

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMISSION
MAY 10, 2006 MEETING MINUTES**

1. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

In attendance were:

Chairperson Osby
Commissioner Brooks
Commissioner Grossman
Commissioner Miller
Commissioner Milliman
Commissioner Stanley

The Commission excused Commissioners Manning, Leap, and Gaines.

Chairperson Osby introduced and welcomed Michael Brooks, Acting Administrator for the County Office of Emergency Management. Mr. Brooks replaces Constance Perett on the Commission.

2. SELF INTRODUCTIONS

The audience made self-introductions.

3. ACTION ON APRIL 12, 2006 MEETING MINUTES

Approved as written.

4. PRESENTATIONS: "AVIAN FLU AND PANDEMIC FLU – WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW"

Doctor John Talarico
Department of Health Services
County of Los Angeles

Doctor Talarico gave a briefing on the differences between the seasonal flu and pandemic flu. Each year vaccine is made available to the public for the seasonal flu based on known virus strains. Once the strain is identified, the vaccine is made to order. New recommendation for the seasonal flu is to vaccinate children universally.

A pandemic is an unknown virus/infection that is transmitted between humans and moves rapidly because we have not built up immunity. Because we have no previous exposure to the virus and the virus strain is new, there is no existing vaccine. For this reason, vaccine for the pandemic flu will not be readily available. How it spreads and how to protect ourselves are the main concerns when there is a pandemic threat. Although we do not know when we will have a pandemic or what its severity will be, it is in our best interest and our responsibility to be prepared. Los Angeles County Pandemic Influenza Plan is a guide for preparation and response to a pandemic influenza outbreak. It follows the general guidance of the Federal Department of Health and Human Services and the California DHS pandemic flu plans. The plan will continue to evolve as new information and guidelines become available.

(A more detailed summary of this presentation is being prepared under separate cover.)

5. SUMMARY REPORTS OF THE FEBRUARY 8 PRESENTATION ON “HURRICANE KATRINA SEARCH AND RESCUE LESSONS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR CALIFORNIA” AND MARCH 8 PRESENTATION ON “HURRICANE KATRINA SWIFT WATER RESCUE”

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

6. EPC SEMINAR REPORT (Commissioner Milliman)

The Governor’s Office of Emergency Services has agreed to create a NIMS training program for the seminar. The League of California Cities is co-sponsoring and promoting the seminar and the City of Industry will provide morning refreshments. Doctor Richard Andrews is the Keynote speaker for the seminar.

7. EPC AD HOC COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION PROPOSAL (Commissioner Milliman)

The Commission’s EPC proposal was reviewed and discussed with Commissioner Brooks. He will examine the proposal and relationships between the Commission and other emergency planning organizations. A report including recommendations and strategies will be presented to the Commission.

8. EPC SCHOOLS REPORT

This item was deferred.

9. EPC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (Commissioner Grossman)

Legislative bills AB2231, AB2393, HR4880, and HR3858 are related to emergency preparedness, and the outcome could affect Los Angeles County Operational Area. AB2231 and AB2293 were introduced in 2005-2006 California Legislative session. HR4880 and HR 3858 were introduced in the 109th Congressional session. Support is recommended for AB2393, HR4880, and HR3858. Support is recommended for AB2231 with changes. For more information please contact Sergeant Paul Hanley at (323) 980-2288. The Commission supports these bills.

10. MITIGATION/GRANTS COMMITTEE (Commissioner Stanley)

Congress is looking into increasing money into the Federal pre-disaster mitigation grant program. U.S. Geological Survey, (USGS) is working on receiving the grant. Dr. Lucy Jones from USGS will work with the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) on earthquake education. In 2007, the focus will be on Earthquakes.

11. EPC CHAIR’S REPORT

Chairperson Osby informed everyone that he is actively working with commissioners on the Commission’s reorganization efforts. The City and County of Los Angeles will meet this month to discuss issues related to the pandemic flu.

12. STAFF REPORT

Everyone was reminded of the EPC seminar on June 10. Please notify the Commission of upcoming events taking place in your cities.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

None.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Copies of the KTLA "When Disaster Strikes" program are available. If you would like to receive a copy, please leave your business card with Officer Ed Larrigan, Los Angeles Police Department.

15. 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.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

17. 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 Commission's 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.

19. **ADJOURN:** The next EPC meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, **July 12, 2006, 10:00 a.m., at the City of Claremont, Council Chambers, 225 West Second Street.** Please call Carla Mahler, EPC Staff Assistant, at (323) 980-2262 for additional information.

TM:CM