



Arizona State Citizen Corps Council

June 1, 2017

Arizona Department of Homeland Security
1700 West Washington Street, Suite 210
Phoenix, AZ 85007



Governor Douglas A. Ducey

Meeting Minutes

Director Gilbert M. Orrantia

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. CALL TO ORDER

10:00 AM – Call to order

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

MEMBERS PRESENT:	MEMBERS ABSENT:
Antonio Hernandez	David J. Harden
Paul Schickel (Telephonically)	Karen Hauca
Robert Buscher (Telephonically)	Robert Shogren
Alexander J. Hunter	Cynthia Anderson
Shane Levinson	
Steve Rutherford (Telephonically)	
Cheryl Kennedy	
GUESTS PRESENT:	
Warren Sprecher, Central Region Citizen Corps Council of Arizona	
Chris Rausch, Sky Harbor Airport (Telephonically)	
Leslie DeGroot, Coconino County Sheriff's Office/Coconino County CERT	
Tony Bond, Coconino County Sheriff's Office/Coconino County CERT	
Jon Paxton, Coconino County Sheriff's Office/Coconino County CERT	
Alan Anderson, Coconino County Sheriff's Office/Coconino County CERT	
Tony Badilla, Yuma County (Telephonically)	
Rudy Wallace, Yuma County CERT (Telephonically)	
Mimi Hernandez, La Paz County Emergency Management (Telephonically)	
Nancy Collins, Surprise CERT (Telephonically)	
April Kramer, Surprise CERT (Telephonically)	
Dawn Hermanson, Tempe CERT (Telephonically)	
AZDOHS STAFF PRESENT:	
Lindsey Forry	

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action: Council approval of minutes as amended:

Under Local Program Reports: Identify Maricopa County Citizen Corps Council as a non-profit and not a FEMA-registered council; this serves to clarify the organization's status.

Motion made by Alexander Hunter and seconded by Cheryl Kennedy. Motion passes.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. STRATEGIC PLAN REPORTS

- a. **Serve** as a State voice for the network of Citizen Corps Programs and local councils through enhanced communication and outreach
- b. **Promote** Citizen Corps Program participation and volunteer activities which strengthen community preparedness, response, and resiliency
- c. **Strengthen** our internal capacity to support the growth and sustainability of local Citizen Corps councils and programs through collaboration with local, state, federal, and tribal agencies

Possible Action: For information, discussion and possible action

Survey Update (Cheryl Kennedy, Antonio Hernandez): Recently, the AZSCCC developed and conducted a survey in order to obtain feedback on how the Council can further encourage enhanced communication, outreach, and the capacity to support the sustainability of local Citizen Corps councils. To review the results, two supplemental materials were provided at the AZSCCC meeting: a *SurveyMonkey* Response Overview and an AZSCCC Response Spreadsheet.

The results show that 15 surveys were fully completed of the 25 submissions. Data indicated that 80% respondents are still active; the remaining 20% that indicated that they are inactive will be contacted to confirm their inactive status. In addition, those who did not complete the survey will be contacted to determine whether or not their programs are active.

Program activity status and CERT/Citizen Corps Council affiliation is important not only in terms of maintaining current information for FEMA, but also because a program's activity status impacts its eligibility for Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funding. If inactive and/or unaffiliated with a Citizen Corps Council, CERT programs are ineligible to apply for HSGP funds. Survey results seem to indicate a trend in the loss of Citizen Corps Councils despite the retention of CERT programs. AZSCCC shall look into the best way to resolve this trend; one suggested solution includes the association of local/county-level CERT programs with the state program, but parameters would need to be established before moving forward with this option.

Other questions in the survey evaluated the use of the State Resource Typing Matrix, the degree to which partner programs could be deployed, and the frequency of program activity and collaboration. The responses to these questions will better enable the AZSCCC to connect partners with one another and more effectively achieve the collaborative aspect of its Strategic Plan.

According to the survey, the main reasons for dissolution of partner programs were lack of funding and personnel. With this in mind, the possibility of receiving program support from an AmeriCorps assignee for a year was discussed. Although there are concerns that volunteer turnaround would not be resolved with the use of an AmeriCorps Vista, meeting guests agreed that having one as an additional resource would be helpful. With this in mind, the AZSCCC will look further into the feasibility of utilizing AmeriCorps volunteers to support partner programs.

Feedback that the AZSCCC received regarding areas of improvement included the recommendation of developing a statewide newsletter in order to share partner program activities and developments. As a result, the AZSCCC will look into the possibility of creating a newsletter.

Event Calendar (Cheryl Kennedy): In the past, AZDOHS has had a calendar posted on AZSCCC website that was intended to post event information from AZSCCC's partner programs to share across the state. AZDOHS recently completed a website update. Initially, the update was to include the development of an interactive event calendar for AZSCCC webpage; however, this process is time-consuming. The Council and its attendees agreed that an alternate solution to this suggested update would be to list local programs' existing calendars on the website in its place. Moving forward, the AZSCCC will develop text for this new webpage and solicit links from partner organizations that actively maintain their own event and training calendars.

Local Program Reports:

Central

Central Region Citizen Corps Council (Warren Sprecher): Various partner programs that comprise the Central Region Citizen Corps Council (CRCCC) have continued their activity, including the Mesa Fire and Medical Department CERT program. Recently, the program conducted medical shelter training and started its own HAM radio group. In addition, the program will be conducting recruitment efforts on Saturday, June 3, 2017 at a United Healthcare community event. Future activity supported by the CRCCC includes a multijurisdictional CERT refresher course involving Mesa, Scottsdale, and Tempe CERT programs. This training is scheduled for June 10, 2017 and August 12, 2017. It will address the topics of search and rescue, cribbing, and natural disaster response.

Surprise Fire Department CERT (Nancy Collins): The Surprise CERT program recently completed a training course, self-defense courses, and has also volunteered with a local HAM radio group. In addition, CERT volunteers participated in the 2017 Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station exercise and continue to conduct community outreach about preparedness efforts. The program is in the process of trying to schedule a Field Day in coordination with the American Radio Relay League so that its HAM radio-trained volunteers can participate.

Tempe CERT (Dawn Hermanson): In coordination with the Phoenix CERT program, Tempe CERT provided volunteer support at this year's Rock and Roll Marathon. Other recent Tempe CERT activities include volunteer training on bites and stings and a meeting with Tempe's Care7 Crisis Response Team, a Volunteers in Police Service Program Coordinator, and a local power company in an effort to inform them of

how to use CERT as a resource and how to coordinate for activation. Upcoming training opportunities consist of a CERT 21-hour course in October and training on FRS and HAM radio operations. The group meets quarterly. The next meeting is July 8.

Daisy Mountain CERT (Paul Schickel): Daisy Mountain CERT provided trail support in coordination with Rural Metro, Phoenix Fire Department, and Peoria Fire Department during the April Prickly Pedal Bike race. CERT volunteers also instructed local CPR classes and continue to take part in regular meetings and trainings. Daisy Mountain CERT is considering scheduling a HAM class in the summer to provide its volunteers with additional practice. In addition, volunteers were recently deployed for a Type III incident fire in Black Canyon and provided 34 hours of support to the crews responding to the incident by delivering water and meals to them. Daisy Mountain Fire Department recently completed its consolidation with Black Canyon Fire District. As a result, the Daisy Mountain CERT program will be exploring how to incorporate its CERT and Fire Corps efforts into an expanded area.

East

Greenlee County (Steve Rutherford): CPR courses were delivered in Greenlee County.

West

La Paz County CERT (Mimi Hernandez): La Paz County CERT continues to conduct outreach and recruitment efforts in its community. The CERT was also used in an active shooter exercise that took place in May and plans to implement a HAM operator project. The program intends to utilize the La Paz County Chamber of Commerce to connect with business about participation in local preparedness efforts. La Paz County partnered with APS when conducting a mock evacuation drill.

South

Yuma County CERT (Rudy Wallace): Yuma County's Citizen Corps Council has partnered with private sector-based Firehouse Subs restaurant to supply food to crews during long-term fire operations, interacted with Yuma County's CERT and MRC programs during Yuma Auxiliary Communications Service activities, covered 19 stations for CPR compression only training events with Rural Metro, and conducted fire extinguisher training and hazardous waste pickups.

North

Coconino County Citizen Corps Council/CERT (Paxton): Coconino County Citizen Corps Council has participated in community-based law days, home shows, parades, and the Firewise program. CERT classes were held in February and March in the Havasupai region. Another CERT training session is scheduled to take place in August. So far, no emergency activations have been made in the county.

Medical Reserve Corps (Alexander Hunter): The ESAR-VHP reporting site has been reactivated, so users can view and report recent MRC activities again. Recent activity includes the MRC of Southern Arizona's (MRCSA) support during wildfire evacuations earlier this year. MRCSA also introduced its Prescription Medication Misuse and Abuse Initiative to its Board of Directors in order to discuss how MRCSA can support the county health department and other partner agencies and organizations in responding to the prescription drug misuse and abuse situation. A workshop for MRCSA volunteers and a train-the-trainer are planned.

In addition, a number of active MRCs successfully participated in a recent non-emergency communication test through the ESAR-VHP; these MRCs included: MRCSA, Yavapai County MRC, Mohave County MRC, Navajo County MRC, Yuma County Public Health Preparedness & Response MRC, HonorHealth MRC, and AZ Animal Emergency Response.

Although the ESAR-VHP system is primarily targeted toward MRCs, partner programs can also utilize it as a robust supplement to their program management processes. For example, ESAR-VHP users can utilize credentialing information, set up personnel/volunteer responsibilities, update volunteer shifts and schedules, and review volunteer time management information. Looking forward, MRCs would like to coordinate with local partner programs to participate in joint exercises; any interested parties may contact AJ Hunter for more information.

Antonio Hernandez (Arizona Department of Health Services): The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and the Arizona Division of Emergency Management (DEMA) will host the Biennial Partners in Preparedness Summit on June 8, 2017 at the Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix, Arizona. The summit currently has 230 registrants and is intended to strengthen community resilience through the discussion of best practices, provide a forum for the discussion of disaster preparedness for individuals that have access and functional needs, and ensure understanding of current preparedness issues, plans, processes, and procedures. On June 20, 2017, the Arizona Coalition for Healthcare Emergency Response, Central Region (AzCHER – Central)—an ADHS partner—will be hosting a [Zika Virus tabletop exercise](#). This exercise will explore hypotheses of what would happen if a Zika outbreak were to occur and will cover mitigation and response efforts that address this scenario. Additionally, FEMA reached

out to ADHS to develop a national exercise scheduled for May 2018 that addresses a mass migration scenario in FEMA RIX.

Bob Buscher (Volunteers in Police Service): No activities. The International Association of Chiefs of Police will hold its annual conference in October.

FEMA Region IX – Individual and Community Preparedness (Cheryl Kennedy): FEMA's Individual and Community Preparedness Division has released a new campaign: [You are the Help Until Help Arrives](#). It is comprised of interactive videos, instructor guides and materials, and a 30 minute training curricula. Along with the release of these new materials, FEMA would like to hold a two-hour meeting with state, county, and local preparedness groups to discuss improvements that can be made to preparedness efforts for traditionally underserved populations. Interested parties may contact Cheryl Kennedy for information on how to become involved in this dialogue.

A new healthcare preparedness law that stems from a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid final rule published in September 2016 requires that providers participating in Medicare and Medicaid have preparedness efforts in place to be eligible for federal funding. These entities must have an all-hazards emergency plan, processes and procedures that include evacuation plans, supplies, communication plans, training and testing to fulfill this requirement. More information regarding this update can be access through the [Healthcare Ready website](#).

FEMA has also announced that it is considering the option of absorbing its Ready and America's PrepareAthon! programs into single portal.

Maricopa County – Preparedness Survey (Cheryl Kennedy): Maricopa County launched its Preparedness Survey on its website in May. This annual survey, which is conducted by the Maricopa County Department of Emergency Management is closely tied to the CERT mission and could serve as an opportunity to include questions that address the AZSCCC.

AZSCCC Membership Updates (Antonio Hernandez): Two board member applications were submitted to the AZSCCC; they include:

1. Kim Yonda, Gilbert: Fire Corps representative
2. Tony Badilla, Yuma: Local Citizen Corps Council representative

The applications were delivered to the Governor's Office for consideration on May 30.

2017 Meeting Dates: August 17, November 16

Possible Action: For information, discussion and possible action

November In-Person Meeting Planning (Antonio Hernandez): The annual in-person meeting was initially scheduled for November 16, 2017; however, the International Emergency Management Conference is scheduled during the same week. In order to avoid scheduling conflicts with the conference, the AZSCCC will reschedule its in-person meeting to an earlier date. Suggestions for agenda items to cover that were discussed included the topic of recruitment efforts and best practices. Additional details are forthcoming.

AZDOHS UPDATES/COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is anticipated that the 2017 HSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity will be released June 2. Applications for FFY 2017 HSGP have been solicited, reviewed and recommendations have been made by the Regional Advisory Councils. When the NOFO is released, the recommended projects are summarized into investment justifications that are submitted to US DHS/FEMA. Funds must be awarded by September 30th. The FFY 2017 UASI Nonprofit Security Grant Program guidance is also expected to be released soon. Nonprofits can apply for up to \$75,000 for target hardening purposes.

11 Citizen Corps projects have been recommended for HSGP funding for FFY 2017.

There has been some talk about the FFY 2018 proposed budget wherein HSGP would see a 25% funding decrease and potential 25% match.

2. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

3. **CALL TO ADJOURN**

Action: Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM. Motion made by Leslie DeGroot and seconded by Alexander Hunter.

DRAFT