

Region III Regional Advisory Council
January 19, 2011
Philadelphia, PA
Meeting Summary

Regional Advisory Council Charter Discussion

- Charter discussion– review of all sections beginning with the purpose and ending with the approval section
- Connection to the business plan makes the charter an annual document, should change the charter to read there will be annual goals in the business plan that the charter will take into account – this was completed and finalized during the meeting
- Membership should maintain balance between geographic, subject areas, etc
- Add language about how members will reach out to their stakeholders and then reach back to the Regional Administrator – this was completed and finalized during the meeting
- Members will vote by consensus
- If a RAC member cannot attend a meeting, a proxy can be sent in their place, this person has the same voting rights as the RAC member they are representing

Region III Business Plan Discussion

- Some visual aids/graphics to help connect the dots from the highest level to the local level (the documents that were sent were very text heavy and overwhelming for the local level)
- Nothing to highlight the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF), the NDRF is still with the Secretary of Homeland Security for approval and once this occurs the Region will offer more information on the final product
- Group would like to see how Fugate’s priorities match up with Quadrennial Homeland Security Review (QHSR)
 - Several efforts were going on at the same time (QHSR, Bottom Up Review, FEMA Strategy Priorities) this is why sometimes there is an overlap
- The Region is moving towards more detailed planning with checklists, etc
- Typically if you are getting a call from FEMA someone has already talked with the State level (we go through the State first)
- Most of activities are people time and travel costs
- Deployments will also affect the business plan priorities

Region III Outreach Strategy Discussion

- The public needs more information on renter’s insurance

- Flood insurance – messaging to all citizens not just coastal areas
- Need more information on FEMA reimbursement before a disaster happens, would be helpful to know the process beforehand
- What is the purpose of the IMAT teams? Need more information.
- Need an Individual Assistance and Public Assistance handbook that is straightforward, not as complex as the current one
- Possibly have workshop/training for local EMA much like the EMI course for new State directors (a FEMA 101 on what to expect during a disaster declaration)
- International Fire Chiefs have two trained fire chiefs in each region designated to assist with the reimbursement application process (free of charge)
- Incorporate links for fusion centers, State Emergency Management Agencies, other federal sites on regional HSIN portal that is in development

Open Discussion

- Have a panel with FCO, SCO, locals to mutual aid, resource issues and other processes during a large disaster/JFO operations
- Mutual aid often flies in the face of the mission of the State Police, stakeholders are getting resources/services via mutual aid when sometimes the items they are asking for are usually provided by the State Police
- RAC should look at EMAC and other agreements (mutual aid) within the Region – status of MOUs and MOAs
- Make sure teams that deploy are capable of self sustainment

Elections

Chair – Russell Strickland, Johns Hopkins University

Vice Chair – Millicent West, District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director

Future Meeting Agenda

- National Preparedness Report - read it and see what action there would be at the regional level
- Review FEMA strategic plan 2011-2014
- What the group would like to see the Region accomplish over the next 5 years
- Overview on the role of the IMAT