next Meeting

None

Q. Next Meeting Date

Thursday, October 24, 2019, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM, CIGNA Building.

IX. ADJOURN

Adjourned at 4:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING:
Thursday, October 24, 2019
2:00 – 4:00 PM
Tulare County Fire Department / EOC
835 S. Akers Street
Visalia, CA 93277