Annual Partnership Meeting on January 25th at Hollywood Casino

Briefing on the Emergency Services Agency’s 5 Year Plan for Fire and EMS by Ed Smith and Ed Hannon

CHARLES TOWN-Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management will hold their annual partnership meeting at Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races on Wednesday, January 25th at noon. Hollywood Casino will be donating lunch as a part of their partnership agreement with JCHSEM. Seating is limited to the first 90 people who make their reservations. Please limit to one person per organization.

Ed Smith and Ed Hannon, representing Jefferson County ESA, will give a short briefing about their agency’s 5-year plan for Fire and EMS in our county and take questions from the audience.

Additionally, we will have our annual State of the Partnership report from Director Miller, and introduction of the 2012 Steering Committee/Citizen Corps Council members.

Reservations can be made by calling JCHSEM’s Deputy Director, Terri Mehling at 304-728-3329 or email her at tmehling@jeffersoncountywv.org

Sanford H. “Sandy” Green named WV Region 3 Homeland Security Area Liaison

WV Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director, Jimmy Gianato has announced that Sanford H. “Sandy” Green has been appointed as the West Virginia Region 3 Homeland Security Area Liaison. Sandy has been actively involved in emergency response and public safety in Tucker County, West Virginia since 1982. He has served as Chief of the Canaan Valley VFD since 2001 and as Team Commander of the Tucker County Tactical Rescue Team. He has also served as Chairman of the Tucker County E-911 Advisory Council, on the Office of Emergency Management Board, and nearly 20 years with Tucker County Emergency Medical Services. Sandy is a founding member and Incident Commander of the Tucker All Hazard Conference Training. Currently, Sandy is managing a FEMA Assistance to Fire Grant to upgrade the emergency communication system for Tucker and surrounding counties. He has been employed as a Sales Representative at East-West Printing, Inc. in Davis, WV since 1993.

His duties will include working with the Fusion Center Liaison Program and serving as an intermediary for this program, working with the wide array of grants and other programs that the state oversees from Hazard Mitigation to Homeland Security and EMPG. He will also serve as a liaison for the Regional Interoperable Committees and will be there to support Emergency Managers in their times of need. Special thanks to General Hoyer and the WV National Guard for working with Jimmy Gianato at WVDHSEM and David Hoge at WVDMAPS to bring this program back online with employees of the state, rather than contractors. The area liaison’s primary mission will be to serve as our advocate and resource in the multiple homeland security and emergency management programs in the state. Sandy’s email address is Sanford.h.green@wv.gov.

Area Liaisons for the rest of the state are as follows: Region 1—W. Michael “Mike” Shook; Region 2-Michael E. Walker; Region 3-Sanford H. “Sandy” Green; Region 4—Anyssa M. Core; Region 5-Robert D. “Robbie” Bailey; and Region 6-Gregory M. Fuller.
Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management

WV Department of Agriculture Exercise Opportunity for the Agencies Identified Below

The WV Department of Agriculture will conduct a Multi-County Avian Flu Response Program on January 12, 2012 at the Moorefield Fire Department (Bingo Hall) at 114 Kuykendall Lane in Moorefield, WV. The program is designed to provide an opportunity to learn more about the response initiatives of the West Virginia Department of Agriculture. During the seminar, the participants will:

- Be provided an overview of the commercial poultry industry in West Virginia
- Be provided an overview of the public health concerns related to poultry diseases
- Review the WV LPAI Protocol (i.e. plan awareness) and outline WVDA response efforts; and
- Discuss the role of counties in an LPAI disease outbreak.

This program will include the following counties: Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Hampshire, Mineral, Grant, Hardy, Tucker, Randolph, and Pendleton. The seminar will be developed according to HSEEP protocols and could be used to fulfill requirements for compliance with Emergency Management Grant Performance standards.

The WV Department of Agriculture will:
- Develop the exercise following HSEEP standards
- Invite state and federal stakeholders; and
- Cover expenses of WV Department of Agriculture personnel to participate in the exercise.

The WV Department of Agriculture expects that County Emergency Management Directors will:
- Actively participate in the Seminar
- Provide Support to the TTX Planning process
- Invite county and other local stakeholders
- Cover all of their own travel expenses

The following participants are invited from each of the counties named above:
- Members of the LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee)
- County Health Department representatives
- Emergency Medical Services
- Fire Departments
- Public Service Districts
- Hospitals

Each of the disciplines listed above plays a critical role in an incident and WVDA would like to have their input into the process. The WV Department of Agriculture will be responsible for inviting state and federal agencies.

To confirm your attendance, please contact Matthew J. Blackwood, Ph.D at the WV Department of Agriculture at 304-558-5892 or by email to mblackwood@ag.state.wv.us
NIMS/NIMSCAST Workshop January 31st

JCHSEM is sponsoring a Local Officials Workshop on NIMS and NIMSCAST. Chuck Bennett, NIMS Coordinator for WV Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety will be holding a workshop on updates on NIMS (National Incident Management System) and NIMSCAST (National Incident Management System Community Assessment Tool) in Jefferson County on January 31, 2012.

Who should attend? County Commissioners, City Council Members, Mayors, City and County Administrators, Chiefs of Police, Fire, and EMS Service, Emergency Communications and Emergency Management Directors; local Health Department, and others who are responsible for NIMS and NIMSCAST within their organizations.

The workshop will be held at the Jefferson County EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, WV 25430. There will be two opportunities to attend. The first workshop will be held from 1-3 p.m. and the second will be held from 7-8 p.m. You need to only attend one of the workshops. Pre-register by contacting Barbara Miller at 304-728-3290 or email to bmiller@jeffersoncountywv.org

For additional information about NIMS, you may visit the NIMS Resource Center at http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/

IS-247-Integrated Public Alert and Warning System

FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute is offering a new online course: IS-247-Integrated Public Alert and Warning System. The course gives basic information about IPAWS to increase awareness about using IPAWS for public warnings, how to draft more effective warning messages and best practices in using Common Alerting Protocol. Details are available at http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is247.asp

NEW FEMA Document Explores Whole Community Concept

FEMA has published “A Whole Community Approach to Emergency Management: Principles, Themes, and Pathways for Action.” FEMA consulted local, tribal, state, territorial and federal representatives, academia; nongovernmental organizations; community members; and the private sector to create the document. More information about the Whole Community approach is available at http://www.fema.gov/about/wholecommunity.shtm
Resolve to Be Ready in 2012

The New Year is a perfect time to Resolve to be Ready and Jefferson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management is proud to be promoting emergency preparedness for 2012. To help spread the word, we are asking citizens of Jefferson County to make a resolution to be prepared for emergencies in 2012 and beyond. Roughly half of all Americans make New Year’s resolutions and commit to improving their lifestyles or reaching a long-term goal. This year, why not make a resolution that is easy to keep—and can save lives and protect property.

Sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Ready Campaign, Resolve to be ready is a nationwide effort designed to increase awareness as well as encourage individuals, families, businesses and communities to take action and prepare for emergencies in the New Year. Of citizens surveyed at the Jefferson County Fair: 62% are aware of their company’s/school’s emergency plan in case of a disaster/emergency; 17% have prepared a disaster supply kit for their home; 16% have prepared a small disaster supply kit for their car; 15% have identified meeting locations for their family and only 4% have been involved in volunteering for emergency preparedness organizations.

One way for you and your family to make an emergency preparedness resolution is to take four important steps.
Be informed. Know the hazards and risks in your area.
Make a family emergency plan, so you know how you would community with and find your loved ones if a disaster hit.
Build an emergency supply kit – both at home and in the car—that includes water, food and first aid supplies to help you survive if you lose power or get stranded in y our car. This is especially important for dealing with icy roads and snowstorms this winter.
Get involved – find out how you can promote preparedness in your community.

“We hope that all families and businesses will Resolve to Be Ready in 2012,” said Barbara Miller, Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director. “Whether it’s a snowstorm, tornado, a thunderstorm that has taken down power lines, or something of a man-made nature, we all need to be ready to take care of our families and our pets for a minimum of a week without restocking supplies.”

Emergencies can range from inconvenience to devastation, but you can resolve not to be a victim of an emergency or disaster and take steps to minimize the impact on you, your family and your businesses. More information is available at Ready.gov. The Website includes free information, checklists and guidelines about how to be informed, develop a family emergency plan, build an emergency kit, and get involved.

For more information, visit Ready.gov or the Spanish-language website Listo.gov or call 1-800-BE-READY or 1-888-SE-LISTO (TTY 1-800-462-7585). For additional information about Jefferson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management’s programs, visit: www.jeffersoncountywv.org/homeland-security.html.
Preparedness Quiz CONTEST!

Which is the worst place to be during a tornado?
- Outdoors
- In cars
- In mobile homes

You are in the direct path of a landslide or debris flow, and escape doesn’t seem likely. What should you do?
- Brace yourself behind a building
- Get in your car
- Curl up into a tight ball and protect your head

If trapped in your car during a snowstorm, what’s the best strategy?
- Leave your car to get help
- Raise your car hood to attract attention, crack the window and warm the engine
- Put your blinkers on and avoid running the engine to preserve gas

To keep cool in excessive heat, you should drink very cold water.
- True
- False

How much gas should you have in your car in case of an emergency?
- At least ¼ tank
- At least ½ tank
- A full tank

What are the signs of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning?
- Headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain and confusion
- Loss of feeling in your limbs and uncontrollable shivering
- CO poisoning has no visible signs

How many gallons of water will fit in the average bathtub?
- 25
- 12
- 36

How should you prep your home for a wildfire?
- Shut off gas at the meter and turn off pilot lights
- Place sprinklers on the roof, wetting it along with shrubs that are 15 feet inside your home’s perimeter
- Move flammable furniture to the center of the house and turn a light on in each room
- All the above

You are evacuating from a flood when water begins to rise around your car. What to do?
- Abandon your car and move to higher ground
- Keep driving to higher ground
- Stay put and wait for rescue

Which foods can last up to one year?
- Powdered milk and dried fruit
- Crackers and potatoes
- Peanut butter and jelly
- All of the above
National Preparedness is aimed at strengthening the security and resilience of the Nation by preparing for the full range of 21st century risks that threaten national security, including weapons of mass destruction, cyber attacks, terrorism, pandemics, transnational threats and catastrophic natural disasters. National preparedness is a shared responsibility. As such, the PPD is designed to facilitate an integrated, all-of-nation/whole community, capabilities-based approach to preparedness. Involving federal partners, state, local and tribal leaders, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, faith based and community organizations—and most importantly the general public—is vital to keeping people and communities safe and preventing the loss of life and property when disasters strike.

The first step in PPD8, was the release of the National Preparedness Goal in October, 2011. It can be found at www.fema.gov/pdf/prepared/npg.pdf

On December 6, 2012, FEMA released the National Preparedness System description, which will help lay the groundwork for strengthening the nation’s resilience against all threats and hazards. “What makes this preparedness system unique is that it engages the whole community-individuals, businesses, community, faith-based organizations, schools, and all levels of government,” said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. “We recognize that the nation will be most prepared for threats and hazards when we work together.” The National Preparedness System description identifies six components to improve national preparedness for a wide range of threats and hazards, such as acts of terrorism, cyber attacks, pandemics and catastrophic natural disasters. The System description explains how as a nation we will build on current efforts, many of which are already established in the law and have been in use for many years. The six components of the National Preparedness System are: 1) Identifying and assessing risks; 2) Estimating capability requirements; 3) Building or sustaining capabilities; 4) Developing and implementing plans to deliver those capabilities; 5) Validating and monitoring progress made towards achieving the National Preparedness Goal; and 6) Reviewing and updating efforts as needed to promote continuous improvement.

The National Preparedness Goal, which was the first deliverable to PPD-8 and was released on October 7, 2011, sets the foundation for the implementation of PPD-8. The directive also called for the development of a National Preparedness System description to explain the resources and tolls needed to achieve the National Preparedness Goal. Implementation of the National Preparedness System is a multi-year effort that is being coordinated by FEMA, and the description lays out how the six components will interact to build, sustain, and deliver the core capabilities needed to achieve the Goal. The National Preparedness System description and additional information about PPD-8 and its implementation are available at www.fema.gov/ppd8.

FEMA has launched an on-going dialogue and is asking for your input as they develop the next documents to meet the milestones required by the policy directive. This forum provides an opportunity to provide input into the development of several activities over the coming months. This can include your general views on preparedness, such successful approaches that your community or organization has used to assess preparedness; examples of how you, your business, or community as a whole collaborates with local law enforcement officials and federal authorities to help identify potential threats or prevent incidents; and stories of how local government and private sector stakeholders interact in your community to support emergency response needs during disaster. These are just a few of the many topics that will be discussed. Visit fema.ideascale.com and click on the link for “Presidential Policy Directive 8” to provide your ideas. You also may view, comment and vote on other people’s ideas.
Steering Committee, John Sherwood, Chair
The Steering Committee works with the JCHSEM Director to guide the activities of JCHSEM. A fourteen-member Steering Committee is made up of public and private representation. JCHSEM is a Department within the Jefferson County Commission, who has overall responsibility for the department and its employees. The Jefferson County Commission appoints all members to the steering committee. This committee meets on the 4th Tuesday of February, March, May, June, August, September and holds a Nov/Dec meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the JCHSEM EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced. The Quarterly Partnership meetings held in Jan, April, July, and October also serve as the Steering Committee meetings for those months.

Animals in Disaster Committee, Kelly Parsons, Chair
Any interested person can serve on this committee. The Animals in Disaster Committee is responsible for developing and updating the Animals in Disaster Plan and to work with the JCHSEM to make recommendations regarding the Animals Annex of the Emergency Operations Plan. They will also identify potential resources for animals before, during and after a disaster. The committee meets on the 3rd Monday of the months of January, April, July, October at 9:30 a.m. in the JCHSEM EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced.

Emergency Planning for People with Special Needs Committee-Amy Jones, Chair
Any interested person can serve on this committee. The Emergency Planning for People with Special Needs Committee is responsible for training and planning for issues of people who have mobility problems, people who have sight or hearing problems, people who speak a language other than English as their first language, the elderly and the very young, people who use oxygen or other medical devices and anyone who may need special assistance during times of disasters and/or evacuations. This committee will work with the JCHSEM to update the portion of the Emergency Operations Plan that deals with these special needs. This committee meets on the 3rd Monday of the months of March, June, September, and December at 9:30 a.m. in the JCHSEM EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced. This room is handicapped accessible.

Public Awareness, Education and Training Committee, Katherine Dunbar, Chair
Any interested person can serve on this committee. The Public Awareness, Education and Training Committee is responsible to communicate the organization’s activities to the public and to build support for JCHSEM’s programs. They work with the Director and other staff to keep the entire community focused on the objectives of JCHSEM, the opportunities for additional involvement and support by updating citizens and businesses about what the partners are doing and how the community will and is benefiting from these efforts. Additionally, they are responsible to assist the program manager in setting up speaking engagements and public awareness events. This committee meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month except December at 8:30 a.m. in the EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville unless otherwise announced.

Partnership and Volunteer Development Committee, Holly Morgan-Frye, Chair
Any interested person can serve on this committee. The Partnership Development committee assists the staff in identification and recruitment of potential partners and what they have to offer in community preparedness. This committee will be responsible for activities to promote partnership or membership development and recruitment of volunteers. This committee meets quarterly in the EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced. at 9:30 a.m. on the last Monday of January, April, July and October.

Risk Assessment and Mitigation Planning Committee, Mason Carter, Chair
Any interested person may serve on this committee. The Risk Assessment/Mitigation Planning Committee will examine the community’s risks and vulnerability to all hazards and assess the community’s vulnerability to those risks. Additionally, they will look at specific buildings, infrastructure, etc. to determine which are most susceptible to risks. A Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan was completed and adopted by the Jefferson County Commission, all Jefferson County municipalities, WVOHSEM, and Federal Emergency Management Agency in July, 2003; updated the original document in 2008. Next update in 2013. This committee meets on an “as needed basis”. Please call the office at 728-3329 for exact dates and times.

Counter Terrorism Committee, Barbara Miller, Director, Chair
Membership to this sub-committee of the Risk Assessment and Mitigation Planning Committee is limited to members of law enforcement, emergency management, homeland security, emergency communications, Red Cross, schools, health care, fire companies, ambulance authority/EMS, and government, due to sensitive homeland security issues. The committee works on issues of planning and training for counter terrorism or human-caused disasters. Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced.

If you are interested in joining any of our committees, contact either bmiller@jeffersoncountywv.org or tmehling@jeffersoncountywv.org

Times, dates, places may need to be changed due to inclement weather, scheduling conflicts or EOC activation. If you have questions, call the JCHSEM office.
January, 2012

2 County Offices are Closed

3 Steering Committee 2012 Organizational Meeting at 9:00 a.m. Jefferson County EOC

6 Emergency Manager’s Council Meeting at the Frontier Building in Charleston

9 Partnership Development Committee 8:30 a.m. Jefferson County EOC

10 Counter Terrorism Committee at 2:00 at the Jefferson County EOC

10 Continuity Planning for Non-Governmental Organizations/Non-Profits. Contact Trina Bartlett at the United Way for info

11 Public Awareness, Education and Training Committee at 8:30 at the Jefferson County EOC Conference Room

12 WV Department of Agriculture Multi-County Avian Flu Response Program, Moorefield. Contact Dr. Matthew Blackwood for additional information at mblackwood@ag.state.wv.us

13 Region 8 & 9 Hospitals Regional TTX Exercise. For more information, contact Craig Horn at chorn@wvemstsn.net

16 MLK Holiday-Office is closed

23 Animals in Disaster Committee Meeting at 9:30 at Jefferson Co. EOC

25 Annual JCHSEM Partnership Meeting at the Epic Buffet at Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races. RSVP to Terri Mehling at tmehling@jeffersoncountywv.org or call 304-728-3329 to make your reservation by January 20th. Due to limited seating available, please limit to one person per agency. Thanks!

31 Local Officials Workshop on NIMS/NIMSCAST, instructed by Chuck Bennett of WV Dept. of Military Affairs and Public Safety.