**MEETING MINUTES**

**SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS**

**COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

Date: July 11, 2014

Time: 9:00 AM

Meeting Held: Southeast Michigan Transportation Operations Center (SEMTOC), Detroit, Michigan

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Freeway Operations

Sarah Gill reported that the Freeway Operations Committee met July 9 at SEMTOC. MDOT Maintenance Engineers are coordinating their response with other responders, and protocols are being established. The Operating Guidelines for Freeway Courtesy Patrol are being reviewed. Courtesy Patrol are receiving communications training with operators.

The ITS World Congress in Detroit will feature a mock incident on Belle Isle as one of the demonstrations of technology. First responders appearing in uniform will get a free pass to the exhibits, a special program, and a tour of the technology demonstrations.

Police have been invited to report broken ITS equipment to MDOT as a partnership to improve the maintenance of this equipment. During the International Fireworks show, the Emergency Operations Center at SEMTOC was used as a gathering place for city and county officials involved in the security for the event. Detroit traffic cameras and Detroit Police cameras were used by security personnel.

MDOT is considering public private partnerships for the Freeway Courtesy Patrol.

March 20 Traffic Incident Management Workshop

Tom Bruff reviewed the March 20 Traffic Incident Management Workshop and invited comments from those who attended. The Evaluation Form Response Summary was distributed for review. Comments received so far indicated that the public is generally unaware of the “move over” law. Some participants felt that the breaks were too long and others felt that the breaks provided a good opportunity for networking. We should encourage more participation by fire service representatives. Those who toured the Macomb County COMTEC operation thought the tour was a highlight of the workshop experience.

Ideas for the 2015 workshop included using Wayne County Community College as a meeting site.

A tabletop exercise would encourage participation by attendees. A review of the lessons learned from after action reviews would be a valuable addition to the program. Conversation circles might encourage participant involvement. Combining this workshop with the Michigan Traffic Safety Summit would be beneficial if the Traffic Safety Summit ever moved away from Lansing.

Mutual Aid Box Alarm System

Troy Fire Chief Bill Nelson described the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System used by the fire service in Michigan. He noted that the State of Michigan has no fire trucks. Fire service response comes from local government.

The Mutual Aid Box Alarm System

* Started in 1960’s in northern Illinois
* Based on…
  + Every municipality adopts the same mutual aid agreement
  + Designated common radio channels
  + Preprogrammed responses (Box cards)
  + Scalable from day to day incidents to large scale disasters
  + Centralized coordination
* Initial states chosen for IMAS assistance were in western and southern US due to incidence of “disasters”
* Michigan was chosen in second year of program
* MABAS was one of the four model systems evaluated by the task force
* The task force selected the MABAS model to implement in Michigan

Organizations involved include:

* Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
* All four Regional Fire Chief’s Associations
* Bureau of Fire Services (SFM)
* MSP EMHSD
* Michigan Association of Ambulance Services

Current fire service issues include:

* Reduction in number of career firefighters
* Reduction in number of on-call firefighters
* Challenges in providing special operations capability
* Increased reliance on mutual aid for day to day operations as well as major events

Box Alarm Cards

* The Local MABAS System revolves around the use of Box Alarm Cards (evolved

from fire telegraph systems)

* Cards provide dispatch with a preplanned response up to five alarms
* Each department identifies their choice of mutual aid units
* Mutual aid units sign off indicating their commitment

Box Alarm Benefits

* Provide preplanned response from mutual aid units
* Maintains staffing for secondary responses in all communities (only 20% of a dept’s resources may be deployed)
* Eliminates ordering mutual aid “ala carte”
* Allows local IC’s to concentrate on strategy and tactics
* Greatly enhances dispatcher - command communications
* Mutual aid units may decline the request based on local conditions (audits)

Michigan Mutual Aid Alarm Box Facts:

* Resources
  + 17 Divisions
  + 250 Fire Departments
  + 4000+ firefighters
* Governance
  + MABAS Executive Board
  + One voting member per division
  + Ex officio members
    - State Fire Marshal (BFS)
    - MSP EMHSD

Summary

* In a disaster local agencies and responders will want to assist
* In the absence of coordination will come self -deployment
* These events must be two tiered with immediate in-kind support (MABAS), followed by longer term financially backed support (MEMAC) as an incident develops
* All of this effort controlled by an integrated coordinated system (PA 390)
* This is the only way we can expect to harness the real effectiveness of our nation’s fire and EMS services

Seamless Transit Fare Integration Study

Cornelius Henry from the Detroit People Mover described the study being conducted to determine the best way to integrate local transit providers as a seamless fare system with current, future, local and regional transit systems. The goal would be to eliminate tokens, simplify the fare medium, and reduce the use of cash as a payment medium. The study is scheduled for completion is six months.

Statewide Traffic Incident Management Report

Angie Kremer from MDOT reported on statewide traffic incident management activities MDOT is working to get more public awareness of the “Steer it, Clear it” law. SHRP-2 Train the Trainer courses will be held at three locations in Michigan. More fire service representatives are needed.

At the ITS World Congress in Detroit, Tuesday will be Emergency Responder Day. There will be a demonstration on Belle Isle. Responders in uniform will have free entrance for the day.

Next Meeting

The next meeting for the Southeast Michigan Regional Transportations Operations Coordinating Committee is scheduled for October 24, 2014 at the Southeast Michigan Transportation Operations Center. These minutes are intended to be a summary of those items discussed. Any corrections and/or comments should be noted to the writer as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

BEAUBIEN ENGINEERING.



Richard F. Beaubien, P.E., PTOE

Chair-Southeast Michigan Regional Transportation Operations Coordinating Committee

pc: All present