EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING SUMMARY
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2008

Participants: Teresa Scott          Chris Walsh
             Curt Edwards          Kürt Blomquist

Absent: Larry Zensinger          David Himes
        Diane Linderman, APWA Board Liaison

Staff: Teresa Hon
       Laura Berkey
       Karen Wilson

1. Teresa Scott called the meeting to order

2. There were no changes to the agenda, however, Teresa Hon asked to discuss the May issue of the Reporter if time allowed.

3. The September 17, Meeting Summary was approved

4. Legislative Update – Laura Berkey had forwarded an updated matrix of legislative issues and provided the following summary. Continuing Resolution passed. Total appropriations are $1.029 trillion, with $22.9 billion for disaster relief. Most important funds went to the following programs: Pre-Disaster Mitigation - $120 million, Flood Map Modernization - $200 million, Flood Insurance Fund - $145 million, National Flood Mitigation Fund - $34 million; CR Funds expire as of March 6, 2009.

Wind Hazards: 2 bills have been introduced--one in the House and one in the Senate. The bills are virtually identical and are now sitting in committee. If a Lame Duck session were to be called after the November election, it is probably that these bills might move.

Also, the National Flood Insurance program is up for reauthorization--and HR 3121 has passed the House and Senate. It is in Conference Committee. House Conferences have been chosen, but there is a delay in the Senate as to who will sit on the Conference Committee. If a Lame Duck session is called, this bill might pass out of the Conference Committee, pass Congress once again, and be ready for the President's signature.

Nevertheless, before CR funds expire next year, the PDM Program, Flood Insurance, and Wind Hazards needs to be addressed and funds need to be allocated.

5. Education report – Karen Wilson provided information on upcoming educational programs:
a. October 16, 2008 Click Listen & Learn: Porous Pavement – How Is It Performing?
b. October 22-24, 2008 Public Works Fleet Management – 2 ½ day workshop to be held in Dallas, Texas.
c. October 30, 2008 Program #1 in the Sustainability web series called Introduction to Sustainability and What It Means to Public Works.
d. November 13, 2008 Click Listen & Learn: Ethics…or Doing the Right Thing
e. The Education Summit is scheduled for April 2-3 in Kansas City.

6. At-Large Director Report – Diane Linderman was not present. She had previously indicated via e-mail that there was nothing pressing to report from the Board of Directors. However, there is a conference call this week for the Public Works Working Group. Brian Usher is the new chair.

   By email message Diana had asked the DC staff to report on the status of the WARN letter. Laura indicated that Peter King has a draft of the WARN letter in his possession but hasn’t been sent as yet. The letter reiterates the importance of mutual aid programs and involvement of public works. It will include the board approved APWA position statement on statewide mutual aid agreements.

7. Sustainability Task Force – Teresa Scott indicated that a face-to-face meeting has been approved for October but no date has been set.

8. 2009 Congress topics – Teresa Hon reported that all topics had been submitted.
   a. Partnering to be more effective in your community – Mutual Aid/EMAC US (Leon Shafer – pw reallocation of EMAC funds) and get someone from Canada to talk about their emergency – Teresa Scott has attempted to get some from Canada to work with Larry Z on this session
   b. Training/Credentialing – David
   c. Climate Change Adaptation: What are potential impacts? Urban heat, urban flooding, etc. Using history is no longer accurate for predictions because of changes in climate. Incorporate Midwest flooding issues – Kürt

9. Reporter articles: Discussion of topics and authors for articles for the January edition of the Reporter (due November 28)
   b. Homeland Security Consortium – Chris & Laura ready to be submitted to Kevin.
   c. Recovery & Continuity combined with COOP Plans – Teresa & Brian
   d. I-90 blizzard fiasco – Chris has submitted this article
   e. Mutual Aid – Teresa Hon to contact Larry Lux
   f. Climate Change/Adaptability issues: potential impacts – Kürt & Larry
   g. Invasive Species (e.g., Emerald Ash Bore, Gypsy Moth, Pine Beetle, Muscles in Water System) – underway
   h. Washington Inside column will reflect on how emergency and mitigation has changed during the Bush administration and possibly changes in Congress with new administration – Laura
   i. Someone from Canada to partner on an article to set the stage for the Congress topic. Teresa Scott will locate a contact to work with Larry.
10. Members will review bulleted items for the chapter event topics and provide input to the specific member responsible. The goal is to distribute the list of the chapter contacts by Wednesday, October 22. Teresa Hon will forward the complete list to members.
   a. NIMS requirements – Teresa Scott (submitted)
   b. Public Works and Exercise: When the Ball is in our Court as Incident Commander – Curt Edwards (submitted)
   c. Incorporating ICS in our daily lives (Chris to share PowerPoint) – David Himes
   e. Employee Care during an emergency – Chris Walsh (submitted)
   f. TCL Initiative – Teresa Scott (submitted)
   g. Mutual Aid Plans: An Overview – Kürt Blomquist (submitted)
   h. Declarations and the Impact: You Think You’re Ready? – Curt Edwards (submitted)
   i. Public Works’ Role in Emergency Management – Kürt Blomquist (submitted)
   j. Debris Management/Contracts – Larry Zensinger (submitted)
   k. Public Works Role & School Crisis Incidents – Chris Walsh (submitted)
   l. Climate Change – Larry Zensinger (submitted)

11. Report on *Recovery Field Operations Manual/Pocket Guide* – Kürt Blomquist indicated that during the recent conference call meeting he was pleased to see that many authors had followed through on fleshing out their respective sections. Teresa Hon will send periodic reminders for missing text so that the committee can review the complete list at the next conference call scheduled for October 31.

12. Subcommittee Reports
   a. Stafford Act Coalition – No report
   b. Homeland Security Advisory Committee (Judy Mueller) – Laura Berkey provided an overview of the selection process. Jennifer Meyers at DHS indicated that after the new president elected it will be at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security who will sit on advisory committee and subcommittees. It is possible all or some of the members may be dismissed. It is also possible that s/he will choose to keep entire Homeland Security Committee membership. Three is a chance that a public works person may be on the committee or a subcommittee. Resumes and contact info for nominees should be sent by APWA National to Jennifer who will then send to the liaison office. Applicants are then reviewed by liaison and recommendations sent to the Secretary. The secretary selects and submits list for background checks. Peter King recommends we hold on for now and wait until openings are available.
   c. FEMA National Advisory Council – have submitted three nominees for subcommittees to FEMA office. Bob Shea said main contact who handles nominees will be in touch in a couple of weeks.
   d. HSPD-8: National Preparedness Goal, Target Capabilities, Universal Task List, NIMS and NPR Update – Teresa Scott received an invite to NIMS implementation planning conference Oct 27-28 in Somerset, KY, sponsored by FEMA. It sounds as though they want advice from federal, state, local, tribal as well as private sector. Intent is to continue involving these groups as they move through 5-year training and implementation plan.
   e. Credentialing: NFPA Standards Committee – no report
   f. Credentialing: DHS Committee – no report
   g. NEMA Homeland Security Consortium – Chris Walsh & Laura Berkey are looking for topics for a meeting in December in Monterey, Calif. Chris would like something on
climate change (adaptation and possible threats that might affect homeland security) but doesn’t know who the speaker could be. Kürt and Teresa S will send info to Chris.

h. SAFECOM (Jeff Wilson) – Laura Berkey indicated that a meeting has been scheduled in Orlando in December. She will check with Jeff to confirm his attendance.


13. Schedule for monthly InfoNOW Community Postings (e-mail addressed to emergency@infonow.apwa.net)

   October – Curt Edwards (Nov 12-14 Southern California simulation)
   November – Kürt will post something on climate change
   December – Chris Walsh

12. Spring Meeting Update – Teresa Hon indicated that the dates of April 9 and 10, 2009, have been confirmed. Committee members will arrive in DC on Wednesday, April 8. The committee will meet in the APWA office on April 9. Friday the committee will be at FEMA headquarters with a possible tour of the National Response Coordinating Center. DC staff will work with FEMA to secure individuals who can speak to predetermined topics of interest to APWA.
   - Public Assistance
   - Infrastructure Repair
   - Advocates of Small Communities
   - Temporary Housing
   - Individual Assistance Division

   Committee members can work with DC staff to arrange Hill visits if they arrive early on Wednesday.
   Staff will work to schedule discussion regarding levees with a representative from the Army Corps of Engineers on Thursday.
   Rooms have been reserved at the Sheraton Four Points. Members will receive confirmations of their hotel rooms in late January along with travel authorization.

13. Levee issue – Larry Z. is doing some research on the topic of floodmapping updates and the pending requirement that local governments must provide structural inspection. Larry Frevert will invite an individual to provide additional

14. Sustainability issue of the Reporter – The APWA has decided to add a series of articles on sustainability to the May issue of the Reporter which currently contains the Top 10 recipients. Each committee will be asked to supply an article for the issue.

15. Next Committee Meeting – November 12 at 8:00am Pacific/9:00am Mountain/10:00am Central/11:00am Eastern