

JUNE 2008 WASHINGTON CSEPP REPORT

COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

- BCES is developing a mutual-aid interoperability plan for operations for use during a CSEPP event.
- BCES and WEMD worked with Umatilla County to solve the lack of communications between Umatilla's 450MHz radio system and BCES' 800MHz radio system.
- BCES estimates the Badger Mountain 800MHz simulcast site addition is 98% complete. Equipment for the site has been installed and microwave equipment for the backbone infrastructure is ordered, with installation set for Sept. 2008.
- BCES is planning for the Digital P-25 800MHz radio system upgrade, for which CSEPP funded \$7 million and local jurisdictions contributed \$4 million. BCES, Adcomm Engineering and Motorola will finalize the system design by September, and the system is projected to be installed and operational by Sept. 2009.
- 800MHz rebanding is scheduled for Wave 1 at BCES. An FCC mandate requires rebanding of public safety 800MHz systems to eliminate interference. The Frequency Reconfiguration Agreement with Sprint/Nextel is done and approved by the Transition Administrator and Sprint/Nextel. Rebanding began May 26, 2008 and is to be completed in August.
- WEMD CSEPP Telecommunications Section Supervisor **Don Miller** at the State EOC and Communications Specialist **Michael Namchuk** in Benton County maintained the microwave system for the 800 MHz radio system used by Benton County responders, and reported no problems or expenditures for Channel Banks maintenance, Microwave upgrade, telephone PBX, voice mail and telephone recorder maintenance.
- WEMD's Automation staff **Jocelyn Redmond, Ed Toft** and crew worked on a Network Security hardware upgrade, laptop/copier/printer/fax/server hardware/wireless replacements, Network Room and multimedia W/VTC upgrades, maintaining network hardware, installing Internet Protocol v.6 and maintaining database/email/file/servers.

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

- BCES Public Information Officer (PIO) Steve Sautter continued outreach at community events, including Kadlec Medical Center Safe Kids Day; six presentations given to local schools and community groups; and attending regular citizen and government meetings.
- BCES PIO Sautter continued as the lead for the Umatilla Public Information Group (UPIG) in maintaining and training in the Umatilla Mobile Joint Information Center.
- In the course of sustaining Emergency Public Information (EPI) programs for their agencies and publics, CSEPP public information officers (PIOs) continue to support the development of National Incident Management System (NIMS) guidance and training and pass along best practices and lessons-learned from their CSEPP experience to PIOs nationwide. This support strategy includes PIOs from BCES, WEMD and other members of the UPIG, as well as PIOs from other agencies in Washington and Oregon. **Steve Sautter** from BCES, **Mark Clemens** from WEMD and other CSEPP PIOs participated last year in the nationwide review of the draft "NIMS Basic Guidance for PIOs," which was published as final in November. Since then, they helped incorporate the Guidance's key principles into "Basic Public Information Officer" courses team-taught with the UPIG in December, January and March. Also last fall, a first attempt by NIMS to ready PIO teams for running joint information systems (JISs) and joint information centers (JICs) was drafted by Clemens and two fellow staffers from WEMD, Lead PIO **Rob Harper** and CSEPP Exercise and Training Section Supervisor **James Yates**. Entitled "JICmaster Training," the draft concept for training JIS-JIC leadership was recently inserted in a revamped sequence of courses aimed at becoming the NIMS' training canon for PIOs across the country. Harper participated in the focus group of local, state and federal PIOs who proposed this re-sequencing in early June at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, Maryland. When Clemens was unable to attend the same session as planned, **Cheryl Seigal** (former CSEPP PIO for Umatilla County, Oregon, now working for Innovative Emergency Management (IEM) as a public outreach specialist with FEMA's CSEPP Field Office in Hermiston, Oregon) stepped in, maintaining the program's contribution to the national focus group along with CSEPP Lead Public Affairs Officer **Steve Horwitz**, who was also in attendance. Specifically tasked to update EMI's "Basic PIO" course curriculum and begin developing NIMS JIS-JIC training of a more basic nature, the focus group took an important step further in laying out a new sequence of EMI/NIMS courses. Tentatively, that line-up card would include: 1) an online Introduction to PIO, 2) a one- or two-day Basic PIO delivered in the states, 3) a one- or two-day Basic JIS-JIC delivered in the states, 4) a two- or three-day Advanced PIO delivered at EMI and 5) a one- or two-day Advanced JIS-JIC (starting from "JICmaster Training" model, which may be repeated regularly as innovations continue blending into the hands-on, do-and-learn curriculum). A capstone for the sequence is the current External Affairs (ESF 15) leadership training for federal PIOs, which may begin to fold in state, tribal and local PIOs. As this new sequence continues to be refined, the bottom line for the CSEP Program is that current JIS-JIC teams at CSEPP sites around the country and their JIC facilities, either or both, will be ideal locations to beta test newly designed NIMS courses. An offer to that effect has been on the table since January. That's when the CSEPP Public Affairs IPT's NIMS Integration Task Force, chaired by Clemens, extended it to staff at the Incident Management Systems Division of the National Integration Center and a working group of PIOs from the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), which also has the lead in this process. For more info more developments in the NIMS PIO process, watch your CSEPP information venues, including the next edition of this, WEMD's and BCES's "Washington State CSEPP Report."
- The state Department of Ecology shares CSEPP information with the state agencies of Fish and Wildlife and Parks and Recreation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Central Washington local emergency planning committees (LEPCs) and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.



CHEMICAL STOCKPILE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

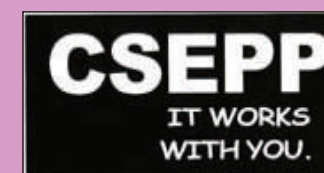
WASHINGTON
STATE

CSEPP REPORT

January-June 2008

Benton County
Emergency Services
(BCES)
Richland, Wash.

Washington
Emergency
Management Division
(WEMD)
Camp Murray, Wash.



RED CROSS DISASTER WORKER INTERVIEWS "VICTIMS" AT ASSISTANCE CENTER DURING BENTON COUNTY'S CSEPP FIELD EXERCISE.

WebEOC WIN-WIN

- BCES CSEPP staffers and superlative WebEOC Administrators and **Tim Collins** and **Lyle Ball** received national recognition when the "Boundless Collaborator" award was bestowed on the duo in recognition of their "outstanding support to the user community as a whole" while they were attending the WebEOC National Conference in Boston, Massachusetts.
- Including BCES and WEMD, the Umatilla CSEPP Community has moved from WebEOC 6.5 to WebEOC 7.0, and implemented the use of EsiWebFusion. These tools were used successfully in the 2008 National Level Exercise 2-08 in May, which included Umatilla's SRFx exercise.

EQUIPPING RESPONDERS

- BCES continued normal equipment maintenance, along with training for fire agencies involved with CSEPP. Walla Walla Fire District #5 received SCBA equipment to replace older incompatible equipment to increase their breathing air capabilities and allow them to be interoperable with members of the SeWAG users group. All CSEPP responders receive upgraded or rehabbed equipment to help deal with the demands of an extended decontamination and enhance decon breathing air capability, bringing them into interoperability with other responders. Special attention is given to equipment to help rapidly lower body core temperatures during hot summer days.
- The aforementioned SeWAG, or Southeastern Washington Air User Group, is co-chaired by BCES's CSEPP Planner **Mike Harris**. Established in 2006 to consolidate Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) equipment, testing and maintenance, the group's members are Benton County Fire District No. 1, 2 and 4; Kennewick and Richland fire departments; Tri-County Hazardous Materials Team; and BCES CSEPP. The group coordinates the repair and maintenance of SCBAs; necessary periodic testing of air and equipment; and manages the regional inventory of airpicks, cylinders and related equipment.
- Two hospitals involved with BCES CSEPP received updated decontamination tent shower systems to replace their older models. The systems models are color coordinated, making rapid identification of hot and cold zones easier for responders and patients. The older systems were transferred to fire and health responders for expanded command and control capabilities.
- BCES worked with all CSEPP responding agencies and area hospitals to replace their expired supply of MK I nerve agent antidote kits with a supply of the new DuoDote auto injectors. The new DuoDote delivers both antidote agents in one auto injection.

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ALERT AND NOTIFICATION

- BCES conducted two Tone Alert Radio (TAR) exchanges for emergency zone residents to replace seven-year-old batteries. Several dozen old TARs came in during the two-day event.
- BCES continued normal maintenance and testing of sirens, tone alert radios and highway reader boards.
- 800MHz System Manager **Val Eveland** is working with the state Department of Transportation (DOT) to convert all CSEPP highway message signs to an Internet Protocol (IP) for activations.
- BCES updated EAS messages.

PLANS

Allen Jakobitz of WEMD's Planning, Analysis and Logistics Section provided CSEPP support to a Umatilla Chemical Depot CAIRA in the second quarter; monitored daily CSEPP budgets for FFY06, 07 and 08; drafted a revision for the state's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan; is preparing revisions for the Fixed Facilities Plan and Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Assessment (both due this summer); demonstrated the CSEPP planning tool; provided WEMD with daily support for WebPuff, GIS and mapping; maintained EmerGeo map files and coordinated WebPuff 3.0 training; and coordinated CSEPP planning tool accounts for one local jurisdiction and one state agency.

TRAINING AND EXERCISES

- WEMD CSEPP's strong exercise program has been strengthened with the addition of new Exercise and Training Officer **Ted Born**. He hit the decks running on the first day of his arrival in January in a full-court effort to prepare his program mates, WEMD as a whole, and partner agencies for a cascading series of exercises. In addition to the SRFX-Umatilla three-day behemoth exercise in May, these included the all-encompassing National Level Exercise 2-08 in May 1-8, Sound Shake earthquake exercise in March, and a plethora of table tops and training presentations. In the case of NLE, Born and the CSEPP exercise program succeeded in assisting with the development of the structure of the response and recovery exercise by coordinating with a broad array of local, state and federal partners to assure effective integration at all levels.
- BCES and WEMD participated in the second-quarter CAIRA exercise with the Umatilla Chemical Depot.
- CSEPP PIOs Steve Sautter from BCES and Mark Clemens from WEMD teamed with the UPIG to instruct two Basic PIO courses in January and March.
- BCES designed and conducted a field exercise for local CSEPP response agencies, including BCES, the American Red Cross, Benton County Fire

Districts 1 and 4, Kennewick Fire Department, Kennewick General Hospital, Kadlec Medical Center, American Medical Response, Mid-Columbia Ambulance Service, Benton County Coroner's Office and a Southern Baptist Feeding Kitchen.

- BCES also participated in the three-day CSEPP

Exercise portion of the National Level Exercise. For the exercise, the Benton County Emergency Operations Center was activated along with the Benton County Multi-Agency Coordinating (MAC) Group. The BCES PIO represented the county in the Umatilla Joint Information Center in Pendleton, Oregon.

- In March in Benton County, Kennewick General Hospital, Kadlec Medical Center, Lourdes Medical Center, Kennewick Fire Dept, Benton Co Fire Dist #1, Prosser Fire Dept, and Benton Co. Fire Dist #2 received training in decontamination and medical aspects for chemical response through the new contract with Battelle.
- Coordinated by **Milo Straus** of the state Department of Health, the CSEPP medical program assists and evaluates pre-hospital and hospital medical preparedness to ensure local response teams have the proper training and equipment to protect the health and safety of themselves and Washington citizens in the event of a chemical release from Umatilla Chemical Depot. Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE) and decontamination training was conducted for the 2008 CSEPP Exercise in May, and is ongoing. More training is scheduled this year for evaluating patients exposed to chemical warfare agents and START triage.
- The state's Department of Ecology personnel planned, trained and coordinated with local, state and federal personnel prior to the annual CSEPP Exercise, May 5-7, then performed s planned and practiced during the exercise in support of the incident commander.

EOCs

Built to survive an 8.0 earthquake, WEMD's State EOC is a resource coordination point for federal and local EOCs in Washington, as well as the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) during major disasters across the country. Recently, CSEPP supported a \$37,500 upgrade to the Alert and Warning Center in the State EOC, enhancing the capabilities of the state's 24/7 Duty Officers.

SPOTLIGHT ON TRAINING

In the beginning was the Word. Or in the world of CSEPP, one little line item, "06-WA-EMD-000670, EOC Response and Recovery Training Contract, \$492,393."

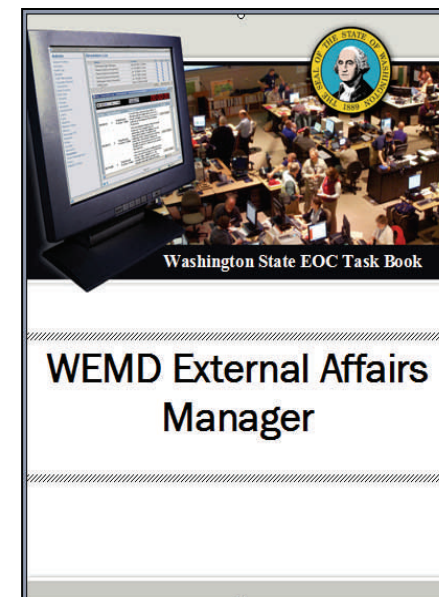
Using these monies reallocated from FFY06, WEMD staff led by CSEPP Program Manager **Steve DeBow** and CSEPP Exercise and Training Section Supervisor **James Yates** are part-way through the EOC Training Project, a sweeping update of procedures and position descriptions for State Emergency Operations Center (EOC), showing the way for similar efforts at other local and state agencies.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Project took five months to complete in 2007, even though everything was expedited. The late start significantly compressed the Project timeline, shrinking the calendar to get the first rounds of training in place to three months. During the period covered by this Report, CSEPP staff worked in hand-in-glove with Project Manager **Paul Harvey** and crew from Innovative Emergency Management (IEM), the contractor selected to assist with the massive undertaking.

Early this year, the team reviewed WEMD's recently revised Standard Operating Procedures, then drafted brand-new EOC Task Books for each of the more than 100 jobs in the State EOC. The team infused the Books with position checklists; intra-EOC coordination protocols; new NIMS structures and processes; and procedures for using new technologies. Foremost among the latter was WebEOC, the use of which is unique to each EOC section. (An additional note: WebEOC is being integrated with PIER, or Public Information Emergency Response, a collaborative system of Web sites licensed by PIER Systems of Bellingham, Washington, and used by WEMD PIOs for rapid coordination and dissemination of emergency information.)

The result was more than 100 hefty three-ring binders, each with 92 pages containing everything anyone would need to know to be a fully functional contributor in an emergency activation.

From there, CSEPP and other WEMD staff and IEM planned the training package that would bring everyone up to speed on the new Task Books. This grew



ONE OF 100+ NEW TASK BOOKS NOW RESIDING IN WEMD'S STATE EOC.

to include the State EOC by section-- Operations, Logistics, Plans, Admin/ Finance and External Affairs (a.k.a. PIO)--plus supervisors, managers, liaisons and other functional groups. Sticking to the Project timeline, multiple training sessions were stacked concurrent and back-to-back in mid- and late April.

At stake was getting EOC workers ready for National Level Exercise 2-08, May 1-8, the target objective of the contract's first major phase. Also slated to be a Service Response Force Exercise (SRFX), the Umatilla Site's annual CSEPP Exercise, conducted May 5-7, was just one of the over-arching NLE's multiple venues (or vignettes--other response elements in the Pacific Northwest exercised under the NLE umbrella being Seattle and Whatcom County (terrorist strikes) and the military's Ardent Sentry Exercise (support to civilian authority).

The three-day Umatilla Exercise blended in with the other Northwest venues by addressing response issues during the first day and recovery issues on the second and third. Running an effective Multiple Agency Coordination (MAC) Group to allocate resources, a major objective of the exercise, was played full tilt for two days, bringing the Umatilla Community closer to realizing the full potential of

this complicated joint enterprise.

The first phase of the EOC Training Project ended with the NLE yielding numerous lessons-learned now being woven into WEMD's EOC Task Books. The new binders were used by EOC workers in a recent U.S. Department of Energy-Richland Exercise, June 19; and will be used in the Energy Northwest Columbia Generating Station Dress Rehearsal, July 8-9, and Exercise, Sept. 9-10.

Similar to its first phase that climaxed in May, the EOC Training Project has multiple training sessions on the revised Task Books booked back-to-back and belly-to-belly in August. Sessions are scheduled on WebEOC and MAC Group procedures, too. Also in the works, concrete linkage in tracking emergency expenditures that will clarify and streamline accounting procedures between the State EOC's Logistics Section, WEMD's departmental Finance Office, the state Department of General Administration and the state's Office of Financial Management. Following that round of training, WEMD CSEPP and IEM will use glitches found and improvements gleaned to make final modifications to the EOC Task Books and training package by the end of September.

At that point, the EOC Training Project's mission to create EOC Task Books and other procedures and the training package to go with it will be complete. The Project's documentation and course curricula will be made available to local jurisdictions within the state and shared with other states in FEMA Region 10 to develop a consistent response and recovery process. Combined with the CSEPP Planning template, the training package will provide a platform for developing interoperability within and among states and counties in FEMA Region 10.

And WEMD's State EOC will take over what began as a gleam in CSEPP's eye, revising and maintaining this set of living how-to documents, the "same sheet of music" incessantly sought and seldom achieved. What WEMD EOC workers will have then is a new "bible" to go by, what might be thought of as the Word.

OF SPECIAL NOTE

- WEMD and BCES CSEPP staffers are well underway for submitting their FFY09 CSEPP Budget Proposal to FEMA Region 10 in July.
- Using CSEPP's Closeout Template, erstwhile CSEPP Planner and current Logistician Dave Hall is drafting WEMD's CSEPP Closeout Plan for review this summer by WEMD Director Jim Mullen and Maj. Gen. Timothy J. Lowenberg, The Adjutant General and head of WEMD's parent agency, the Washington Military Department.
- A first step in WEMD's CSEPP Closeout Plan--reducing CSEPP staff levels at WEMD--becomes effective July 1, the beginning of the state budget year. The reduction won't actually hit home till Oct. 1, the beginning of FFY09. At this point in the downsizing, the Closeout Plan merely consolidates salary percentages, reducing the CSEPP portions from nine positions to eight in the WEMD organization chart. Whew.