



SECURE & PREPARED

Dec. 14, 2012

Volume 8, Issue 23

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Training Opportunities* 3
- Bomb Response Training* 3
- Help us plan next year's conference* 4

Notice of Change to Publication Schedule

Beginning January 2013, "Secure & Prepared" will be published monthly instead of bi-weekly. Look for the first issue of the new year in mid January!

On the Calendar...

December

Christmas Day (25)*

January 2013

- National Blood Donor Month
- National Radon Action Month
- Martin Luther King, Jr., Day (21)*
- Hazardous Materials Awareness Week (Iowa) (20-26)

February

- National Burn Awareness Week (3-9)
- Great Central U.S. ShakeOut (7)

*State holiday.

HSEMD offices will be closed.

Mahaska County CERT member helps those impacted by Hurricane Sandy

A member of Mahaska County's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) spent 10 days on the East Coast helping victims of Hurricane Sandy.

Jim Walker of Oskaloosa volunteered to travel to New York within seconds of Mahaska County Emergency Manager Jamey Robinson putting out the notice that volunteers were needed. Walker, a member of CERT for three years and its captain, assisted in various capacities, including unloading supplies from trucks, clearing trash from roads and helping residents clear debris from their homes so they could start the repair process. He



Mahaska County CERT Captain Jim Walker, with the Statue of Liberty in the background, during his 10-day deployment to the East Coast to help victims of Hurricane Sandy.

said another role he fulfilled was that of listening to those who had been impacted. "It seemed that was more

Continued on Page 2...

E-911 Task Force issues recommendations

The Iowa E911 Task Force has completed its work and issued its recommendations to the Iowa General Assembly.

The task force was convened in accordance with Senate File 2332 as signed into law by Governor Branstad on May 2, 2012. The law specifically asked the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) to "convene a task force of stakeholders to consider and offer recommendations regarding needed upgrades and enhancements to the state's E911 programs."

The task force was asked to consider enhanced technology needs of local E911 public safety answering points, identify new wireless technologies used in E911 service delivery, evaluate funding needs to meet state and federal emergency communications technology mandates, consider wireless and wireline surcharge rate adjustments, and contemplate local and state E911 administration and governance.

HSEMD began extending invitations to participate in the task force in late April of 2012. The first meeting was

Continued on Page 2...

CERT member deployed to East Coast

...Continued from Page 2

important at times than the clean up.”

Through his service in CERT, Walker has also helped with local activities, including assisting with traffic control and helping flood victims relocate. Three others who were not members of CERT accompanied Walker: Chief Steve Gerard, New Sharon Fire Department; Kelly Mick, New Sharon Fire Department; and Chief Mike Vander Molen, Sully Fire Department.



The house, above, was located in Rockaway, New York, where Walker and fellow volunteers worked following Hurricane Sandy.

Robinson said the Mahaska County CERT was formed four years ago, currently has 30 members and continues to grow. Members of Iowa's CERTs are an important part of a community's emergency response team in the aftermath of a disaster and also during other times when local officials need assistance. CERT members are trained to perform basic disaster response skills such as basic fire suppression and first aid. There are currently 39 CERTS throughout Iowa. HSEMD administers the federal Citizen Corps grant that funds this valuable community resource.

Walker said as a CERT member he has learned he is part of a big-

ger team. “As a CERT member, we stand firm and ready to serve when asked.”

During his time in New York, Walker had the opportunity to work with CERT members from New York and also with volunteers from Paris,

France. “The bond that is created between the professionals and the CERT members becomes a bond of friendship. We

learn from each others' strengths and work on those strengths so we can protect and serve others in our community, state, country and the world.”

To learn more about CERT, visit www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/programs/IDHRC.html#CitizenCorps. Ω

E911 Task Force

...Continued from Page 1

convened on May 18. The task force was broken into sub groups to allow participants to focus on specific areas of interest. These groups included governance, funding, network, public safety answering point operations, technology, interoperability, geographic information systems and legislation. The groups were also encouraged to think beyond the confines of the legislated mandate. The facilitators worked hard to ensure that all ideas were presented in a safe, open and stress-free environment. Active and robust discussion was encouraged.

The task force delivered its recommendations to the General Assembly on December 1. Some of the major recommendations include equalizing wireline and wireless surcharge rates at \$1 statewide, leaving the present PSAP distribution formula as is, leaving the E911 Council and Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board as separate and unique entities, and making the local E911 service board the sole point of contact in the county for all issues related to E911 and emergency communications. In all the task force provided fifteen recommendations to the General Assembly.

The report can be found on the HSEMD web site at www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/documents/e911/E911_Taskforce_Recs.pdf. Ω

Training opportunities in 2013



HSEMD has been busy filling dates, times, and locations for the 2013 training calendar. Please keep checking the HSEMD training website at <http://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training/> to get the latest and greatest listing of courses we will be offering for 2013.

You may register for the following courses via the HSEMD training website at the address above.

Exercise Design with HSEEP

When: Feb. 19–21, 2013
8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Where: Kirkwood Community College
6301 Kirkwood Blvd.
Cedar Rapids

This three-day workshop provides participants an opportunity to review their homeland security strategy and multi-year exercise plan. Training is targeted toward individuals who would respond to an emergency or incident.

For more information, contact **Steve Warren, John Halbrook**, or **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3231**.

Leadership & Influence (IS-240)

When: March 4–5, 2013
10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
(8 a.m. on March 5)
Where: Camp Dodge
Bldg. M10-3
Johnston

The ability to lead others—to motivate them to commit their energies and expertise to achieving the shared mission and goals of the emergency management system—is a necessary and vital part of the job for every emergency manager, planner, and responder.

Contact **Susan Green** or **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3231** for more information.

Decision Making & Problem Solving (IS-241)

When: March 6, 2013
8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Where: Camp Dodge
Bldg. M10-3
Johnston

The ability to communicate effectively is a necessary and vital part

of the job for every emergency manager, planner and responder. This course is designed to improve communication skills.

Contact **Susan Green** or **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3231** for more information.

Essential Records & COOP/COG Planning

When: March 19, 2013
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: Shenandoah Safety Center
Bricker Room
400 W. Sheridan Ave.
Shenandoah

If disaster strikes your place of business, how will you continue the most essential functions and services you provide? Participants will discover the elements needed to ensure continuity of operations (COOP) and continuity of governance (COG) under all circumstances, with a special focus on ensuring that essential records are preserved and available.

By the end of the training, participants will have a clear understanding...
Continued on Page 4...

Free training on prevention of and response to bombing incidents

The Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center (EMRTC) at The New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology has been designated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as the primary training provider for preparing domestic first responders to operate effectively in the prevention of and response to bombing incidents. EMRTC has designed courses to

address immediate response requirements when bombing incidents develop prior to the arrival of bomb squads, tactical teams and other similar specialized response organizations. Courses are free to first responder agencies.

Available courses are Initial Law Enforcement Response to Suicide Bombing Attacks, Prevention of

and Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents, and Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings.

For more information, contact Richard Campbell, New Mexico Tech/EMRTC deputy program manager/mobile training at rcampbell@emrtc.nmt.edu, or Michael Callaway, resident course manager, at **575-835-5917**. ☐

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management

A division of the Iowa Department of Public Defense

Administrator
Mark Schouten

7105 N.W. 70th Avenue
Camp Dodge, Bldg. W-4
Johnston, IA 50131

Phone: 515.725.3231
Fax: 515.725.3260

www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov

Secure & Prepared is published by the Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division for those involved in the homeland security system in the state of Iowa. For more information contact Stefanie Bond, 515.725.3231 or stefanie.bond@iowa.gov.

News Team

Stefanie Bond
Laura Carlson
Katie Ewing
Beth Lewis
Amy Meston
Lucinda Robertson
Kathy Stodola
Jessica Turba

HSEMD Mission

Lead, coordinate, and support homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

Find us online!

facebook

www.facebook.com/iowaHSEMD



<http://twitter.com/iowaHSEMD>

Help us make the annual conference even better!

We were so glad you could join us for the 9th Annual Iowa Homeland Security Conference in November. We have received great comments and will try to incorporate some of your requests into next year's conference.

Your evaluations have been compiled and are ready for the conference committee to review and also to start planning for next year. We have acquired several leads already.

Most of the presenters at this year's conference have allowed us to post their presentation on our conference website at www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/conference/postconference.html.

The vendors at this year's conference were well received and we plan to ask them to participate again next year.

Right: Agent Eric Morefield, FBI, speaking on the dangers of improvised explosives.



Left: Brenda McGraw, Mercy Medical Center, speaking on state Disaster Medical Assistance Teams.

Current trends, opinions, and input from others will help determine our lineup for next year's speakers. So, as you travel to other events and run across interesting speakers and presenters, please pass their contact information to **Susan Green** and **Beth Lewis** at 515.725.3231. Ω

Training Opportunities

...Continued from Page 3

ing of what should be in their COOP/COG plan and even have a start on the plan.

Contact **Jim Marwedel**, **Amy Meston**, or **Beth Lewis** at 515.725.3231 for more information.

Rapid Needs Assessment (G-191)

When: April 17, 2013
9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Where: Kirkwood Community College

6301 Kirkwood Blvd.
Cedar Rapids

An accurate assessment will need to be done within the first few hours of an incident. This course will help you learn who needs to be involved, and get your plans reviewed and in place before an incident occurs.

Contact HSEMD's **Susan Green** or **Beth Lewis** at 515.725.3231 for more information. Ω