OA Stakeholders Gain “Cyber-Smarts”

Contact: R. Lindsay

Representatives from San Bernardino County departments, water districts, school districts, hospitals, cities and volunteer organizations packed the County Office of Emergency Services (OES) Training Room for a pair of FEMA Cyber Security courses aimed at “cyber terrorism” awareness and community preparedness for cyber incidents. Participants learned from “real world” cyber incidents and were guided through a series of table top exercises to reinforce the cyber security concepts presented by instructors from Texas Engineering Extension Services (TEEX). The goal of the combined courses was to provide attendees the tools to return to their organizations and develop a cyber security committee to identify and address potential cyber security issues utilizing a whole community approach.

OES Volunteers Help in Recovery

Contact: M.A. Ramirez

CERT Members from Phelan/Piñon Hills, Wrightwood, Oak Hills checking in volunteers and overseeing equipment check out/in

San Bernardino County Fire, Office of Emergency Services volunteers helped support recovery efforts following the Blue Cut Fire. Over two weekends in September, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Emergency Communications Services (ECS) volunteers provided logistical support to the County VOAD as it coordinated the debris removal on several properties affected. CERT members from Lytle Creek, Oak Hills, Phelan/Piñon Hills and Wrightwood CERTs provided parking lot management as well as personnel and equipment tracking to the various groups who participated in the debris removal. ECS volunteers provided communications services for the entire operation and had members at the staging area as well as at each worksite. While the actual debris removal operation was coordinated by the County VOAD, County OES was there to support their efforts and oversee the safe operations of County OES volunteers.

2nd Annual CSWAC Collaborative

Contact: R. Lindsay

The 2nd Annual California Statewide WebEOC Collaborative was conducted during the training track of the 2016 California Emergency Services Association (CESA) Conference scheduled on October 4th. The daylong workshop was attended by 22 participants and was sponsored by Dave Jefferies Public Safety Consulting. The program consisted of statewide WebEOC fusion discussions, WebEOC Board sharing and a CalEOC update. Intermedia management was also provided a session to introduce the Intermedia Product Roadmap and to unveil the Intermedia “Comprehensive Software Support Package.” Both the Intermedia purchasing program and the software support plan were modified and introduced globally in response to an April 2016 California Statewide WebEOC Advisory Committee (CSWAC) sponsored white paper outlining the need for Intermedia products that would be affordable, sustainable and responsive to grant funding cycles for all jurisdictions that desire WebEOC. Both CSWAC and Intermedia are working towards a common goal to connect all California Operational Areas either through their own instance of WebEOC or through the State WebEOC program (CalEOC). This supports the CSWAC purpose to provide all Operational Areas with the capability to provide required critical reporting during incidents.

Getting to Know VOAD

Contact: Debra Williams

Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) is a national association of organizations that mitigates and alleviates the impact of disasters, provides a forum promoting cooperation, communication, coordination and collaboration; and fosters more effective delivery of services to communities affected by disaster.

California is unique because it has two state VOADs (Northern and Southern). San Bernardino County VOAD is one of 10 county VOADs in SoCal VOAD.

The main function of San Bernardino County VOAD is to bring together organizations (nonprofits, faith-based, government, education, and business) to prepare for, mitigate, respond to and recover from disasters. They do not provide direct services, but provide a network through which individual organizations can more effectively address their mission and service goals during all phases of a disaster. They are a collaborative working group in which all the participants are equal partners united by a common goal.

VOAD Structure

The VOAD structure has been built to strengthen the network of available resources. Due to the vast geographic area of San Bernardino County, VOAD is structured into three Divisions (Desert, Mountain, Valley). Each Division is further divided geographically into Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COADs) to ensure County coverage. San Bernardino County VOAD and regional COADs work in coordination with San Bernardino County Fire, Office of Emergency Services, and local city and town emergency management to facilitate disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. The VOAD leadership team is made up of the leaders from each of the COADs. Visit our website at http://www.sbcovoad.org/so_cal_roads.html to learn more about their structure.

VOAD Membership

San Bernardino County VOAD member organizations represent a diverse group of highly competent organizations that provide a wide range of skills and service. All are dedicated to whole community engagement and recognize that the VOAD movement values and practices represent a proven way to build resilient communities.

VOAD Activations

VOAD/COAD does not self-activate. They can be activated by San Bernardino County Fire, Office of Emergency Services, local city and
August Full of Explosive Fire Behavior

**Contact**: R. Lindsay

**Pilot Fire**
A wildland fire began burning in timber and brush at approximately 12 noon on Sunday, August 7th and grew to nearly 1,000 acres in 4 hours as per the US Forest Service. The fire began near Highway 138 between Old Mill Road and SR173 in an area described as the Miller Canyon Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) area. The San Bernardino County Operational Area EOIC activated to Level I in support of US Forest Service, Cal Fire, San Bernardino County Fire and Sheriff in Unified Command for the Pilot Fire just after 2:00 p.m. A Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) application was prepared by County OES and approved by the State as communities were in immediate danger. The acceptance of a FMAG means that the Federal Government will cover 75% of eligible recovery costs, while CBAA covers 18.75% leaving 6.25% to the Operational Area. The FMAG approval was followed on August 9 by the ratification of a Local Proclamation of Emergency by the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors.

Mandatory evacuations were called for areas located in Summit Valley, Apple Valley, Lake Arrowhead and the City of Hesperia, while power outages caused by damage to power poles and power stations exacerbated the emergency. Human and Animal Shelters were established and many school districts cancelled classes due to air quality issues on what would have been the first week of school after summer recess. The OA EOC remained activated for six days and was elevated to Level II in support of multiple community EOCs, human and animal shelter operations and damage assessment/cost recovery activities.

**Blue Cut Fire**

By the time all evacuation orders were lifted and shelters were closed, County OES had sent 15 Flash Reports and 9 Situation Summaries and the Pilot Fire had consumed 8110 acres as per the USFS.

Two days into the fire, the sheer scope of evacuations triggered the County Administrative Office to activate a one-stop resident/evacuee services called a Shelter Operations Compound (SHOC). The SHOC was set up at the San Bernardino County Fairgrounds in Victorville and provided human and animal sheltering services for a week.

**Signal for Safety**

Contact: D. Davis

Signal for Safety is a project that equips K-12 schools and those with Pre-K and other Pre-K/TK (transitional kindergarten) schools with triage flags and triage training so that in the event of an emergency or disaster those sites can fly a color coded flag which describes the state and health of the students and staff located at that school site and have an instant assessment by emergency vehicles doing a “dashboard assessment.”

The so-called “dashboard assessment” refers to a fire engine or any other emergency vehicle patrolling after an emergency, especially an earthquake or other large scale disaster. The vehicle can determine by way of the color or the flag flying under the California State Flag the level of injury or injuries sustained by students and/or staff at a particular location. It can also alert emergency personnel that all is well and the vehicle can merely move on to the next school site as the flag (green) may indicate there are no injuries at that school site.
Making Our Communities Safer

San Bernardino County CERT programs are committed to keeping their families and communities safe. On September 24 over one hundred volunteers strengthened that commitment by attending a full day CERT Symposium on Terrorism coordinated by the San Bernardino County Fire, Office of Emergency Services (County OES), the San Bernardino County CERT Advisory Committee (SBCCAC) and hosted by the City of Rancho Cucamonga.

The morning started with a moving memorial to the victims of the December 2nd San Bernardino terrorist attack. Attendees then heard about the response to the terrorist incident from San Bernardino Police Department Captain Raymond King. The presentation was a vivid reminder that the threat of terrorism is real and can indeed strike anywhere. Building on the first presentation, CHIP Officer Claude Jurbani offered a captivating and balanced presentation encouraging attendees to be aware of those around them and learn to recognize and report suspicious activity. Using examples from locations and end events in San Bernardino County OES expanded VOAD’s role to include the coordination of debris removal. The Mother Road Debris Removal project was implemented.

VOAD was deactivated after five weeks of dedicated service helping residents. They continue to support the case management transition to San Bernardino County Community Action Partnership.

For more information about or to get involved with San Bernardino County OES visit http://www.sbcoes.org/ or contact them at SBCountyOES@gmail.com.

A few more examples of the work that VOAD/COAD does is highlighted below:

- VOAD/East End COAD then activated Build-It-Yourself to help coordinate the local agencies and individuals who were helping residents in a variety of ways. They helped establish the TriCommunity Recovery Team so local efforts had a centralized approach. The TriCommunity Recovery Team’s mission became “One Mission, One Team”. VOAD established a central database of the services that were being provided to the residents. The database was expanded to include County information on the status of each of the properties. The database continues to be used by Inland Empire United Way for the cash donation projects and recovery case management.

- VOAD became the "boots on the ground" to help find families that may need assistance but had not come forward for a variety of reasons. VOAD’s leadership became very familiar with the impacted residents and those helping them by literally driving the miles from property to property.

- VOAD continued to support the case management transition to San Bernardino County Community Action Partnership.
San Bernardino County Operational Area (OA) emergency managers showed they can “hang ten” with the best of the best during the surf themed 2016 CESA Conference held in San Diego last month. In addition to having a large contingent from the OA, several provided presentations associated with the San Bernardino Waterman Terrorism Incident.

A total of five Waterman Incident breakout sessions were woven into the Annual CESA Conference schedule and were presented by those who were “in the trenches” on December 2, 2015.

Former Environmental Health Services (EHS) Director and IRC survivor Convin Porter gave a first-hand account of the terror attack, the extensive employee care measures that were taken during and post incident and discussed the continuity of operations challenges EHS continues to face.

Waterman Incident Medical Mutual Aid Les- sons Learned were highlighted in a tag team presentation format from Riverside and San Bernardino County by Doug Mayer and Melissa German. In yet another presentation, the San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health response to the Waterman Incident was outlined by Deputy Director Andrew Gruchy.

Emergency Manager for the City of Loma Linda Shannon Kendall spoke of the coordination between the City and Loma Linda University Medical Center (LLUMC) during the “Waterman Incident Hospital Mass Casualty Response” which Shannon co-presented with LLUMC Patient Care Director James Parnell.

The OA emergency management response before, during and after the Waterman Incident in the OA EOC (Emergency Operations Center) and at the Incident Command Post (ICP) was co-presented by Mike Antonucci and Robin Lindsay from the San Bernardino County Fire, Office of Emergency Services.

The high point of the Annual CESA (California Emergency Services Association) Conference is the CESA Awards Luncheon, where emergency managers and their programs are recognized for accomplishments over the past year that have made remarkable contributions to the profession. In 2016, the San Bernardino County Operational Area (OA) was a standout, being honored at both the local and OA levels of emergency management in the “mission areas” of planning, response and recovery.

Exceptional Service Award – is a new CESA Award Category which was proposed by the City of Redlands Emergency Operations Manager Ray Glass, following the Waterman Terrorism Incident. According to Ray, “Emergency Managers within San Bernardino County were instrumental in providing logistics support to the responding field units, situational awareness to their Executive Offices and City Councils on the evolving information for this event as well as support needed to assist the victim’s families and recovery support during and after this event”.

Rather than attempt to categorize this combined emergency management response/recovery under an established award category, the CESA Board opted to create a new award category. The inaugural presentation of the Exceptional Service Award was made to San Bernardino County Fire, EOC Emergency Services Manager Mike Antonucci. The inscription reads: “Presented to Mike Anto- nucci on behalf of SBCoA Emergency Managers in recognition for the exceptional duties performed during the response and recovery to the San Bernardino Waterman Incident on December 2, 2015”.

This CESA Award will continue going forward to honor individuals and/or jurisdictions that have exhibited an exceptional emergency management response to an incident.

The Grants Unit submitted the application to the State and is awaiting approvals. San Bernar- dino County Fire Protection District will go to the Board of Supervisors to accept the award in November. Once the application approval is received from the State, County OES will notify the subrecipients of their approval projects. Please verify your allocation amounts as they may vary from the amounts submitted with your projects. Keep in mind that if your project has a hold trigger such as an EHP, EOC, FBI, Sate Source request(s) or your project includes an item(s) on the controlled equipment list, additional approval is required prior to proceeding.

FY2015 Homeland Security Grant Program

Bi-Annual Reports have been cancelled by the State for FY15 HSGP. Therefore, only the Status reports will be requested depending on the expenditure rate of grant funds.

Only expenditures for approved projects will be reimbursed, so any modifications to projects require State approval prior to incurring costs. Please turn in the reimbursement re- quests as soon as they are finalized to avoid confusion with overlapping grants. Do not deploy equipment prior to verification and tagging by the Grants Unit. The second milestone is 7/31/2017 which means 75% of the project should be completed. The third milestone is March 31, 2017, and 100% of the project should be completed.

FY2016 Homeland Security Grant Program

The Grants Unit submitted the application to the Board of Supervisors to accept the award in November. Once the application approval is received from the State, County OES will notify the subrecipients of their approval projects. Please verify your allocation amounts as they may vary from the amounts submitted with your projects. Keep in mind that if your project has a hold trigger such as an EHP, EOC, FBI, Sate Source request(s) or your project includes an item(s) on the controlled equipment list, additional approval is required prior to proceeding.

FY2017 Homeland Security Grant Program

The State is requiring all Operational Areas to submit their anticipated FY17 HSGP grant applications prior to the Federal Notice of Funding Opportunity being released. Therefore please start preparing your FY17 HSGP application with the initial proposed allocations from FY16 HSGP. New investment Justification from the State will be released in November and shortly after the Call for Pro- jects email will be sent out.

FY2016 Emergency Management Performance Grant

All initial applications were submitted to the State at the end of June 2016 and have been approved. On September 15, 2016 all subre- cipients were notified of project approval and expenditure authorization. However, any projects that require EHP approvals must not proceed until FEMA approval has been granted. Modification requests will be submitted to the State once per quarter. Please submit your modification requests to the Grants Unit by the end of the first week of the first month of each quarter. All 2nd Quarter modi- fications are due no later than 1/5/17. Reim- bursement requests can be submitted as necessary. Please do not delay in submitting reimbursement requests as funds are ex- pended and documentation compiled.

The 1st Quarter Mandatory Performance Report was submitted to CalOES on October 13, 2016. The remaining Mandatory Cumulative Performance reporting due dates are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting Period</th>
<th>Report Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/1/16-12/31/16</td>
<td>1/5/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/1/16-3/31/16</td>
<td>4/6/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/1/16-6/30/16</td>
<td>6/5/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Cumulative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

City of Chino Administrative Services Manag- er Chris Wolfs was honored with a CESA Gold Award for the “City of Chino Disaster Academy Program.” Chris developed this citywide employee education template, turn- ing every Chino employee, policy maker to part-timer, into “Masters of Disasters.” The 8 hour course provides a fun and creative way of engaging municipal employees in the con- cepts of emergency management and instill- ing the importance of their roles when disas- ter strikes their community.