EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING SUMMARY
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2009

Participants: Teresa Scott Larry Zensinger
Kürt Blomquist Chris Walsh
David Himes Curt Edwards

Absent: Diane Linderman, APWA Board

Staff: Teresa Hon Laura Berkey

1. Teresa Scott called the meeting to order at 10:04 am

2. There were no agenda additions or changes

3. The July 10, 2009, Meeting Summary was approved as submitted

4. Legislative Update –
   • Laura reported on the following legislative developments:
     o The FY 2010 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill will be taken up again in September after Congress returns from its Summer Recess. The appropriations bill must be passed and signed before September 30, as that is when FY 2009 ends.
     o On July 29, House of Representatives passed by a voice vote H.R. 3139, a bill that would extend the National flood Insurance Program (NFIP) until March 31, 2010. Introduced on July 9 by the House Financial Services Chairman Barney Frank (D-MA, 4) and Financial Services Housing Subcommittee Chairwoman Maxine Waters (D-CA, 35), this extension would provide Congress an additional six months to review the current NFIP—as the program was set to expire on September 30, 2009. Reps. Frank and Waters plan to develop bi-partisan legislation that would reform the NFIP. According to the House Financial Services Committee, "the updated legislation would incorporate important NFIP reforms previously approved by the House in 2007 and consider new studies and information not available when the Committee last reviewed the NFIP." However, Reps. Frank and Waters did not go into specifics as to what previously approved legislative language or provisions might be used in this new bill.
     o A third chemical security bill, "The Drinking Water System Security Act of 2009" (HR 3258) was introduced on July 20 and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s Subcommittee on Energy and Environment. The bill’s hearing was canceled and has not moved since. Once the bill starts to move, APWA intends to send an advocacy letter to appropriate Members of Congress.
     o On July 29, the “Emergency Management Assistance Compact Reauthorization Act of 2009” (S 1288) passed out of the Senate Homeland Security Committee. The bill reauthorizes EMAC and extends the program through 2012, allocating $4 million annually. There has been no indication thus far as to whether or not the House will take up this bill.
Laura informed the committee that James Walke, FEMA Director of the Public Assistance Division will join the conference call in October to discuss with the committee on their desire to become more involved with FEMA’s Public Assistance Programs. This meeting is a follow up to the committee’s 2009 Spring Meeting where members attended a briefing on FEMA where Public Assistance Programs/Initiatives were featured.

Laura reminded the committee of the upcoming meetings with Richard Reed, Special Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Senior Director of Continuity and Craig Fugate, FEMA Administrator. APWA President Noel Thompson, Emergency Management Committee Chair Teresa Scott and Board of Directors Liaison Diane Linderman will be attending these meetings with APWA staff.

On August 11, FEMA published a proposed rule in the Federal Register to allow for a reduction of the federal cost share for restoration of repetitively damaged facilities that have not undergone appropriate mitigation measures. The committee indicated an interest in submitting comments and plan to send thoughts/remarks to Laura as soon as possible. Formal comments are due to FEMA on or before October 13, 2009.

5. At-Large Director Report – Diane Linderman was not available to provide a report; however, she did indicate in an e-mail to the committee that the Board and staff are getting ready for Congress. Attendance numbers are still falling short of projections. The Center for Sustainability met with lots of energy and enthusiasm. They are working on their business plan to present at Congress to the board.

6. Education Report
- Upcoming programs
  - CLL - New Technology in HVAC with focus on indoor air quality – September 9
  - Congress & Expo in September

- Planning for the 2010 Sustainability Conference
  - It will be held in June 2010 – Minneapolis, MN. Minneapolis was chosen because of its success with green and sustainable issues and its central location and access.
  - The Call for Presentations for this Conference is currently open. Committee members were encouraged to get the word out.

- The Call for Presentations for both Congress and the 2010 Snow Conference are also open. [http://www.apwa.net/callforpresentations/](http://www.apwa.net/callforpresentations/) Deadlines are approaching fast and members were asked to promote the availability of these speaking opportunities

- The new curriculum on Stormwater Management was submitted to APWA by the contractor (Texas Engineering Extension (TEEX) at Texas A&M). This program will be rolled as two live-workshops to be held in the 2010 fiscal year.

- September meeting: The Education Committee will meet at Congress on Sunday, September 13, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

7. Selection of topics for proposed Guaranteed Education Sessions for Congress 2010 in Boston, Massachusetts, August 15-18
   - Pandemic Flu – Chris thinks it might be too late by August 2010 but could become a case study – We’ll go ahead and submit but if it looks as though the topic won’t be viable, we can replace it with an emerging issue prior to publication of the Congress preview
   - Incident Management Teams: What are they? Establishing agency, regional and state teams. Wisconsin, Colorado and Tennessee could be models – Chris will serve as the lead with Curt’s assistance
   - Supersession which includes:
     - NIMS Compliance – applications for small agencies – Kürt (with Larry’s help)
     - Are you prepared to answer to FEMA (NIMS Compliance)? – Teresa Scott
     - Ensuring reimbursement/surviving an audit – Kürt and David
d. Debris management and sustainability, joint with SWANA (reminding those with localized events that there could be a state event and they need to plan for it) – Kürt will lead after Teresa Hon finds out if the Solid Waste Committee would like to plan the event jointly. She will also find out from staff if the joint session would count as one of the EM Committee’s three guaranteed sessions.

8. Discussion of topics and authors for articles for the January edition of the Reporter (due November 28)
a. Washington Insight article from Laura
b. Michele Tetreault or Darwin Durnie could do an article on the Canadian perspective – Larry Z to follow-up after Congress presentation
c. Pull bios of other committee applicants to identify potential strengths for an article – Teresa H will contact these individuals to see if they’d like to contribute an article
   o Jim Cullen (CA) from his bio … As the Public Works Director for the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea, I was actively involved in 4 declared federal disasters (one earthquake and 3 big storm/flood events). That included working in the Emergency Operation Center, and in taking a leadership role in first responder, initial recovery, and long-term recovery activities. I also had to deal with all the issues associated with FEMA funding and reimbursements.
   o Darrell Jones (GA) Hazard Mitigation GIS applications (with a private firm and experience heavy in water)
   o Dave Bergner (KS) First responders for traffic incident
d. Fargo mayor regarding flood response/evacuation – probably won’t pan out since we were unable to obtain for the Congress session
e. Follow-up to Congress sessions
f. Smaller agencies & IMT – Perry Hopkins (David to contact)
g. Smaller agencies & NIMS Compliance (Kürt)
h. Hazard mitigation plan (Teresa & Curt)
i. Preview of the Boston Congress with SWANA on debris management (Teresa H)
j. Cedar Rapids riverfront planning (Diane Linderman has a contact)
k. Emergency response and recovery after the May 2008 Wenchuan China Earthquake – Curt
l. Committee report from Teresa Hon
m. EMI Training programs available (someone contact Al Fluman to request an article)

9. Curriculum-Based Certificate programs – The committee did not feel there were topics to be pursued at this time for a certificate program. Chris Walsh indicated that we might revisit this again after FEMA reviews the proposal from the APWA/FEMA Education Task Force. Staff will place this item on the agenda periodically.

10. Subcommittee Reports
   a. Stafford Act Coalition – Larry attended a coalition meeting a couple of weeks ago. A lot of discussion centered on the flood insurance program. He anticipates considerable discussion regarding amendments to the program and another extension requirement. NEMA Staffer who is heart and soul of Stafford Act has left to be a staff member with Craig Fugate. NEMA has advertised for replacement. Larry expects that the work of the group will resume once the new staff member has been named.
   b. Homeland Security Advisory Committee (Judy Mueller) – Laura has not received a report from Judy.
   c. HSPD-8: National Preparedness Goal, Target Capabilities, Universal Task List, NIMS and NPR Update – Teresa S had nothing new to report
d. Credentialing: NFPA Standards Committee – David indicated that there was nothing new to report
e. Credentialing: DHS Committee – Diane was not available for a report
f. SAFECOM (Phil Mann) – There was a conference call on scheduled yesterday. Teresa S. was going to participate but didn’t receive connection info until after the call. She does have the presentation and will forward it to staff. Phil will participate in the follow-up call on August 25.
g. Conference Calls: TSA, Water Security – Laura had no report
h. Review Team for National Committee on Levee Safety – Laura is waiting for it to come out of OMB and will report when it does
i. FEMA Focus Group – Teresa Hon provided a brief report on the status of the group’s recommendation to FEMA. She will monitor and provide update as available.
j. *Recovery Field Operations Manual* – Brian Usher (working as editor of the publication) recently sent word to APWA staff and Teresa Scott indicating that he felt there was no way the material will be ready for publication by Congress. There is considerable concern regarding the lack of material for some sections. The item will be placed on the agenda for Congress for resolution of the issue.
k. Homeland Security Consortium – Chris/Laura – No report at this time as there is a conference call this Thursday
l. Target Capabilities Working Group – Laura will follow-up with Trina Sheets to find out what is happening with these working groups as many committee members have not been contacted
   • Continuity of operations – Teresa S
   • Economic and community recovery – Kürt & Chris
   • Restoration of lifelines – Teresa S
   • Community preparedness – Kürt
   • On-site incident command – David & Chris
   • Critical infrastructure protection – David & Kürt
   • Mitigation – Larry & Chris
   • Citizen evacuation and shelter in place – Larry

11. Schedule for monthly InfoNOW Community Postings (e-mail addressed to emergency@infonow.apwa.net)
   August – Teresa S will post a notice regarding the Department of Homeland Security Quadrennial Homeland Security Review. It was suggested that members outside the Emergency group might be interested as well. Laura will include it in a super push on the Advocacy web page and Teresa H will cross post to other communities.
   September – Kurt B (National Response Framework)

12. Agenda items for Congress meeting
   a. Body of Knowledge project
   b. Process for selection of authors for special projects
   c. *Recovery Field Operations Manual*
   d. Model Procedures Guide for Highway Incidents

13. Next Committee Meeting – September 15, Columbus, Ohio, 11:00-12:30am in Room D240