

Kansas Law Enforcement Resources Working Group

April 13, 2011

Minutes approved on June 2, 2011

Call to Order and Introductions:

The Kansas Law Enforcement Resources Working Group (KLERWG) was called to order by Chairman Eric Pippin at 10:00 a.m. on April 13, 2011 in the Director's Conference Room of the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center in Hutchinson. Those in attendance:

Name	Home Agency	Representing
Ed Pavey	KLETC	KLETC
Dave Thomas	Topeka PD	Northeast HS Region
Rod Page	KBI	KBI
Eric Pippin- Chairman	KHP- Emer. Ops and Aircraft	CEPR
Oscar Thomasson	Sedgwick County Sheriff Dept	South Central HS Region
Todd Ackerman	Marysville Police Department	KACP
Scott Davies	Mitchell EM / Beloit Police Dept.	North Central HS Region
Jim Leftwich	KDEM South Central HS Coord.	KDEM
John Green	KLETC	KPOA
Mark Engholm- Secretary	KHP- Public & Govt. Affairs	

Minutes:

Scott Davies moved that the minutes of the March meeting be approved, seconded by Oscar Thomasson. Minutes were approved and will be posted on the working group website at http://www.kansashighwaypatrol.org/leo_group/index.html.

Chairperson's Report- Eric Pippin

The Patrol has reorganized many of its command positions. John Eichkorn was promoted to Major. Captain Pippin will now be overseeing Emergency Operations and the Homeland Security Grants program. His phone number will remain the same but his office has moved to the Jayhawk Tower at 7th & Jackson in Topeka. Captain Eric Sauer will be taking over the Patrol's Aircraft unit along with the Domestic Highway Enforcement Team (DHET).

It appears that the federal budget just being passed will result in a 29-30% cut in State Homeland Security Grant funds this year. This is approximately 19% under the "low" budget that each region was asked to submit.

Bill Brubaker made a proposal for funding from the state portion of Homeland Security funds for the law enforcement working group. Due to the number of applications we probably will not receive any funding. Chairman Pippin said that he would have liked to have seen the money used to complete the efforts being made in the NE, SE and SC regions in documenting LE resources across the state. Chief Ackerman suggested that we approached the individual regions about putting together a 2012 project to finish out the state.

Critical Resource Management Coordination System

Chairman Pippin reported that the committee overseeing the development of the statewide Critical Resource Management Coordination System (CRMCS) met for the first time April 7, 2011 at KDEM in Topeka. This group is made up of representatives from each of the homeland security regions and other major stakeholders in the resources management process.

One of the major issues talked about in the first meeting were identification badge standards for the state. Nebraska and Oklahoma have adopted the standards that were developed by the Kansas Homeland Security regions. The committee made some minor changes to those standards for Kansas. They added another color code (brown) to be used by non-governmental agencies (e.g. utilities or contractors) who wish to be badged for disaster access.

The working group discussed badging issues for law enforcement. Ed Pavey moved, Oscar Thomasson seconded and the LERWG voted to make the following recommendations to the state CRMCS committee regarding law enforcement badging / credentials.

- In order to have a blue “law enforcement” background badge- the holder must be a sworn or certified law enforcement officer fitting into one of the three law enforcement officer types adopted by the LERWG (e.g. Full-Time Certified LEO, Part-Time Certified LEO, Auxiliary Officer). The cards would also serve as commissioning cards and would have language on the back (to be developed) stating that the holder was a sworn LEO under Kansas statute.
- Support personnel from law enforcement agencies (e.g. dispatch, administration, etc) who are not sworn should be given badges with the grey “general government” background.
- Private security personnel, even if contractors for public entities should be badged with the brown (non-governmental) background. They should not be recognized as law enforcement.
- Recommend that the CRMCS committee phase out the “Emergency Responder” legend on the bottom of ID cards. The LERWG did not feel that they had any real utility.
- Asked that the CRMCS create clear policy that cards remain property of the issuing governmental agency and must be returned upon leaving a position or demand of the AHJ.

Eric Pippin and Mark Engholm will make the CRMCS aware of the LERWG recommendations.

Tactical / SWAT- Dave Thomas

Dave Thomas with Topeka PD reported on his research regarding Tactical / SWAT standards for law enforcement. He recommends that we not pursue certifying tactical units to any state standard as FEMA has shied away from doing so due to liability.

The National Tactical Officers Association (NTOA) has recommended national standards, however Thomas does not know of a team in Kansas that meets their minimum recommendation. For example, under the NTOA recommendation the minimum size of a deploying tactical unit is 19 officers.

Tactical teams must train and operate under stress. They develop a standard operating protocol based on their agency. These teams cannot be integrated together at a scene into a single function (e.g. members of several units on an entry team). The teams can work together at a scene under a single command as long as they have different functions (e.g. one agency / team on perimeter, one on entry,

one doing breaching etc). KBI stated that they had recently attempted to form integrated regional teams and it was not successful for the reasons that Thomas had mentioned.

Thomas stated that all of us want quality teams with quality training. He will look at the standards and try to come up with some bare minimums for typing teams for the June meeting (which will be just before his retirement!).

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Law Enforcement Resource / Skills List

The working group reviewed some of the Emergency Medical and Public Works job skills that FEMA has already put together to get a feel of what the national LE working group will likely be producing. Is it necessary at the state level to get into the level of detail that FEMA has done for interstate deployment? Based on this discussion, the working group made some modifications to the resource tracking and personnel skills list that they had previously considered.

Oscar Thomasson moved and Todd Ackerman seconded the motion to adopt the resource tracking and personnel skills list with the following modifications (the adopted document is attached to the minutes).

- Change Foreign Language Proficiency to “Translator / Interpreter”
- Remove the following skills as they are either team skills or are not really of interest to an IC.
 - Accident Reconstructionist
 - Canine Handler
 - Marksman / Sniper
 - Tactical Officer- Basic
 - Tactical Officer- Advanced
 - Investigator
- Add the following units for typing:
 - Critical Incident Reconstruction Team
 - Crisis Negotiation Team

Encryption concerns

Oscar Thomasson asked that the LERWG recommend to the state that they develop a standard “key” for LE encryption. This would permit LEOs across the state digital radio system to have interoperable encrypted communication. Oscar stated that he would bring further information to the next meeting. Mark Engholm was tasked with contacting Ed Geer with KDOT to see if he would be willing to speak to the group about encryption at the June meeting.

Crime Scene Response Teams

Rod Page provided the group with information on crime scene response teams that the KBI has developed in 4 regions of the state. The teams are made up of both sworn and civilian technicians / scientists who can respond directly to crime scenes. Training is conducted through national education standards and FBI curriculum.

Rod stated that he would develop a draft of Crime Scene Response Team typing / definition for the June meeting.

Final Notes and Adjournment

The next meeting was set for June 2, 2011 at 10AM at KLETC. Director Pavey asked that attendees let him know prior to the meeting if they would be eating lunch at the training center (cost \$5).

The following agenda items will be covered during the June meeting:

- LE Encryption
- Canine Unit Typing
- Tactical Unit Typing
- Crime Scene Unit Typing