

# READINESS & HOMELAND SECURITY STREAMER SUBMITTAL

## Post and Submitter Information

Post Name: Omaha Post  
Post Size: Large  
Date: 21 January 2010  
Submitter Name: Brian K. Wight  
Submitter Phone: 402.952.2557  
Submitter Email: brian\_wight@urscorp.com

### 1.) Principal Criteria: Operate Post Committee on Readiness and Homeland Defense/Security

In early 2009, the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) Omaha Post re-established and now maintains an active Readiness and Homeland Security (RHS) Committee that consists of seven committee members from four different organizations. The committee members and their associated organizations are:

- Brian Wight, URS Corporation
- Jeffrey Williamson, URS Corporation
- Christie Murray, URS Corporation
- Gary Krupa, Department of Veterans Affairs
- Kim Thomas, United States Army Corps of Engineers
- Dave Henney, Independent Consultant
- Jody Vaccaro, Coastal Environmental Group, Inc.

Several meetings were held throughout the year to discuss readiness and homeland security issues. The discussions were documented in meeting minutes. The meeting minutes are included in Attachment A. In addition to the meetings, conference calls and e-mail communications occurred with committee members to further discuss readiness issues.

Brian Wight serves as chair of the committee and has been listed as the SAME Omaha Post's Point of Contact (POC) to the National Readiness and Homeland Security Committee.

### 2.) Principal Criteria: Readiness And Homeland Security Committee Participates In Planning And Conducting Meetings To Determine Community's Capabilities In Times Of Emergencies

#### 2A) Federal Emergency Management Officials or equivalent agency

Agency Name: FEMA  
Agency POC and Title:  
Tom Morgan, Region 7 NIMS Coordinator  
Dan Best, Disaster Operations Division Director  
Date(s): 12/23/2009  
Location(s): N/A

Attendees:

Jodi Vaccaro, SAME RHS Committee  
Tom Morgan, Region 7 NIMS Coordinator  
Dan Best, Disaster Operations divisions Director

Topics:

Jodi introduced the goals of the committee and presented the Capabilities matrix in order to initiate further conversation.

Tom Morgan indicated that FEMA's responsibility is focused on supporting the state after both local and state resources have been committed. In event of emergency, they would largely contact other federal agencies. Dan Best confirmed that tapping the federal agencies was their standard response pattern. He also noted that their main focus in emergency situations is life saving and rescue.

Dan also mentioned that FEMA has traditionally called on EPA and USACE, who then contract out services. He recommended that we contact these agencies and ask what they do for FEMA. Many of our Post members have strong ties to USACE and EPA and would therefore be indirectly available to FEMA.

Communication Mode: Telephone

## **2B) Corps of Engineers Emergency Operations**

Agency Name: United State Army Corps of Engineers – Omaha District

Agency POC and Title: Kim Thomas, USACE

Date(s): 12/15/09

Location(s): NA

Attendees:

Brian Wight, SAME RHS Committee  
Kim Thomas, USACE

Topics:

The biggest weakness that the USACE has is the need to find contractors to perform emergency work, mainly in construction services. However, the weakness could also be environmental in the case of a weapon of mass destruction/dirty bomb.

If the USACE needs assistance from outside consultants, engineers, architects, etc., the USACE would use an emergency contract. For example, in last year's flood event, the USACE contracting officer contacted several companies who agreed to meet at a certain time and review the scope. They were then given four hours to prepare their bids, which were subsequently opened and awarded. The USACE also has a Rapid Response group who maintains national contracts to respond to disasters and other emergencies.

The sustaining member's capabilities matrix was transmitted to Kim. Kim indicates that the matrix will be very useful and should be kept updated so that it is available in the unfortunate event that the USACE needs to respond to an emergency.

Communication Mode: Email

**2C) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials or equivalent agency**

Agency Name: USEPA, Region 7

Agency POC and Title: Janice Kroone, On-scene Coordinator

Date(s): 8/24/2009

Location(s): EPA Region 7 Headquarters; Kansas City, KS

Attendees:

Dave Henney, SAME RHS Committee

Jodi Vaccaro, SAME RHS Committee

Janice Kroone, USEPA

Topics:

RHS Committee members Jodi Vaccaro and Dave Henney visited Janice looking for information about coordinating the readiness plan for the Omaha Post with activities EPA is responsible for. Janice responded with questions and comments about SAME and suggested getting involved with the Omaha/Council Bluffs emergency response meetings and will see that we are invited to the next Omaha/Council Bluffs emergency response meeting on November 10, 2009.

Communication Mode: In Person

Agency Name: Omaha/Council Bluffs Sub-area Committee

Agency POC and Title (Omaha/Council Bluffs Sub-area Committee Members):

Gary Haden, McKinzie Environmental

Janice Kroone, EPA Region 7

Jim Conroy, National Park Service

Adam Broughton, IDNR

Matt Schwarz, USFWS

Mark Lohnes, Nebraska DEQ

William M. Cover, Cass County EMA

Josh Groleau, Cass County EMA

Jodi Vaccaro, Coastal Environmental

Dave Henney, SAME

Jaci Ferguson, EPA Region 7

Roseann Dobesh-DeGraff, Sarpy EMA

Bill Spiking, Tetra Tech EMI

Tom Morgan, FEMA

Date(s): 11/10/2009

Location(s): National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters; Omaha, NE

Attendees:

Gary Haden, McKinzie Environmental  
Janice Kroone, EPA Region 7  
Jim Conroy, National Park Service  
Adam Broughton, IDNR  
Matt Schwarz, USFWS  
Mark Lohnes, Nebraska DEQ  
William M. Cover, Cass County EMA  
Josh Groleau, Cass County EMA  
Jodi Vaccaro, Coastal Environmental  
Dave Henney, SAME  
Jaci Ferguson, EPA Region 7  
Roseann Dobesh-DeGraff, Sarpy EMA  
Bill Spiking, Tetra Tech EMI  
Tom Morgan, FEMA

Topics:

This was a regular quarterly meeting of members of the Omaha/Council Bluffs Sub-area Committee. Numerous readiness and emergency management topics of local interest were discussed over a two-hour meeting period. SAME members Henney and Vaccaro were introduced and asked what their interest was in the group. Henney explained that SAME has a readiness committee that is seeking to coordinate information about its members and their capabilities with the sub-area committee. One of the areas of information discussed in greater depth was equipment inventories. The sub-area committee explained that it has been difficult to get this information from the private sector because they are generally reluctant to commit to having equipment available at all times and are concerned about liabilities if they identify it as available and it is not there when needed.

Communication Mode: In Person

**2D) State Emergency Management Officials or equivalent agency**

Agency Name: Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (Nebraska Army National Guard)

Agency POC and Title: Col. Scott Gronewold

Date(s): December 4, 2009

Location(s): Not Applicable

Attendees:

Jeff Williamson, SAME RHS Committee  
Col. Scott Gronewold, Nebraska ARNG

Topics:

Col. Gronewold indicated that Nebraska recently received approval to hire a 3-person team that would work for Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to do vulnerability assessments in our FEMA region. The interviews were completed on December 3 and 4, 2009. The Nebraska ANG is interested in learning more about SAME and SAME's sustaining member's capabilities. He suggested that the SAME RHS Committee meet with the DHS vulnerability assessment team,

Nebraska ARNG Director of Military Support (LTC Curington), and Nebraska emergency Management Agency (NEMA). Col. Gronewold will have LTC. Curington work the SAME RHS Committee to schedule a meeting.

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is a parallel organization to COL Gronewold's J3 Ops Directorate, both part of Nebraska Military Department.

Communication Mode: E-Mail

## **2E) County Emergency Management Officials or equivalent agency**

Agency Name: Douglas County Emergency Management

Agency POC and Title: Paul Johnson, Director

Date(s): December 22, 2009

Location(s): Not Applicable

Attendees:

Brian Wight, SAME RHS Committee

Paul Johnson, Douglas County and City of Omaha Emergency Management

Topics:

Paul indicated that Douglas County Emergency Management was also the lead organization for the City of Omaha Emergency Management. Therefore, Paul is also the City of Omaha Emergency Management Director.

Douglas and City of Omaha Emergency Management staff currently feel that if a weakness exists it is in the protection of existing infrastructure (i.e., Offutt AFB, bridges, river banks, etc.). They have established a planning committee to discuss and prepare a plan to address this weakness. Paul has a limited understanding of the SAME organization and indicated that the SAME Readiness Committee's participation in the Douglas and City of Omaha Emergency Management Infrastructure Planning Committee would likely be beneficial. Paul will make a request to the Infrastructure Planning Committee to include the SAME Readiness Committee. Paul may also attend one of the SAME Readiness Committee's meetings to provide additional insight and information into Douglas County and the City of Omaha Emergency Management organization and to learn more about the SAME.

Communication Mode: Telephone

## **2F) City Emergency Management Officials or equivalent agency**

Agency Name: See County Emergency Management Officials or equivalent organization

Agency POC and Title: See County Emergency Management Officials or equivalent organization

Date(s): See County Emergency Management Officials or equivalent organization

Location(s): See County Emergency Management Officials or equivalent organization

Attendees: See County Emergency Management Officials or equivalent organization

Topics: See County Emergency Management Officials or equivalent organization

Communication Mode: See County Emergency Management Officials or equivalent organization

Agency Name: City of Omaha Fire Department

Agency POC and Title: Jim Gentile, Captain.

Date(s): See 12 January 2010

Location(s): Not Applicable

Attendees:

Brian Wight, SAME RHS Committee

Jim Gentile, Omaha Fire Department

Topics:

Capt. Gentile was very interested in learning more about the SAME organization and Omaha Post sustaining members. He requested that a brief e-mail be sent providing this information and the sustaining members capabilities.

The Fire Department utilizes Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) in emergency response issues. CERT is a non profit organization that provides emergency response services to the Omaha community. Capt. Gentile provided contact information for CERT and indicated the Omaha Post should reach out to CERT.

Communication Mode: Telephone

## **2G) Local Military or other federal government installations or facilities**

Agency Name: Offutt Air Force Base

Agency POC and Title: Rhonda Woolridge, Director

Date(s): 3 December 2009

Location(s): Not Applicable

Attendees:

Brian Wight, SAME RHS Committee

Rhonda Woolridge, Offutt AFB

Topics:

Rhonda indicated that Offutt Air Force Base is essentially self contained and responses are provided by the military. Essentially, Offutt AFB does not have any significant weaknesses. A list of contractors is maintained in Offutt AFB's emergency response plan in the unlikely event that additional support is needed.

The Posts sustaining member's capabilities matrix will be provided to Rhonda. Rhonda indicated that she will review the matrix and include the sustaining member's contact information in Offutt AFB's emergency response plan, as appropriate.

Communication Mode: Telephone

Agency Name: Veterans Administration  
Agency POC and Title: Gary Krupa, Senior Electrical Engineer  
Date(s): 11 December 2009  
Location(s): Not Applicable

Attendees:  
    Brian Wight, SAME RHS Committee  
    Gary Krupa, VA

Topics:

Gary indicated that the VA has had and continues to need assistance in infrastructure support, in particular engineering services and equipment (i.e., blowers, boiler parts, etc) from suppliers quickly. One means for rapid response would be for the VA to exercise an interagency agreement with the USACE for the Corp's Security, Disaster, Infrastructure and Construction Program (SDIC). The SDIC contract provides access to several Omaha Post sustaining members for emergency response activities. To date, the VA has not used the SDIC to obtain the sustaining member services and is still working on details of how to execute the SDIC with the USACE. Another area of emphasis for the VA is the enhancement of infrastructure resiliency and survivability; Mr. Krupa indicated that SAME members experience and knowledge of Military Construction related to force protection, hardening of assets and related criteria could be leveraged by the VA.

Communication Mode: Telephone

**3.) Principal Criteria: Based On Collaboration, Determine What Needs the Post's Sustaining Members Can Fill With Their Resources (Gap Analysis)**

Based on the collaboration, the Committee determined that the needs are emergency construction and environmental contractors, assistance in protecting existing infrastructure, and an available equipment inventory. All of these tasks fall under ESF 3 – Public Works & Engineering. The Committee determined that the Post could provide emergency contractors and assistance in protecting existing infrastructure. For specific member capabilities see the attached Omaha Post Sustaining Member Emergency Support Functions (ESF) table.

Additionally, many of these organizations do not have a full understanding of the SAME organization and the Omaha Post. Further communications and education between the SAME Post and these agencies is needed to further learn the community's emergency response needs and how the Omaha Post can support these needs.

**4.) Principal Criteria: Education and Training**

4A) At least three Committee members have completed an Incident Command System (ICS) IS 100 Course

Brian Wight, Dave Henney, and Kim Thomas have completed the IS 100 Course.

4B) Three Committee members have completed the ICS IS 200 Course

Brian Wight, Dave Henney, and Kim Thomas have completed the IS 200 Course.

4C) Three Committee members have completed ICS IS 700 Course

Brian Wight, Dave Henney, and Kim Thomas have completed the IS 700 Course.



# APPENDIX A – MEETING MINUTES

# Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: July 31, 2009

Meeting Time: 12:00 p.m.

Distribution Date: August 15, 2009

Participants: Brian Wight, URS  
Jeff Williamson, URS  
Dave Henney, Coastal Group  
Jodi Vaccaro, Coastal Group  
Kim Thomas, USACE

From: Brian Wight

Cc: Mary Erwin, HDR  
Gary Krupa, VA  
Jeremiah Szynskie, USACE  
File

Subject: [SAME Readiness Committee Meeting](#)

These minutes document the SAME Readiness Committee meeting held at URS office on July 31, 2009 to discuss the activities needed to obtain the Readiness and Homeland Security Streamer. Meeting discussions are presented below.

## GENERAL

1. The group will focus on obtaining the streamer. The focus area will be the city of Omaha and associated counties. After the streamer is obtained, the group will discuss and complete additional activities related to readiness and homeland security.
2. The minimum requirements and desired elements included on the Readiness and Homeland Security Streamer Submission Form were discussed. A copy of the form was provided to each committee member. Since the Omaha post is a large post, 4 required elements and 5 of 6 desired elements must be completed to obtain the streamer.

## PRINCIPAL CRITERIA

### Principal Criteria 1: Operate Post Committee on Readiness and Homeland Security

This is a required element. The items below are required to be completed to complete this required element.

1. Establish and maintain an active Readiness and Homeland Security Committee. The committee has been established and is being maintained.
2. Hold at least two Committee meetings. This meeting is the first. Additional meetings have been scheduled for the last Friday of each month.
3. A member of the Committee must be listed as the POC to the National Readiness and Homeland Security Committee. Brian Wight will be listed as the POC.

### **Principal Criteria 2: Participate in Planning and Conducting Meetings to Determine Community's Capabilities**

1. Collaboration with at least three of the listed organizations relevant to the local situation is required to complete the required element. These organizations are presented below. Several committee members have relationships or are in periodic communications with these agencies. The name of the committee member who has a relationship or is in contact with the agency is listed beside the agency. These committee members will provide the contact information for these individuals to the group.
  - Federal Emergency Management Officials - Kim
  - Corps of Engineers Emergency Operations - Kim
  - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Dave
  - State Emergency Management Officials - Kim
  - County Emergency Management Officials - Kim
  - City Emergency Managements Officials - Kim
  - Local Military of other federal government installations or facilities - Jeremy
2. Collaboration with an organization not used for the required element can be used for a desired element. The committee will have collaboration with all the listed organizations. This will fulfill four desired elements.
3. Discussions with these organizations are tentatively scheduled to occur in September 2009. Prior to these discussions, a matrix of the Post's sustaining member company's capabilities and a list of potential discussion questions will be prepared. Dave will work with the Post leaders to determine if this list is readily available and prepare the matrix. The capabilities list will be provided to the organizations during the collaboration meetings.

### **Principal Criteria 3: Determine What Needs the Post's Sustaining Members can Fill (Gap Analysis)**

1. This is a required element.

2. The information collected during the collaborations meetings will be used to prepare the GAP Analysis and an Emergency Preparedness Response Report.
3. This activity is planned to occur in October.

**Principal Criteria 4: Education and Training**

1. Three members are required to complete the Incident Command System (ICS) 100 Course. Brian, Kim, and Dave have completed this course. This required element is complete.
2. Completion of ISO IS 200 Course by three committee members is a desired element. Kim and Dave have completed this Course. Brian will also complete this course. Upon Brian’s Completion of the course, the desired element will be completed.
3. Completion of ISO IS 700 Course by three committee members is a desired element. Kim and Dave have completed this Course. Brian will also complete this course. Upon Brian’s Completion of the course, the desired element will be completed.

**SUMMARY**

**Table 1 Principal Criteria Summary**

<b>Principal Criteria</b>	<b>Required Elements</b>	<b>Required Elements Completed</b>	<b>Potential Desired Element</b>	<b>Potential Desired Elements Completed</b>
Principal Criteria 1: Operate Post Committee on Readiness and Homeland Security	1	0	0	0
Principal Criteria 2: Participate in Planning and Conducting Meetings to Determine Community’s Capabilities	1	0	4	0
Principal Criteria 3: Determine What Needs the Post’s Sustaining Members can Fill (Gap Analysis)	1	0	0	0
Principal Criteria 4: Education and Training	1	1	2	0

**Table 2 Tentative Schedule**

<b>Principal Criteria</b>	<b>Scheduled Completion</b>
Principal Criteria 1: Operate Post Committee on Readiness and Homeland Security	September 09
Principal Criteria 2: Participate in Planning and Conducting Meetings to Determine Community's Capabilities	September 09
Principal Criteria 3: Determine What Needs the Post's Sustaining Members can Fill (Gap Analysis)	October 09
Principal Criteria 4: Education and Training	August 09

# Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: September 4, 2009

Meeting Time: 12:00 p.m.

Distribution Date: October 9, 2009

Participants: Brian Wight, URS  
Jeff Williamson, URS  
Dave Henney, Coastal Group  
Jodi Vaccaro, Coastal Group  
Gary Krupa, VA

From: Brian Wight

Cc: Mary Erwin, HDR  
Jeremiah Szynskie, USACE  
Kim Thomas, USACE  
Christie Murray (URS)  
File

Subject: [SAME Readiness C ommittee M eeting](#)

These minutes document the SAME Readiness Committee meeting held at URS office on September 4, 2009 to discuss the activities needed to obtain the Readiness and Homeland Security Streamer. Meeting discussions are presented below.

## **PRINCIPAL CRITERIA**

### **Principal Criteria 1: Operate Post Committee on Readiness and Homeland Security**

4. This is the second meeting. Documentation of this meeting will fulfill the requirement to hold at least two Committee meetings
5. A member of the Committee must be listed as the point of contact (POC) to the National Readiness and Homeland Security Committee. Brian Wight will be listed as the POC. We will ask Mary Erwin (Omaha Post President) to send an e-mail to the National Readiness and Homeland Security Committee requesting that Brian Wight be the Omaha Post POC.

### **Principal Criteria 2: Participate in Planning and Conducting Meetings to Determine Community's Capabilities**

1. Collaboration with at least three of the listed organizations relevant to the local situation is required to complete the required element. These organizations are presented below. Several committee members have relationships or are in periodic communications with these agencies. The name of the committee member who has a relationship or is in contact with

the agency is listed beside the agency. These committee members will be responsible for contacting these organizations.

Collaboration with an organization not used for the required element can be used for a desired element. The committee will have collaboration with all these listed organizations. This will fulfill four desired elements.

- Federal Emergency Management Officials - Kim
- Corps of Engineers Emergency Operations - Kim
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Dave
- State Emergency Management Officials - Jeff
- County Emergency Management Officials - Kim
- City Emergency Managements Officials - Brian
- Local Military of other federal government installations or facilities – Jeremy

In addition to these organizations, we will also contact the organizations listed below. The committee member responsible for contacting the organization is also listed below.

- a. Veterans Administration – Gary
  - b. Offutt AFB – Brian
  - c. National Park Service – Dave
  - d. Omaha/Council Bluffs Sub Area Committee – Dave
  - e. Coast Guard - Dave
2. A list of the sustaining members and their emergency response areas of expertise will be generated. This list will be used in discussions with the organizations listed in item 1 above. Dave will take the lead on preparing this list.

**Principal Criteria 3: Determine What Needs the Post’s Sustaining Members can Fill (Gap Analysis)**

4. The information collected during the collaborations meetings will be used to prepare the GAP Analysis and an Emergency Preparedness Response Report.

#### **Principal Criteria 4: Education and Training**

4. Three members are required to complete the Incident Command System (ICS) 100 Course. Brian, Kim, and Dave have completed this course. This required element is complete.
5. Completion of ISO IS 200 Course and ISO IS 700 Course by three committee members are desired elements. Kim, Dave, and Brian have completed these courses. Therefore, these two desired elements are completed.

#### **OTHER**

Jeff Williamson will contact Jeanne LeBron (Omaha Post) to discuss the potential to have a Readiness presentation at a future general membership luncheon.

#### **SUMMARY**

**Table 1 Principal Criteria Summary**

<b>Principal Criteria</b>	<b>Required Elements</b>	<b>Required Elements Completed</b>	<b>Potential Desired Element</b>	<b>Potential Desired Elements Completed</b>
Principal Criteria 1: Operate Post Committee on Readiness and Homeland Security	1	0	0	NA
Principal Criteria 2: Participate in Planning and Conducting Meetings to Determine Community's Capabilities	1	0	4	0
Principal Criteria 3: Determine What Needs the Post's Sustaining Members can Fill (Gap Analysis)	1	0	0	NA
Principal Criteria 4: Education and Training	1	1	2	2



# Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: October 9, 2009

Meeting Time: 12:00 p.m.

Distribution Date: October 13, 2009

Participants: Brian Wight, URS  
Jeff Williamson, URS  
Christie Murray, URS  
Mary Erwin, HDR  
Dave Henney, Coastal Group  
Jodi Vaccaro, Coastal Group  
Gary Krupa, VA

From: Brian Wight

Cc: Kim Thomas, USACE  
File

Subject: [SAME Readiness Committee Meeting](#)

These minutes document the SAME Readiness Committee meeting held at the URS office on October 9, 2009 to discuss the next steps that need to be executed to obtain the Readiness and Homeland Security Streamer. Meeting discussions are presented below.

## ACTION ITEMS

Jeff Williamson

- Develop email template for distribution to agencies – DUE Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Dave Henney

- Write up notes on meeting with EPA
- Compile spreadsheet on emergency response capabilities of sustaining firms and distribute for updating
  - Include definition of ESF in instructions

Brian Wight

- Contact Offutt AFB (Phil Cork) to see if interested in being involved
- Complete minutes from committee meeting on September 4, 2009

Jodi Vaccaro

- Attend EPA meeting on November 8, 2009

Mary Erwin

- Pull sustaining member firm list from CLASS system and email to Dave Henney

Christie Murray

- Compile comments from conversations with agencies

Gary Krupa

- Contact General at NEMA to see if officers are interested in being involved

#### **GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Mary Erwin sent e-mail to National requesting Brian Wight be listed as Omaha Post's POC for Readiness and Homeland Security
2. Now that Principal Criteria #1 is fulfilled, committee needs to complete Principal Criteria #2 in order to get to #3
3. Concentrate on meeting streamer requirements and then go above and beyond
4. Goal is to identify gaps, not necessarily solve problems
5. USACE involvement is essential in executing tasks to obtain streamer
6. Divide up among committee members the list of sustaining firms that do not respond to Dave's request for information and follow-up with a phone call
7. All agency contacts to be complete by November 13, 2009
8. Once all contacts are made, the GAP analysis and Emergency Preparedness Response report will be prepared