

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMISSION  
MARCH 8, 2006 MEETING MINUTES**

**1. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

In attendance were:

Chairperson Osby  
Commissioner Grossman  
Commissioner Leap  
Commissioner Manning  
Commissioner Milliman  
Commissioner Perett  
Commissioner Stanley

The Commission excused Commissioner Miller.

Commissioner Milliman introduced Council Member Bill DeWitt for the City of South Gate. Council Member Dewitt is experienced in business operations and local government and is an active member of the Southgate City Council. The League of California has nominated Mr. DeWitt to replace Commissioner Blackwood on the Commission.

**2. SELF INTRODUCTIONS**

The audience made self-introductions.

**3. ACTION ON FEBRUARY 8, 2006 MEETING MINUTES**

February's meeting did not have a quorum. Minutes was received and filed by the Commission.

**4. PRESENTATIONS: HURRICANE KATRINA SWIFT WATER RESCUE**

Captain Donald Paul Roy Jr.  
Urban Search & Rescue Task Force 103  
County of Los Angeles Fire Department

**RECENT AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS AT  
STATE OES**

Steve Sellers, Regional Administrator  
Southern Region  
Governor's Office of Emergency Services

Captain Roy showed a power point presentation on the team's rescue efforts in Louisiana during Hurricane Katrina. The Urban Search & Rescue Task Force 103 team was the first team on site. Upon arrival, the city was covered by water, there was no infrastructure, and the

command post was a local sheriff. All other personnel had vacated. The Sheriff assisted the team with whatever resources were available. Teams were deployed two weeks at a time. Federal teams worked with the Army, Coast Guard, National Guard, Police Department, DEA, and the State.

Rescuers worked without law enforcement protection. They worked from sun rise until dark in hazardous water that contained raw sewage, trash, and dead bodies and had to go through a daily decontamination process. They rescued 386 people. Residents that survived were living on their roof tops due to the flooding. No traditional resources or medical care were available to the victims for five days. Rescued victims were placed on high ground for safety and rescuers continued on their mission.

Mr. Sellers assured everyone that the State is not getting rid of the California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) but is focusing their efforts on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) integration. The State is working on major issues from NIMS such as credential and resource coordination, management, and training to meet the Federal requirements. Other areas that the State is focusing on include Senate Bill 546, revising the State's Emergency Operation Plans, and working better with non-governmental organizations.

Hurricane Katrina has prompted some fundamental questions that challenge some of our basic assumptions on emergency management. Katrina has us examining ourselves on how we can do better and how we would manage a large scale disaster such as Katrina. This has forced everyone to revisit their emergency plans. The State joined the Emergency Management Systems Compact on September 13, 2005 which is run by the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) and is working with NEMA to ensure that the system runs smoothly. The State has a strong relationship with local government and Mr. Sellers is a strong supporter. He encourages local government to support committees that are working on Federal issues to meet NIMS compliance.

(A more detailed summary of these presentations are being prepared under separate cover.)

## **5. SUMMARY REPORT OF THE PRESENTATION ON 'HURRICANE KATRINA SEARCH AND RESCUE LESSONS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR CALIFORNIA'**

This item was deferred until the April meeting.

## **6. EPC 2006 WORKPLAN**

The Commission approved the 2006 workplan.

## **7. EPC SEMINAR REPORT**

Commissioner Milliman reported that the seminar will focus on emergency management.

The League of California Cities has agreed to partner with the Commission and help promote the seminar to city manager, council members, and elected officials. The concept is to help them understand fundamental emergency management and their role as an elected official. The program will also include lessons learned from Katrina. This

year's seminar will be held in June.

## **8. EPC AD HOC COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION PROPOSAL**

Commissioner Milliman reported that the committee has completed the draft proposal. The committee will need to meet on the fiscal element of the proposal and also request the County's Chief Administrative Officer's support. Once this is done, a memo and the proposal will be sent to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for review.

## **9. FAREWELL TO COMMISSIONER PERETT**

Each Commissioner thanked Commissioner Perett for her commitment to the Commission, and for supporting each of them. She received a plaque from the Commissioners.

## **10. EPC CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chairperson Osby reminded the commissioners to send their 2005 report to Ms. Mahler for the 2005 Year-End-Report. He will be meeting with each commissioner to discuss the Commission's 2006 goals.

## **11. STAFF REPORT**

Ms. Mahler thanked Captain Frawley and the City of Glendale for hosting the Commission meetings and for also providing the morning refreshments.

She thanked Commissioner Perett for being supportive of her and wished her a happy retirement.

Everyone was reminded to e-mail their City's events to be placed on the EPC Notice of Events.

## **12. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Stanley announced that a Public Safety/Homeland Security workshop will be held at the New Otani Hotel on March 22 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For information visit [www.rims.org](http://www.rims.org).

Commissioner Perett notified everyone that she has been associated with the Commission for 22 years. She started on the Plans and Programs Committee. From Plans and Programs, she joined the newly formed Office of Emergency Management in the Chief Administrative Office and became the Executive Director for the Commission. She told the Commissioners and the audience that this has been a wonderful learning ground and it has been a pleasure working with the commissioners and privilege being associated with the Commission. She thanked them for the tribute, their kind words and for allowing her to serve as a Commissioner. She extended her appreciation to the audience for their dedication to emergency management and supporting the

Commission.

**13. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE.**

None.

**MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA TO BE DISCUSSED AND (IF REQUESTED) PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION.**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

The Brown Act provides an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the Commission on any item of interest to the public, before or during the Commissions consideration of the item. If you wish to speak regarding an agenda item, please notify the Staff Assistant who will forward your request to the Chair. If you wish, you can also address the Commission on an item not listed on the agenda.

**ADJOURN:** The next EPC meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, **April 12, 2006 at the City of Claremont, Hughes Community Center, Padua Room, 1700 Danbury Road.** Please call Carla Mahler, EPC Staff Assistant, at (323) 980-2262 for additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

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**TERRANCE MANNING, Secretary**

TM:CM