



SECURE & PREPARED

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Special points of interest:

- FFY06 EMPG grant allocations to local jurisdictions have been allocated. See article on page 3.
- Iowa's IMT recently observed and supported the U.S. Fire Administration in their all-hazards management of the wildland fires in Texas. See article on page 4.
- The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division will be holding a free, random drawing for 100-200 NOAA Weather Radios in conjunction with Severe Weather Awareness Week. See article on page 6.
- The 2003 State Homeland Grant Program II end of cycle date is quickly approaching. See details on page 6.

HLSEM Submits 2006 Plan

The 15 teams formed to identify needs in their specialty areas under the '06 Homeland Security grant have completed their work. Each submitted a budget and supporting narrative and conducted a briefing of their report at the state EOC on February 24th. A listing of the video stream of each of these reports is available at the end of this story.

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HLSEM) has taken the team reports and developed an overall state document called an Enhancement Plan. That was submitted to the Office of Grants and Training (OGT) on March 1st.

Now, OGT will review all of the requests submitted by the states and is expected to announce state allocations by May 31, 2006. That will become the award date and the 24 month grant period will begin. OGT will announce a total dollar amount for each state and then the states have 60 days to prioritize and report back on the projects and scope of work they will complete with their allocation.

"I'd like to personally thank all who participated in this effort," stressed David Miller, the Administrator for HLSEM. "This was a lot of work packed into a short time frame and Iowa's request will be stronger because of the involvement of all who worked on the teams," he added.

Interested in seeing the team briefings? Here's a listing of the sites. You will need Real Player in order to view the files. Copy and paste these links into Real Player to see these videos.

- Welcome: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/01_welcome.rm
- CBRNE Detection: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/02_CBRNE.rm
- Expanded Regional Collaboration: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/03_exregcollab.rm
- Urban Search and Rescue: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/04_usr.rm
- NIMS/NRP: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/05_nims_nrp.rm
- Animal Health Emergency Support: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/06_animal.rm
- Food and Agriculture Safety and Security: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/07_ag_safety.rm
- Economic and Community Recovery: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/08_economic.rm
- Explosive Device Response Operations: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/09_explosive.rm
- Law Enforcement Investigation and Operations: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/10_LEIO.rm (Continued on page 2)

HLSEM Submits 2006 Plan

(Continued from page 1)

- Intelligence and Information Sharing: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/11_intelligence.rm
- MMRS: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/12_MMRS.rm
- Medical Surge and Mass Prophylaxis: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/13_MSMP.rm
- CIP/NIPP: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/14_CIP_NIPP.rm
- Citizen's Corps: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/15_citizens.rm
- Interoperable Communications: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/16_interoperable.rm
- WMD/Hazardous Materials: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/17_wmd_haz_mat.rm
- Planning and Program: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/18_planning.rm
- Questions: rtsp://video.state.ia.us/rvol1/emdrm/2006/19_QA.rm

Unity of Purpose

By HLSEM Administrator, David L. Miller



The pace and demands placed on all involved in emergency management have increased dramatically following the attacks of September 11 and more recently with the catastrophic impact of Hurricane Katrina. The good news is that the emergency management family has increased in breadth and depth over the past four years with the inclusion and much closer coordination of partners such as public health, public works, businesses and private organizations.

Like a growing family, sometimes it might seem like everyone is not pulling in the same direction. But if you really look at it, we are on the same page and there is really no doubt about our main goals – the protection and safety of the public, and the response community.

There's an old adage in the advertising world that says one negative has to be offset by ten positives. That's true in our environment as well. It is too easy for us to concentrate on the areas where we disagree and forget that we ultimately do agree and are unified.

All of the hard work recently completed by the teams involved with the '06 grant is a perfect example of our ability to pull together. We faced a confusing structure with an extremely tight deadline. But we rolled up our sleeves and went to work knowing that our efforts would set the funding stage for our ability to protect the public and each other. It really was very impressive and I want to tell you that I'm awestruck by the help and support we received from local, state and private partners.

Thank you. Your help is sincerely appreciated and is extremely important as we move ahead together.

Burn Bans Issued for Six Counties

The State Fire Marshal's Office recently issued burn bans for six counties due to one of the driest Februaries Iowa has experienced in decades. The counties are: Appanoose, Davis, Madison, Pottawattamie, Wapello, and Wayne.

State officials expect more open burn bans will follow unless Iowa receives more rain soon. However, the National Weather Service says even small amounts of precipitation will help eliminate the risk of grass fires. For more information, visit <http://www.state.ia.us/government/dps/fm/Burnban.htm>.

FFY 2006 EMPG County Allocations Announced

Iowa will receive \$2,397,025 under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security federal fiscal year 2006 (FFY06) Emergency Management Performance Grant Program (EMPG). A record 87 counties applied for FFY06 EMPG, up from 78 applicants last year. Local jurisdictions will receive a total of \$1,210,618 for FFY06.

County allocations are listed below and will be used to support comprehensive emergency management activities to improve mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities for all hazards.

FFY 2006 EMPG County Allocations

Adair 2,689.19	Grundy 8,648.85	Montgomery 5,132.16
ADLM 16,474.55	Guthrie 3,741.88	Muscatine 19,840.03
Allamakee 9,869.07	Hamilton 9,943.04	O'brien 20,803.51
Audubon 4,659.30	Hancock 18,537.13	Osceola 14,413.78
Benton 21,047.91	Hardin 15,920.83	Palo Alto 17,868.46
Black Hawk 23,688.51	Harrison 20,582.31	Plymouth 14,232.47
Boone 22,646.34	Henry 21,022.53	Pocahontas 17,349.55
Bremer 17,949.69	Howard 9,559.39	Polk 32,817.11
Buchanan 18,802.93	Ida 9,679.78	Pottawattamie 18,802.21
Buena Vista 11,555.25	Iowa 8,767.79	Poweshiek 21,392.40
Butler 6,906.82	Jackson 10,068.87	Ringgold 4,656.04
Calhoun 11,654.61	Jasper 13,598.25	Sac 5,909.25
Carroll 6,168.53	Jefferson 3,444.89	Scott 27,437.28
Cass 14,772.77	Johnson 21,575.89	Shelby 26,406.35
Cedar 7,602.69	Jones 8,225.31	Sioux 20,720.47
Cerro Gordo/Franklin 21,720.21	Keokuk 8,135.38	Story 25,595.53
Cherokee 11,798.20	Kossuth 11,119.74	Tama 22,978.50
Clay 13,902.85	Lee 11,332.60	Union 13,352.76
Clayton 16,039.41	Linn 32,907.75	Van Buren 4,276.38
Clinton 26,961.88	Louisa 7,551.92	Wapello 8,616.94
Dallas 19,351.58	Lyon 9,373.00	Warren 23,081.85
Des Moines 24,861.22	Madison 7,122.22	Washington 8,135.38
Dickinson 14,187.14	Mahaska 7,905.48	Wayne 6,639.93
Dubuque 21,370.65	Marion 20,788.28	Webster 16,700.46
Emmet 12,443.30	Marshall 21,550.87	Winneshiek 8,633.98
Fayette 15,955.28	Mills 14,942.84	Woodbury 29,177.49
Floyd 13,173.26	Mitchell 7,723.08	Worth 10,177.65
Fremont 1,772.85	Monona 11,674.19	
		TOTALS: 1,210,618.00

Sioux City Chosen to Receive \$18,000 Grant

Sioux City will receive just under \$18,000 for its water plant security enhancement project. Several cities competed for unused '03 Critical Infrastructure Protection Allocation grant funding that had been returned by cities across the state. The projects were reviewed by HLSEM and Sioux City's proposal was deemed best.

Sioux City will use this grant money to purchase cameras that will be strategically placed at the water plant. This will allow security officials to monitor activity at the plant from remote locations.

"The security and integrity of the drinking water for the tri-state area is very important to us. We have to do everything we can to maintain its safety," said Gary Brown, Woodbury County Emergency Management Coordinator. The Sioux City Water Plant serves Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota, which represents approximately 250,000 residents.

Iowa's IMT Deploys for Texas Wildland Fires

Iowa's Incident Management Team (IMT) recently gained field-training experience in North Central Texas. The team was deployed February 13-19, to observe and support the U.S. Fire Administration in their all-hazards management of the wildland fires in Texas.

Since December 26th, 7,704 fires have burned 2,577,315 acres in Texas; 370 homes have been lost and 3,296 have been saved. Texas aircraft have flown a total of 5,197 sorties dropping a total of 4,216,369 gallons of fire retardant. Equipment and personnel from 44 states and Puerto Rico have provided essential support to fire suppression operations.

District Chief of Special Operations for the Des Moines Fire Department and IMT Team Leader Greg Chia thought the training was invaluable. "With the extremely dry conditions and the number of fires occurring daily, it was more than a training opportunity, they needed the help and it truly was a hands on experience for us," said Chia. "I learned as much about the ICS (Incident Command System) in one week than I had in the last year. The number of resources they were managing was incredible and now we have experience in that as well."

In addition to Chia, first responders Scott Siberski, Ames Fire Department; Jeff Hutcheson and John Wickman, Council Bluffs Fire Department; Matt Porter, Des Moines Fire Department; Jeff Hanson, Sioux City Public Works; and Steve Weliver, Waterloo Fire Department, participated.

In 2005, Iowa recruited and developed a statewide Incident Management Team consisting of 24 members representing fire, health, police, public works and public health professionals who could provide assistance during times of emergencies to local responders and local/state emergency operation centers in support of existing incident command systems.

Training is one of the final steps for the Iowa Incident Management Team to be certified by the U.S. Fire Administration. However, Chia says there is still a lot of training to be done. All 24 members need overall incident training and position-specific training. There may be other training opportunities for team members if dry conditions in the United States continue.

Once fully certified, Iowa's Incident Management Team will be available for deployment and support within Iowa, as well as to other states, through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, an interstate mutual aid compact.

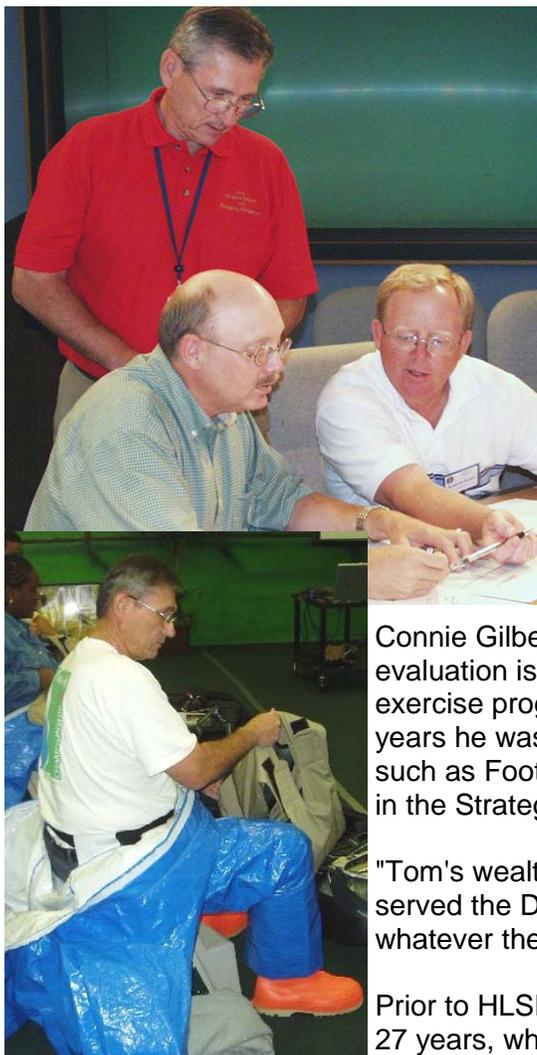
National Response Plan Course Required

All federal, state, territorial, tribal and local emergency managers or personnel whose primary responsibility is emergency management must complete *IS-800 NRP* before the end of FY06.

IS-800 National Response Plan (NRP): An Introduction introduces the key elements of the National Response Plan so that its implementation can be supported at all levels of government.

The course can be taken as an on-line interactive Web-course, or course materials may be downloaded and used in a group or classroom setting. For more information, see <http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/is800.asp>. Answer sheets may be obtained from the Emergency Management Institute by calling the Independent Study Office at 301-447-1256.

HLSEM Spotlight: Happy Retirement Tom!



At top, Tom teaches an exercise design class. Below, Tom gets into a Level A Suit during training in Anniston, AL.

Grandbabies, golf, and the Grand Canyon will be on Tom Walton's agenda following his retirement from HLSEM on March 31st.

Tom has been with the Division since September 1999 when he started working with the Public Assistance program. He then moved on to work in the exercise program and has continued to work in that area. In his position of exercise specialist, he has provided assistance to county coordinators for designing, developing and conducting all types of exercises, including those to test their EOCs and first responders; conducted exercise design courses which enable county coordinators and others to design, develop and conduct their own exercises; conducted injury simulation (moulage) classes; and also "moulaged" participants for the counties when they needed victims for their exercises.

HLSEM's Exercise, Evaluation and Training Bureau Chief Connie Gilbert said, "Tom's knowledge and experience in exercise and evaluation is invaluable. He played a major role in the first and second year exercise program multi-county table top and functional exercises. Over the years he was instrumental in planning and conducting major exercises such as Foot and Mouth Disease and energy exercises as well as assisting in the Strategic National Stockpile Exercise.

"Tom's wealth of experience, dedication, commitment, and humor have served the Division well over the past few years. We wish Tom good luck in whatever the future should bring," said HLSEM administrator David Miller.

Prior to HLSEM, Tom was a member of the Iowa Army National Guard for 27 years, where he first worked in the supply and personnel arenas, as an operations sergeant with the 185th Corps Support Battalion, and finally as the operations sergeant for the Iowa Military Academy. He began his military service when he was drafted in 1965 and spent two years with the U.S. Army, mostly in Germany with a float bridge company.

Tom has a B.S. in education and taught and coached for two years before joining the Guard. He and wife Mary Jane have two sons: Keith, who is a physical therapy assistant and certified athletic trainer and lives in the Phoenix, AZ area; and Phil, who is a district sales representative for Health Point and lives in Tulsa, OK with wife Jenny and daughter, Ella (with another child on the way).

Retirement plans include spending more time in Tulsa getting to know his grandchildren, playing golf, and relaxing. Tom also plans to visit his sister in New Jersey and travel to Washington, D.C., the Grand Canyon, and other sites that interest him.

For those that would like to bid Tom adieu, there will be a retirement party in his honor the afternoon of March 31st at the Hoover State Office Building in Des Moines in the HLSEM conference room.

Best wishes, Tom. We will miss you!

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division

A Division of the Department of Public Defense

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HLSEM Mission

To support, coordinate, and maintain state and local homeland security and emergency management activities in order to establish sustainable communities and assure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

We're on the Web!

www.iowahomelandsecurity.org

Severe Weather Awareness Week Update

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division will be holding a free, random drawing for 100-200 NOAA Weather Radios via its www.BeReadyIowa.org Web site in conjunction with Severe Weather Awareness Week April 3-7.

The www.BeReadyIowa.org Web site contains useful information on severe weather preparedness, background information on completion of Iowa's NOAA Weather Radio expansion project, and newly added links to FEMA Kids and Ready Kids.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, a tornado drill will be held on April 5 at 10 a.m. Also, the tentative evening drill will not be held. In the event of severe weather on the April 5, the drill will be rescheduled for April 6.

Tools such as posters, fact sheets, and a press release are available for emergency management coordinators at http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/asp/resource_room/info_library.asp. This is in the Information Library under the subheading Preparedness towards the bottom of the page.



SHSGP Grants Update

The 2003 State Homeland Grant Program II (SHSGP II) end of cycle date is quickly approaching. At this time, HLSEM still has several unpaid invoices. The majority of these invoices are on hold until we receive a confirmation that equipment has been received by the counties. It is very important that all of our sub-grantees check the equipment database and confirm with Beckie Barker when items are received by their counties. HLSEM cannot pay these invoices until confirmation is received.

Items have been returned to vendors by a few of the counties without notifying the state. It is imperative that the state is involved in the return of items purchased under the grant programs. HLSEM does not want counties to have to return funding because of a technicality such as this. In order to avoid having to repay funding, please let us know if there is a problem with the equipment so that we can work through the necessary steps to make an exchange correctly.

The equipment database for 2005 will be closed from March 10 through March 17. This is necessary to compile the data and get approval for requested pieces of equipment. The database will reopen on the 18th.