

CAEM Minutes – January 26, 2006 Conference Call

Attending: Littlefield, Sherman, Metwally, Adams, Noland, Dennison, Ostrowski, Myers, Thompson (for A. Mann), Wagner, Roehr, Ellis, Tompkins, Vogel, Zaabel, Wilson, and Blanchard.
11am-12:40pm EST

1. CAEM Agenda and decision on meeting at NIAA:

- a. CAEM agreed to meet at NIAA. The NIAA Animal health emergency management committee meets Wednesday, April 5, in morning. NIAA is not permitting Thursday meeting during the special symposium on Business continuity. Pat will email members to get best time for those that plan to attend and send consensus to NIAA.
Post meeting follow up: Meeting will be Wed, April 5, 6-9:30pm and if needed, Thursday, April 6, 6-9:30pm
- b. Agenda: Major item was: Determine priorities and outline action plan to accomplish them for next 1-2 years (see #2 below for items to consider in this regard).

2. Discussion of future items, issues, recommendations and resolutions:

- a. Provide leadership with NASCLO and NASDA by developing a plan that promotes coordination between industry production and processing sectors and the states at a regional level aligning with FEMA regions to ensure response plans address and mitigate impact of regulatory actions on affected and unaffected species. Sub-council looking at DHS funds for pilot projects around US. Uses as models states that have successfully coordinated with one or more industries and modify those to regional level. Does this need a subcommittee of reps from successful states?
- b. N.I.P.P. out Jan 17 (on web). States what needs to be done not how to do it.
- c. Review N.I.P.P. and N.R.P. for gaps.
- d. Insurance for catastrophic events at farm level. Pilot projects with government supported co-insurance. Doesn't address down time, loss of business function, indemnity to businesses not declared infected but restricted due to regulatory action. Also not address loss of farm families due to event-related bankruptcy, conservation of seed stock and genetics, or restocking costs if animals all drown, etc.
- e. Current effort in Senate to revise Stafford Act or write new legislation for pets does not adequately address companion animals in disasters. CAEM should review and provide input. John Adams and Gary Weber on behalf of FASCC and USDA (Joe Anelli) are meeting to discuss Stafford Act revisions relative to livestock and should include pet issues if a request for revisions occurs. DHS lawyers have been liberal in their interpretation of the act but wording of the act is not clear.
- f. Lessons Learned on Katrina coming out soon- current subcommittee to review for gaps.
- g. Credentialing – Ron Wilson gave update: the NIC working group of ~12 with contractor, Titan, will start meeting soon. Goal is to establish minimum essential training requirements. TN has proposed to create teams with expertise for a quick response in TN, that might also be utilized at the regional and national level through EMAC. USDA has a separate resource typing project in progress for personnel and teams including equipment, etc. TN program and SAHA proposal have core essential training including ICS 100, 200, 700, state emergency response plan, basic and advanced biosecurity principles. The biosecurity principles and state plan are lectures; others (ICS training) are computer based or lecture.
- h. Status of NBAF and who, when and how stakeholder input will be sought – Lyle Vogel meeting with Dr. Kimothy Smith Jan 31 to discuss. Update also on agenda for USAHA Government Relations meeting Feb 15 in DC.

- i. NAHLN lab structure and ability to respond in a cohesive multi-state manner to an emergency. National Strategic Plan including Mission and Integration are in final revisions. – G. Sherman will share with CAEM once finalized by CSREES & APHIS.
 - i. ICLN looking at how all networks will integrate (NAHLN, FERN, LRN, NPDN).

3. Subcommittee on All Hazards issues:

- a. Need to address coordination of stakeholders in response to animals in disasters
- b. Orlando meeting had a lot of consensus on the need for better coordination and cooperation and how to get there but legislative effort is unsophisticated (current effort to revised old or develop new legislation).
- c. Need to know what is and is not reimbursable in Stafford Act currently and make requests to optimize potential for reimbursement.
- d. Build on ESF 11 or write new Incident Annex to NRP to address coordination and roles and responsibilities relative to animals in natural disasters at federal and regional level.
- e. American Bar Association Legislative Issues committee, chair Kristina Hancock, is discussing animals in disasters but do not have good information on the issue. CAEM recommends subcommittee members invite them to join subcommittee and offer to provide expertise to their committee. **Action Item** K. Dennison and K. Roehr

4. Update on Action Items: items recommended to be closed in email were agreed on.

- a. Leave open critical info needs from Jan 2005 meeting
- b. Monitor progress by states/industry on Con-Ops plan development
- c. Close state-regional transportation plan template
- d. Table and refer issue to All Hazards Subcommittee sending a request to FEMA for clarification on reimbursable animal sheltering expenses.

5. Meetings of interest attended:

- a. DOI, USDA, HHS communications strategies conference call (Roehr) discussed how each agency will handle communications so they speak with one voice on pandemic flu.
- b. EPA – Region 8 (MT, No and So Dakota UT and CO) - Roehr. Concern about pandemic flu animal euthanasia and disposal. Plans related to other avian disease events were provided with no feedback so it is assumed they were acceptable including composting.
- c. American Humane Association hosted a meeting of non-profit organizations in Orlando (Dennison and Ostrowski). Other government and related groups included Tom McGinn (DHS), Dave Tompkins (TAHC), Chester Gibson (USDA) and Cindy Lovern (AVMA). It was clear they did not understand NRP or how it works. The positive outcome was their leadership agreed they all needed to become better informed on these documents (NRP, ESF, VOAD) and work within existing framework. Also need to understand how citizen corps and medical reserve corps programs interface.
- d. ICLN is actively developing scenarios to test multi lab networks integration and to test each network individually. (Sherman)

6. Upcoming meetings:

- a. AVMA 2006 National Disaster Summit will be held May 5 and 6th in Washington D.C. and will build on Orlando and DC meetings. (Vogel)
- b. S.O table top training in Knoxville coming Feb 7 agroterrorism exercise to include mental health and human-animal bond aspects (Ostrowski)

7. CAEM next conference call February 23rd, last Thursday of month, 11am EST.