



**State of Wisconsin  
Homeland Security Council**

TONY EVERS  
Governor

MAJ GEN PAUL E. KNAPP  
Homeland Security Advisor

Department of Military Affairs  
2400 Wright Street  
Madison, WI 53704

608.242.3075

**Open Session Meeting Minutes**

Department of Military Affairs  
2400 Wright Street  
Madison, WI 53704

**\*\*Virtual Meeting conducted via Microsoft Teams\*\***

Tuesday, January 5, 2021  
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Members present:** Chair Major General Paul Knapp (DMA), Chief Kevin Bierce (Fire Services), Superintendent Anthony Burrell (WI State Patrol), Chief David Erwin (Capital Police), Jared Hoy (DOC), Dr. Jonathan Meiman (DHS), Chief Patrick Mitchell (Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association), Bill Nash (DOA), Commissioner Ellen Nowak (PSC), Administrator Darrell Williams (WEM), and David Woodbury (DNR).

**Members absent or excused:** Assistant Chief Michael Brunson (Milwaukee Police Department), Sheriff David Mahoney (Badger State Sheriff's Association), Brian O'Keefe (DCI), and APWA vacancy, Kelly Smithback (DATCP).

**Alternates present:** Lisa Broderick (DATCP), Colonel Tim Carnahan (WI State Patrol), Greg Engle (WEM), Gene Essex (DOA), Jay Jurci (DCI), Brian Knepper (DNR), Brian O'Heron (DOC), Marshall Ogren (DCI), Sheriff Kurt Picknell (Badger State Sheriff's Association), Jeffrey Phillips (DHS), Jennifer Price (DCI), Bob Seitz (PSC), and Lieutenant Branko Stojsavljevic (Milwaukee Police Department), Molly McNab (Governor's Representative).

**Quorum present.**

General Paul Knapp called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

1. Review and approval of the October 26, 2020 Open Session meeting minutes.
2. Opening remarks: Introduction and meeting directions from General Knapp.



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3. WEM Updates from Chat Atkinson: Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA).

- Shared background on the reason and need for the THIRA and SPR (State Preparedness Report)
- SPR is an annual 3-step assessment of capability based on the targets set in the THIRA
- THIRA typically has a 3-year reporting cycle with annual SPR. Latest THIRA completed in 2019
- 2020 the reporting cycle was modified due to COVID, reduced the SPR requirements, conducted AARs

4. DHS Update: COVID-19 Overview from Dr. Meiman.

- Dr. Meiman gave an update on the current state of the pandemic, response activities, and the plan/direction going forward.
  - i. Approaching the 1-year mark since the first case in Wisconsin.
  - ii. Shared case-number data for Wisconsin and the country.
  - iii. Supply levels are good at the moment, continuing to acquire supplies to maintain appropriate levels.
  - iv. Decreased need for ventilators, and have developed a process for hospitals to request ventilators.
  - v. The Milwaukee Alternate Care Facility is available for patient overflow, it can accommodate up to 530 patients. 170 patients have been treated to date.
  - vi. The state is working to expand the number of licensed beds.
  - vii. Goal is to avoid “crisis standard of care”
  - viii. Staffing has been the most critical aspect of the response. Have taken measures to handle staffing needs in various ways.
    1. FEMA assistance
    2. Expedited training of CNAs
    3. Support through staffing agencies.
  - ix. Improved real-time situational awareness.
    1. Real-time trackers of number of hospitalized patients, ICU patients, PPE supply and ventilator usage.



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2. System allows for effective coordination among agencies.
  - x. Next steps -- Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.
    1. Current state of immunization:
      - a. 5% of Wisconsinites showing COVID antibodies; likely to be 2-3x higher than this but still nowhere near “herd immunity” of 60-70%.
      - b. We do not yet know how long natural immunity can last; likely 3+ months but do not have adequate data yet.
    2. Two approved vaccines, both showing to be highly effective.
    3. Vaccine prioritization is next big task.
      - a. Phase 1a: Healthcare personnel + long term care residents
      - b. Phase 1b: Adults 75+ and essential workers
      - c. Phase 1c: Adults with high risk medical conditions, adults 55+
    4. Allocation of vaccines is complicated to plan for, rollout is logistically complex.
    5. Keep practicing social distancing, working remotely, wear masks, etc., promote vaccination, increase public trust in process.
    6. New coronavirus variant from UK: B117 variant; doesn't appear to cause more severe disease but seems to be more highly transmissible.
  - xi. Question from Branko: How quickly does vaccine become effective once administered?
    1. It is not immediate; takes a number of days to develop antibody response.
    2. Within two weeks rate of infection drops off. Second booster shot helps build immune response as well.
5. Agency update from each council member.
- Bill Nash (DOA) provided update on National Governors' Association (NGA) National Summit on Cybersecurity Issues that involved attendees from DMA, DOA, DOJ, and DPI to help shape strategic planning moving forward.
  - Branko (City of Milwaukee) -- Kyle Mirehouse recently joined the city of MKE as the Director of Emergency Management.
    - i. A brief intro from Kyle Mirehouse.



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6. Other Business

- There was no other business.

7. Adjourn Open Session to go into Closed Session at 2:00PM

- Motion by Bill Nash, second by Sheriff Picknell.
- The meeting paused for a 10-minute break.