

**HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES (HHR) SUB-PANEL,  
GOVERNOR'S SECURE and RESILIENT COMMONWEALTH PANEL  
Tuckahoe Library, Henrico Virginia  
May 21, 2024**

**12:30 pm Registration**

**1:00 Welcome**

- **Introductions – Wendy Klein, MD, MACP**
  - Dr. Klein called the meeting to order at 1303, welcomed participants and introduced Dr. Shelton.
- **Karen Shelton, MD, State Health Commissioner**
  - Dr. Shelton thanked participants for their attendance. She provided an overview of the mission of the Secure and Resilient Commonwealth Panel, HHR sub panel. She then provided an overview of the agenda and topics for the meeting.
  - Dr. Klein began to pass the microphone around for introductions. Dr. Klein introduced the presenter for the Fusion Center Briefing.

**1:10 Fusion Center Briefing**

- **Chris Cruz, Cyber program Manager, Virginia Fusion Center**
  - Mr. Cruz began with an overview the fusion center, organization, mission of the VFC operations. He also provided information on the VFC secondary mission is collocated with the Virginia Emergency Operations Center to aid in information flow to support Emergency Operations.
- **Cyber Security**
  - Mr. Cruz then began to provide information on the VFC Cyber Program, Intel and information sharing, incident response and coordination and Stakeholder Engagement are all the facets of the Cyber Program. The program develops Intelligence products, research products on the ES community, and technical indicators geared to IT/Cyber Security personnel.
  - Mr. Cruz then began to describe some of the most common threat at this point, such as Ransomware, Phishing, Credential Stuffing-The use of the same passwords for work and personal accounts, i.e. If one account is compromised and use that password when finding other accounts related to an individual. Most common issues in Cyber security, Password re-use, IT misconfigurations, Poor Patch management, Privileged account use, poor cyber hygiene. VFC fusion Center success stories for 2023, Vulnerability notifications, 3 attacks prevented, 11 Cyber TTX's attended in 2 years.
  - **Questions:**
    - Bob Mauskapf-reminded the audience of some of the abbreviations used as well as VDH relationship with VFC.
    - Dr Klein stated that she was terrified of using QR Codes, Mr., Cruz explained how to handle the majority of questionable QR Code.

**1:30 Cyber Threat to Drinking Water**

- Jessica Coughlin, Emergency Services Coordinator, VDH Office of Drinking Water.

- Ms. Coughlin introduced herself and advised that her presentation will focus on Cyber Security and how it relates to Drinking Water and recapping some recent threats to water. She began to talk about a memo from the US EPA in 2018 began to develop a response to cyber security and drinking water. The process is Education, webinars, assessments, presentations to local water partners, Outreach, Assessment, participation with Virginia Tech on cyber security. Second phase IT cyber security assessments to assess cyber readiness, third is policy and Regulation, she then spoke about additional engagement to get more partners involved.
  - **Questions/Statement-**
    - Audience member asked about how water works and ODW policy person provided additional comments. Questions and comments from the audience continued with questions/concerns.

#### 1:45 **Emerging Health Threats**

- **Jonathan Falk, MPH, Office of Epidemiology, VDH**

- Dr Klein began to introduce the speaker. Mr. Falk started by going over his agenda topics, He spoke about updated plans an update on different emerging threats. He then went int emergency:
  - Measles-Still occurring -non-Endemic (constant focus). Virginia remains one of states with low number in Kindergarten, He spoke of Meningococcal disease as well. He noted two other cases that were resistant to current medication and treatment regiments. Working with physicians via communications and outreach to partners.
  - He then noted THC/CBD Adverse events in Children, events have been being tracked via ED visits in children 0-17, split into two groups. VDH started to get illness reports during an increase in these cases. This group was tasked with development of surveillance for adverse events.
    - Question-regarding specimen collections.
  - He then transitioned into Avian Influenza, providing some background on the disease., carriers, transmission rate and the ecology of Influenza.
  - Current outbreak Discovered recently in Texas in Dairy Cattle. No human spread.
  - He then transitioned to discuss overall response preparedness with farmers and poultry producers.
    - Question: Dr. Klein asked about the Drug Resistance and a job aid, training, or table for allowing Doctors to use this table to be able to prescribe correct medications to minimize resistance.
    - Robyn Kurz, asked about vaccine for meningococcal disease for children or adults, Dr. Forlano advised that there is a lot of people on the resistance list.
    - Jessica Coughlin asked if there have been any HPAI tests I poultry or backyard flocks as of late? Mr. Falk advised there haven't been lately.

#### 2:15 **Radiological Response Plan**

- **Archer Stark, Virginia Department of Emergency Management**
- **Matt Ettinger, VDH Office of Radiological Health**

- Dr. Klein introduced both speakers via their Biographies.
  - Mr. Ettinger began speaking about how the there is no way to separate Radiological Emergency Preparedness, since all involved are comingled in the planning and response.
  - He then began to address some of the misunderstanding about Radiological emergencies.

- He then started to explain the types of the fission product barriers (fuel cladding, Reactor coolant system, Containment) that are the focuses of most emergencies in nuclear power plants involve. Response involves the loss or potential loss of one of the three barriers.
  - He then explained the progression of an event at a NPS. Also called Emergency Classification Levels. A release can occur at any point in the scale based on how much is leaking or escaping.
  - He then outlined the state response to a nuclear power plant event. Use of Dominion Corporate Emergency Response Center, Virginia EOC, Field Teams.
  - Ms. Stark then provided information on the Emergency Operations Center processes in an event response, she explained the link between the agencies, development of Protective Action Decisions (PAD) and Protective Action Recommendations (PAR).
  - Mr. Ettinger then resumed by speaking about the field monitoring teams and processes.
  - PAR-made anytime an upgrade to response level at the utility. Evacuation is the default position except for an event involving a Hostile Action Based (HAB) event.
  - Ms. Stark ten resumed speaking about additional response strategies, using evacuation maps which use scientific data, etc.
  - She then moved to a map showing a large map of the overlap of distances by the three plants that could impact Virginia, North Anna, Surry, and Calvert Cliffs in Maryland.
  - She then spoke about the use of the Joint Information Center that will be pushing out information to the public during an event.
  - She then provided an overview of the Protective Action Recommendation (PAR), and the checks and balances of its development and release.
- **Questions:**
  - an attendee asked a question about what happened at the plants during the 2011 earthquake. Mr. Ettinger advised that it did trigger an alert because some of the spent fuels shifted.

**2:48 BREAK**

**3:00 Virginia Overdose Incident Management Team**

- **Dr Laurie Forlano, Office of Epidemiology, VDH**
- **Dr Vanessa Walker Harris, Office of Family Health Services, VDH**
- Dr. Klein resumed the meeting by introducing Dr. Forlano.
- Dr. Forlano began her update providing background of the partnerships involved in the IMT. She then provided a snapshot of the rise of opioid deaths started to increase in the 90's and has continued to its peak in 2021-2022.
- She then provided an overview of the IMT organization-Prevention, harm reduction and surveillance and all the cross-work units involved on the team across the three-focus area.
- She then provided an expanded overview and discussed surveillance goals.
- She then provided a graphical representation of ED visits related to overdoses. Using maps Dr. Forlano highlighted different drugs in different areas impact Virginia.
- Some improvements have been noted, however, stimulant overdoses are increasing in certain populations over time. 2022-Decrease in hospitalizations and deaths, 2024 is expected to show decrease as well (awaiting data).
- In the process of fully implementing Wastewater surveillance-remains unfunded.
- Benefited from funding from the opioid abatement authority and Overdose Data to Action for States.
- Dr. Forlano then provided an overview of all the communication involved in the IMT.

- She then discussed policy and funding overview of support for the teams along with deliverables.
- She then provided an overview of the prevention and rapid response program work being done by the IMT.
- She then provided an overview of Naloxone distribution program and harm reduction processes of the team; she provided graphical representation of the number of resources and distribution amongst partners and at-risk populations. July 23-April 2024 over 115,000 kits deployed/provided. Harm reduction program has improved and become more efficient since its inception.

### 3:22 **VDH Opioid Mass Casualty Incident**

- Dr. Klein introduced the speaker.
- Bob Mauskapf, Director, Office of Emergency Preparedness, VDH
- Mr. Mauskapf began to present a process for medical countermeasures for opioid mass casualty events. The concept included planning assumptions of the potential use of large-scale use of Opioid as a weapon (delivered or inadvertently delivered use).
- He then initiated discussion related to planning for this type of an event, Discussion 1-Current ORA (Opioid Reversal Antidotes) availability (Naloxone or other reversal agents). Discussion 2-Expanding Access, who else needs to be involved in planning, management, logistics, Discussion 3-Next steps, form an IMT when the time is right, for execution.

#### **Office of Emergency Preparedness Overview What's Next?**

- Mr. Mauskapf then transitioned into what's next, he provided an update on the status of the COVID After Action Report and our inputs to the AAR chartered and mandated by the GA. He also referenced VOPEX and the Nuclear Power Plan exercises. He also referenced the ongoing planning and exercises for the Highly Infectious Disease this year. He spoke about current funding levels and its use.
- Mr. Mauskapf mentioned that he and Dr. Shelton will be attending the Governors Hurricane Brief at the State Emergency Operations Center on May 24 and added input about heat preparedness and Hurricane s going together.

### 3:40 **Public Comment**

- Mr. Mauskapf opened the floor for Public Comment
- Congratulations to Robert Hawkins for taking over the Emergency Preparedness Program at VHHA
- Congratulations to David Calkins for taking over as the lead for the Central Region healthcare Coalition.

### 3:44 **Closing Remarks**

- **Wendy Klein, MD, MACP, Chair**
  - Dr. Klein thanked all in the room for their work in keeping the Commonwealth safe, she adjourned the meeting at 3:44

#### **Adjourn**