



Public Works Emergency Response Team (PWERT) Working Group

June 14, 2018

Meeting Notes

I. Opening Remarks/Welcome

Manny Palacios, Chair
Ed Balderas, Vice Chair
Ronnie Bates, Secretary

II. Introductions

City of Carrollton brought their new SHSP-funded trailer. Elliott Reep provided a description of the trailer and purpose and PWERT meeting attendees went outside to view the trailer.

III. Approval of Meeting Notes

Manny called for an approval of meeting notes. Motion to approve by David Stone from Celina. Barry Fulfer from Grand Prairie seconded.

IV. Tabletop Exercise Update

Ed provided date, time, and location information for the exercise: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at the Pat May Center in Bedford. He also provided preliminary agenda details and information on the show-and-tell portion for the grant-funded PWERT cache equipment.

V. State & Federal Surplus Property Program

Marc Jessie

Marc Jessie described the equipment made available under the surplus program. There are three warehouses: Fort Worth (managed by Marc; 2826 North Beach Street, Fort Worth, 817-831-6767; if using GPS, use Haltom City), San Antonio, and Austin. Program is funded through revenue generated by purchases from the program. Surplus program provided many resources for Hurricane Harvey response and recovery efforts. Upon request, Marc can find federal surplus resources in other states. Surplus cost savings can be 75-90% of new cost.

**Added by Ed Balderas to notes after the meeting* Full location and contact information for each warehouse can be found on the Texas Facilities Commission web page:*

<http://tfc.state.tx.us/divisions/supportserv/prog/fedsurplus/contact-us/>

Purchasing process is as simple as becoming an authorized representative in the surplus program, requesting an invoice for a desired piece of equipment, and making payment on the invoice within 30 days. All PWERT member jurisdictions are eligible to purchase equipment from the program; however, only people listed on your jurisdiction's account may pick up or authorize someone else to pick up, through a delivery order, a piece of equipment from a warehouse. Ronnie Bates stated he had easily purchased

FEMA trailers and a couple of pumps through this program when he was in Grand Prairie.

A minimum twelve month compliance period (i.e. the amount of time you must keep the equipment functional and open for inspection from TFC) exists for all purchased equipment. A minimum eighteen month compliance period exists for any equipment whose original purchase value exceeded \$5,000.00. Failing to maintain the piece of equipment during the compliance period may result in seizure of that equipment by TFC.

Marc stated that other companies have used federal grant dollars to purchase surplus equipment. This was a response to Chase Wheeler's concern about some of the obstacles previously encountered when attempting to make these types of purchases with federal grant funding.

VI. Member Point of Contact Map

Marissa Paz, Addison
Olyesa Powers, Mesquite

Marissa explained that the previous method of tracking member contact information, an excel spreadsheet, was inefficient and often outdated due to low response rates for updates. Therefore, the decision was made to partner with the Emergency GIS Response Team (EGRT) to create an open, map-based platform.

Marissa provided a breakdown of how contact information will be updated in the future. New members will receive a link to the map with a user name and password. The EGRT representative to PWERT will receive, from the NCTCOG liaison to PWERT, the new member contact information to update the map. Every quarter or before a major disaster event (e.g., hurricane, long-term flooding, ice/snow event, etc.) a contact update/verification request will be sent out to all members through the listserv. Members will log in, click on their respective jurisdiction, and update their contact information by clicking on each field.

Olyesa from EGRT explained that there are two layers for most jurisdictions. The first is the county layer and the second is the city layer. Clicking the arrow in the dialogue box containing the contact information will move you between layers.

Olyesa and Marissa explained that any member jurisdiction with access to the map is able to view or change information for another jurisdiction. A backup spreadsheet and archive will be kept to ensure there is no major loss of information due to this capability. Jessica Mason from NCTCOG explained that changes are automatically saved and there is no undo feature for changes made.

Manny emphasized the importance of members updating their contact information and attending meetings.

A map for with cache equipment layers is also in development. A draft version was shown to attendees.

VII. Grant Funding Strategy

Manny Palacios
Ed Balderas

Barry Fulfer explained that the grant subcommittee has not been able to meet and requested additional help from interested members. A meeting to discuss the five year plan will be scheduled as soon as possible. Planning will incorporate lessons learned from other disasters, such as Hurricane Harvey.

Ronnie provided an update on the FY 2017 cache purchases:

- Light tower and generators are in the ordering process
- Vests, locks, and signs will be ordered at the end of the fiscal year after determining how much funding is left over to spend on these items.

Ronnie also provided an update on the FY 2018 application:

- Pending approval; the projects could start January 2019

Ed provided details on the FY 2018 request (\$242k), which included: seven (7) 6" pumps, five (5) 4" pumps, five (5) 2" pumps, sixty (60) vests, and the Allen and DeSoto response trailers.

Ed will work on developing a comprehensive list of cache equipment and status checks.

VIII. Debris Management

Ed Balderas

Ed requested input on the type of documentation, such as procurement materials for debris contracts, which may be beneficial to house in the PWERT activation Google drive.

Elliott Reep provided a briefing on the importance of pre-disaster contracts and the need for this documentation. Several members do not have an updated debris management plan.

IX. Hot Phone for Next Quarter

Ronnie Bates

Ronnie explained the Hot Phone process and received volunteers for July, August, and September.

New Hot Phone cards were provided to attendees.

X. Group/Public Comment

Ronnie informed the group that one of the PWERT founders, Tony Allato, recently passed away.

Jessica provided a list of the year's newest members: Flower Mound, Garland, Wise County, Aledo, Hickory Creek, Lucas, Sachse, Collin County, and Frisco. A new member meeting after the main meeting would be held.

Barry Fulfer informed the group that there are small (\$1) and large (\$3) PWERT logo patches available to members. Cedar Hill donated the patches and sales go to support PWERT activities.

Flower Mound representatives provided a briefing on their wildland fire dozer program. PWERT leadership will work with FMFD to potentially work on incorporating PWERT into a wildland fire support role through specialized training that may be funded through SHSP funds.

Jessica reminded the group that the email listserv had changed and is listed on the new Hot Phone card.

Next Meeting:

NCTCOG, Metroplex Conference Room

September 20, 2018

9:30 am-11:30 am

Google Hot Phone: 972-827-8758

PWERT website: http://www.nctcog.org/ep/Special_Projects/PWERT/Index.asp

Preparing Texas (training opportunities): www.preparingtexas.org

Public Works Academy through NCTCOG's Training and Development Institute:

https://nctcog.csod.com/catalog/CustomPage.aspx?id=20000508&tab_page_id=20000508