



## NSPA Coalition Business Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2022

Robert opened the meeting up at 2 pm.

- Reviewed agenda, Welcome, Call to order

Roll call:

- Attendance was recorded via the sign-in sheet for those attending online and in-person
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**NSPA Board of Directors Elections:** 2 positions are open including the Public Health seat and the Emergency Management seat. Jason Deese currently resides in the public health capacity and has opted to renew his seat for an additional term. Jonathan Simmons currently resides in the emergency management seat and has nominated Mike Guzo for election. No additional nominations were given during the meeting. Members voted to approve both individuals; the motion carried.

**Paige Bordwine, VDH Epi,** provided a regional Epi Report to all coalition members:

- increase in Flu cases across the State, but not much in the southwest region yet. Although it is predicted to be very prevalent this season.
- high increase in RSV across the region
- the Monkeypox situation within the region remains steady with prophylaxis, testing, and reporting.
- Ebola has been reported out of Uganda, and all travel is being routed through 5 US airports including Dulles, VA. Epi team is doing assessments and contact tracing within the region. Preparedness and planning is underway, and encourage reviewing your current response plans.

The featured presentation was given by **Nick Philo** from the *National Weather Service* on preparing for the upcoming winter weather season to include predictions, best practices for planning, and important contact information.

Two additional presentations were given. One by **Jeremy May** from *Paladin Disaster Management* discussing their mobile morgue and response equipment. The other given by **Peter Judd** at *ACI Federal* discussing staffing resources for medical institutions.

### **Director's Report:**

Robert spoke on Coalition deliverables and projects including: Coalition Assessment Tool, Regional HVA Analysis, updated EOP/COOP, Medical Readiness Surge Exercise, Radiological Surge Annex and TTX, Comms tests, CMS Exercise Series, and the Pediatric Preparedness Annex/Workshop.

Annual Theme will be “Getting back to the Basics.” What are our core roles and fundamentals?

Coalition Mission Areas: Information sharing, Collaboration, and Coordination

### **Standing Agenda:**

**RHCC Report-** **Robert Hawkins** gave an RHCC Overview discussing ways to get plugged into the coalition for those that are new, he spoke about the medical response and surge (MRSE) evacuation plan exercise coming up in April 2023, MOU mandated hospital Site Visits to all hospitals within the region to review checked inventory assigned to each facility and answer any specific questions. Robert

encouraged all organizations to review and check their PAPRs to determine needs or issues and reminded facilities about the ICS 213 resource request process.

VHASS: Robert briefly discussed the importance of updating status boards daily and the difference between diversion status definitions, the new VHASS dashboard widgets for quick reference, and upcoming VHASS office hours to address any specific questions.

T&E Report given by **Robert Hawkins** who shared the upcoming MGT 439- Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness course taught by TEEEX hosted by NSPA at the Vinton War Memorial on December 6-7, 2022.

MVP Report- **Mary Kathryn** : provided an update on the 2022 Fall Exercise Series, discussed this fiscal year's theme "Back to the Basics", the importance of utilizing the Virginia Healthcare Alerting and Status System (VHASS), and the reconstitution of the pediatric workgroup.

### **Other Regional Reports:**

**Judy Cooling**, *Southwest Regional Coordinator, VDH*: 2022 Rural Summit October 27-28 open to all that are involved in childcare and economic development sponsored by the United Way of Southwest Virginia

**Jonathan Simmons**, *VDEM Region 6*: in the process of planning their IPPW which will bring out a series of new courses in 2023 to include ICS. Simmons also shared that VEMA has started to review COVID funding distributions and added that partners should be aware and to reach out if they need additional information.

### **Upcoming Events:**

None reported

### **Member Announcements:**

**Chris Garrett**, *Pitt/Dan LHEC, VDH*: special thanks to NSPA and CVHC for their assistance and support with the Blue Ridge Rock Festival.

**David Fesperman**, Danville Pittsylvania Community Services shared an open invitation to their tabletop exercise in November

**Robert** asked if anyone participating remotely had any updates. There were none.

Our next meeting is **Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>** with a featured presentation from Centennial Peaks behavioral health hospital on their response to the Marshall Fire; virtual only.

**Next Business Coalition Meeting:** January 19, 2023 at the Vinton War Memorial