

Campus Safety and Security Task Force

MINUTES

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018, 1:30 p.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Chancellor Glen D. Johnson welcomed members and guests Cheryl Evans, Northern Oklahoma College (via phone); Janet Cunningham, Northwestern Oklahoma State University (via phone); Doug Major, Meridian Technology Center (via phone); Joshua Busby, Langston University; Chris Tipton and Dan Piazza, Oklahoma City Community College; Robert Pate, Oklahoma Office of Management and Enterprise Services; Sam Holt, Murray State College; Bruce DeMuth, Pioneer Technology Center; Lisa Teel, University of Oklahoma; Steve Turner, Northeastern State University; Curtis Brabham, Redlands Community College; Ron Ramming, Connors State College; Jeff Harp, University of Central Oklahoma; Lee Bird, Oklahoma State University; Randy Graves, Carl Albert State College; Nancy Hughes, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma; Bill Knowles, Seminole State College; Richard Andrews, Rose State College; John DeBoard, Cameron University; Kim Edd Carter, Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security; Albert Ashwood and Michelann Ooten, Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management; Yvonne Oberly and James Hock, Oklahoma Public Safety Broadband Network; April Goode and David Crosby, OneNet; and Todd Pauley, Angela Caddell, Chris Evans, Sarah Kimball, Debbie Blanke, Ricky Steele, Mary Ray and Sharon Bourbeau, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

APPROVAL OF NOV. 1 MEETING MINUTES: Chancellor Johnson asked task force members to review the minutes of the Nov. 1, 2017, meeting. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

FIRSTNET PARTNERSHIP: Johnson introduced James Hock, state broadband coordinator for the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, to provide an update of the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) initiative in Oklahoma.

Hock shared a video about AT&T's FirstNet with members describing how the statewide broadband network enables police, fire fighters, emergency medical technicians, and other first responders to effectively communicate with one another through the use of new technologies. Hock described the features, technical structure, coverage, and reliability, and explained how the network differed from commercial carriers in that it would be able to withstand natural disasters and major commercial overload.

Hock told members his office was awarded a federal grant to provide outreach and education and to gather data from first responders to ensure the network was designed for them. He said that all of Oklahoma's 77 counties were visited and data collected, and 57 counties provided coverage reviews. In addition, he said 35 of the 39 of the federally recognized tribes provided reviews. As a result, critical service areas were identified, and after reviewing the information, the governor opted in to the federal network.

Johnson asked if anyone had questions. Lisa Teel asked how it would work at universities. Hock said that any person deemed as a campus safety officer/first responder by the president or a designee such as the fire chief, chief of police or emergency manager would have access to the network. Steve Turner asked if switching carriers would be as simple as switching out the SIM card. Hock replied that for institutions using AT&T as the carrier, it would be a simple SIM card switch, but if the current carrier was Verizon, T-Mobile or Sprint, a new AT&T FirstNet device would be required.

Caddell asked Hock to address the intentions to reach out to higher education institutions and career technology centers about the initiative. Hock said that FirstNet federal would be sending representatives to campuses, as well as sending emails, and that representatives from his office would come to the campuses to go over the first responder options.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Johnson asked Todd Pauley to give the legislative update. Pauley told members that he had been closely tracking bills that could impact campus safety, public safety and weapons. He said there were several bills that he had highlighted to watch for amendments, language changes and committee actions.

Highlighted bills included HB 2918, authored by Rep. Jeff Coody, which would allow concealed carry without a license; HB 2951, also by Rep. Coody, which would remove language requiring licensing and would update the definition for the proper use of a firearm; SB 957 by Sen. Micheal Bergstrom, which would add places of worship to places where citizens would have a right to use defensive force; SB 1159 by Sen. Paul Scott, which would preclude a public college, university or tech center to deny the ability to carry a concealed hand gun by a citizen without a valid license; SB 1214 and 1215 by Sen. Nathan Dahm, which would create an exemption from federal gun law that would include a state employee gag rule on gun control; SB 1225 and 1227 by Sen. Josh Brecheen, which would prohibit public money from being used to promote gun control and enact constitutional carry by allowing guns to be carried with no restrictions or licenses, respectively. Pauley also mentioned that he was watching several related carryover bills from the 2017 regular session, including a bill by Rep. John Enns, HB 1600, which would allow hand gun licensees to carry weapons on public college and university campuses and would mandate that campuses be ready by Nov. 1, 2019.

Pauley encouraged task force members to continue campus-based advocacy efforts and invite new entities to join the large coalition of more than 40 agencies, businesses and organizations, including the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce and Oklahoma City Thunder, that supports maintaining current law regarding guns on campus.

OSRHE DISASTER RECOVERY TRAILER: Johnson asked Sarah Kimball and Ricky Steele from the State Regents' staff to provide an overview of OSRHE's disaster recovery trailer. Kimball told members that the State Regents contracted with Rentsys Recovery Services in 2015 to provide a mobile recovery center as part of the agency's disaster recovery plan. She said the mobile recovery center was considered a last resort command center, to be used in the event the State Regents' buildings were inaccessible, and that the agency had arrangements with three possible locations for placement of the center – OU Health Sciences Center College of Public Health parking lot, Redlands Community College in El Reno or Gordon Cooper Technology Center in Shawnee. She explained which teams would utilize the unit and outlined the physical footprint, infrastructure and equipment capabilities.

Steele told members he was involved with the IT side of disaster recovery events and activities. He noted that it was imperative that the basic technology be restored quickly in the event of a disaster and that a large part of the testing involved technology – phones, desktop computers, connectivity, network security, and power through use of a generator. Steele said his team would be working with the company to ensure the networking equipment deployed with the trailer was functional and secure.

DeMuth asked how effective or how functional the trailer would be without available electricity. Steele said that Rentsys offered satellite connectivity which was minimal and expensive, but could work. He added that the unit would come with a generator that is effective, and it would come fully fueled, but customers would be required to have a fuel source, because one fuel load would only last about two days.

CAMPUS EMERGENCY MANAGER CONSORTIUM UPDATE: Johnson asked Teel to provide an update on the activities of the Campus Emergency Manager Consortium. Teel reported that she and Kimball had reached out to area association emergency managers to coordinate upcoming meeting schedules. They noted that they plan to set a consortium meeting in the spring.

WORKGROUP REPORTS: Johnson asked for workgroup reports.

Campus Best Practices (Lee Bird, Chair): Bird told members that the group was continuing work on developing a directory of subject matter experts who could provide free or low-cost training programs in key topic areas, such as diversity, assessment, campus safety, Title IX, and Clery Act provisions. The speakers board would provide affordable, on-site training options for campuses, and would be available for campus access in the spring.

Issue Monitoring, Advocacy and Research (Larry Rice, Chair): Caddell provided the report in the absence of Rice. She said that Rice had asked for a list of current and carryover bills with regard to weapons on campus; the list was made available to members. The workgroup would continue to stand ready to mobilize advocacy when support was needed to address legislation pertaining to campus safety and security.

Training and Plan Development (Albert Ashwood, Chair): Ashwood encouraged members to register for the National Tornado Summit, to be held Feb. 26-28 at the Cox Convention Center. In addition, he and his team reported that they were completing work on the state's Catastrophic Earthquake Plan, and would be including a state business continuity plan. He added that his agency would be teaching courses on continuity of operations, and told members that his office was willing to teach the courses on campuses if requested.

Ashwood also announced he would be retiring this summer and introduced Michelann Ooten, his deputy director, who would be attending the meetings and chairing the workgroup going forward. He also offered financial assistance from the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management (OEM) for the upcoming Campus Safety and Security Summit.

2018 STATEWIDE SUMMIT: Johnson told members that planning had begun for the third campus safety summit, which would take place in November 2018. He asked Caddell to update members on the planning process.

Caddell said that all key partners were represented in the Summit planning group, including OEM, the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security, the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, the Midwest City Police Department, and campus law enforcement. She noted several content ideas that were discussed, including crisis intervention training, a business continuity process case study, and a possible plenary session focused on ways campuses can optimize their business intervention teams. Caddell shared that the planning committee was issuing a call for proposals, and that the save the date flyer would be sent out in early March.

Caddell added that one concept under consideration for the live exercise would center on an incident involving an escalating, acute mental health issue. Bird mentioned that her campus had just finished three rounds of training on in-class medical emergencies, which focused on faculty capability to assist injured persons and also included a mental health facet.

DATE CHANGE: APRIL 2018 TASK FORCE MEETING: Johnson told members that the April task force meeting would be moved to Tuesday, April 3 at 2 p.m. Caddell said that a revised schedule was available at the back table.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Johnson asked for future meeting topic ideas. Bird mentioned First Amendment considerations pertaining to institutional fines for uninviting a speaker on campus, noting that security costs, which can be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, are an often overlooked aspect of the issue.

WRAP UP AND COMMENTS: Johnson said that tracking of bills would continue, as would preparations for the Summit.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.