

Environmental Health Professional Advisory Committee Meeting #154
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Chamblee Campus, Bldg. 106, Room 1C
4770 Buford Hwy NE
Atlanta, GA
Tuesday, 9 December 2008
0900-1600 Hours

Present

LCDR Jennifer Freed
CAPT Alan Parham
LT Joe Laco
LCDR John Whitesides
CAPT Craig Shepherd
LT Jamie Mutter
CDR Jean Gaunce
CAPT John Smart
LT Gino Begluitti
CDR Kathy Slawson
LCDR Lisa Delaney
CDR Don Williams
CAPT Michael Herring
CAPT Michael Noska

CAPT (ret) Gary Noonan

On Call/WebEx

CAPT David McMahon
CDR Ann Krake
LCDR Gary Carter
CDR Chris Kates
LCDR Sarah Unthank
CAPT Myrna Buckles
CDR Roger Goodman
CDR Brian Johnson

Absent

LT Jessica Schwartz

1. Call to Order (CAPT Parham)

2. Chair Welcome/Remarks (CAPT Parham)

CAPT Parham welcomed all to the meetings and participants introduced themselves.

Note: The December EHOPAC meeting has historically been held in the Washington DC area. With the large number of EHO's and current leadership in the Atlanta area, we held the winter meeting in Atlanta this year.

3. Chief Professional Officer Report (CAPT Shepherd)

CAPT Shepherd reviewed the following slides.

EHOPAC Meeting #154
Chief Environmental
Health Officer Report



Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention
Atlanta, GA
December 9, 2008

Agenda

- Highlights: Combined Meeting Updates
- EHO CAD and Retirements 2008
- EHO Category Counseling
- 2010 Benchmarks
- Functional Groups
- AEHAP Article

The New COER

- COER consists of 5 Parts
 - **Part 1: Job Information. To Be Completed by Officer**
 - **Part 2: Achievement of Employer-Assigned Goals. To Be Complete by Rater.**
 - **Part 3: Skills. To Be Completed by the Officer and the Rater.**
 - **Part 4: Strengths and Areas to Improve. To Be Completed by the Rater**
 - **Part 5: Additional Information (Optional). To Be Completed by Officer.**

Part 1: Job Information. To Be Completed by Officer

Billet Title	Agency	Supervisory	Billet Grade

Description. Describe the main duties and responsibilities in your agency job during the performance period.

Part 2: Achievement of Employer-Assigned Goals. To Be Complete by Rater.

Does the officer have an agency performance plan for which they are evaluated? Y ___ N ___

Indicate the officer's overall rating under the agency performance plan. Select the option which best matches the officer's rating under the plan of NA.

Unsuccessful ___ Marginally Successful ___ Fully Successful ___ Exceptionally Successful ___ NA ___

Part 3: Skills. To Be Completed by the Officer and the Rater.

Technical Knowledge—Demonstrates knowledge, proficiency, and understanding of technical developments important to the position.

A. Officer's self-evaluation. Describe performance in this skill.

B. Rater's evaluation.

1. Rate performance on the scale below. Use the guidelines provided, in addition to any other performance criteria relevant to the job

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not apply technical knowledge required to accomplish routine job tasks; is not sufficiently knowledgeable about technical approaches. Lacks knowledge of or cannot apply laws, rules and regulations. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competently performs both routine and new job tasks, applying technical skills and knowledge needed on the job; is knowledgeable about current developments. Interacts and applies laws, rules, regulations and technical guidance appropriately. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Used as a source of advanced technical guidance or new knowledge by others at the same level or higher levels and/or peers outside the organization (i.e., recognized expert). Has a command of laws, rules and regulations relevant to the job; is trusted technical advisor to others at the same level and above. 	

2. Describe the action(s) upon which you base your rating. Explain the impact of the action and why it was important.

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October Combined Meeting Highlights CAD 2008

- 600 CAD for FY 2008
- 234 officers retired during FY 2008
- 140 Inactivated/Terminated
- Net gain, 240 officers.
- End of FY 2008, 6215 officers, highest level in 10 years.

November Combined Meeting Highlights

- Tom Daschle (former Senator from SD) accepted President-Elect Barack Obama's nomination to serve as the Secretary of Health and Human Services (November 19th).
- Flag Board met with results.
- COER fair conducted in Rockville.
- IHS - Severe winter weather, what kind of winter gear can be worn with khaki and SDB? PPM needed.

November Combined Meeting Highlights

- Deployment to the Mall.
- IHS Belcourt, SD - ORA, IRC on going details.
- USS Kearsarge will return soon and that will conclude Health Diplomacy missions for 2008.
- USNS Comfort, Caribbean and Latin America, Continuing Promise 2009, April – June 2009.
- Flag Retreat and resulting messaging document.

Draft messaging paper as developed from the discussions at the Flag Officer/CPO retreat, October 30-31, 2008.

AMERICA'S UNIFORMED HEALTH RESPONDERS

The U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps (Corps) is a cadre of 6,200 uniformed officers from many health and science disciplines. The Corps, one of the nation's seven uniformed services, has a rich history of commitment to protect and improve the health of the nation. Since 1888 it has demonstrated its strength and agility by continuously adapting to meet the nation's health priorities and challenges.

Combining the high standards set for its officers with a streamlined and flexible personnel system, the Corps proves its unique value every day by advancing the effectiveness and expertise of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and each of its agencies and other federal health and security organizations in almost 40 countries around the world. Its service what assignment or location, each officer is closely linked to a global network of officers who can be called upon to rapidly and effectively address federal agency health issues. The experience, training, network capability, and professionalism of Corps officers supply each agency's ability to meet our program challenge. The Corps also deploys trained personnel and addresses major public health needs at home and abroad.

THE USPHS COMMISSIONED CORPS IS DEDICATED TO PROTECTING, PROMOTING, AND ADVANCING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OUR NATION.

PROTECTING—FOR A SAFER AMERICA

The Corps responds to domestic and foreign public health threats. Corps officers have repeatedly demonstrated their ability to respond to natural disasters (e.g., pandemic influenza, SARS), natural disasters (e.g., hurricanes, tsunamis), and terrorist attacks (e.g., the September 11, 2001, attack on the World Trade Center). Corps officers have also served federal health agencies in almost every international health organization, and in numerous state, local, national, and tribal health agencies. Their ability to network across all federal health programs with state and local governmental and foreign governments, adds to the Corps' effectiveness in emergency response and mitigation. As a national service with experience in working with community leaders and organizations, the Corps is uniquely situated to serve as a bridge between the public, the government, and the private sector.

Corps officers work alongside the U.S. military; for example, the Corps worked alongside the Army on the US Central Command (USCINCPAC) in 101 countries, and later, in collaboration with the Department of Defense, the Corps provided several health care for returning war fighters. The Corps also provides leadership for the Coast Guard officer corps.

The Corps strengthens America's global health capacity.

Corps officers extend the reach of 2005 programs globally by working with individual countries and international organizations. Officers are assigned to numerous areas: global to protect and promote health, including global disease detection, epidemic, infectious disease, training in epidemiology, surveillance, and management, refugee health, laboratory systems and infrastructure development, and injury prevention and control. In addition, while working on their

Corps officers provide public health expertise and services on U.S. health diplomacy missions. They also improve health conditions around the world by generating and sustaining self-reliance disease, sharing our nation's health care expertise, building a sustainable public health infrastructure, and encouraging global health systems to work more closely. These humanitarian efforts not only create international good will, but also improve America's security through the promotion of and response to strengthening global health issues.

THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE COMMISSIONED CORPS

PROMOTING – FOR A HEALTHIER AMERICA
 The Corps embodies a prevention-oriented health philosophy led by the Surgeon General.

The U.S. Surgeon General, America's most respected and influential health leader, is a crucial source of credible, evidence-based health information. Every Corps officer is an ambassador for the Surgeon General. They work to prevent health, prevent disease, and empower people to improve their own health, as well as that of their families and communities. The Surgeon General strongly advocates for healthy lifestyles, most notably through the national epidemic of obesity. America has the most productive workforce in the world, but our national welfare is threatened by increasing rates of obesity and chronic disease. The increasing effort of chronic disease is driving up health care costs, lowering worker productivity, and affecting economic growth, which ultimately will threaten our national security. Children who are not healthy or physically fit do not learn as well and cannot grow up to be the next generation of workers and leaders we depend on to keep America strong. Under the Surgeon General's leadership, the Corps promotes the most effective, prevention-oriented health philosophy by example and through the education of others.

The Corps helps provide comprehensive health services to underserved populations.

While our nation's health has improved, not all populations have benefited equally, and we must continue to identify groups still under health care as a disadvantaged state. The Corps has a long and proud tradition of working to increase access to health care and to reduce health disparities across the nation, especially among vulnerable populations, including Indian, Alaska, and other populations, the economically disadvantaged, the uninsured, migrant farm workers, and people in rural communities. Many officers are assigned to health facilities to include services to better needed health care and education programs.

ADVANCING – FOR A STRONGER AMERICA
 The Corps works to build the capacity of the U.S. public health systems.


A strong America is an America with a strong public health system at the local, state, and federal levels that are prepared to address any threat to disease. Corps officers, who are assigned to regional EHO offices and those who serve state and local government, foster collaboration and support the public health infrastructure and raise the public health workforce.

The Corps attracts health professionals to the field of public health, provides them with valuable training and experience, and creates future public health leaders.

The Corps has a strong component of officers with expertise in both research and field-based applied public health. Embellished in federal research, demonstration, and intervention programs, these Corps officers identify, adapt, and promote the best evidence-based health practices. By leveraging federal research capabilities, the Corps scientifically developed behavioral tools and methods are disseminated and integrated into public health programs at the local and regional levels to improve their own effectiveness and advance future health outcomes.

A CORPS OF HEALTH LEADERS

USPHS Commissioned Officers are health professionals who hold both civilian, scientific expertise, and operational experience to effectively defend public health. They maintain the essential core values of knowledge, integrity, service, and excellence, and share a compelling public service mission—to prevent, promote, and advance the health and safety of the nation. They are prepared to confront the global and domestic health challenges of the 21st century.



EHOs January 2008 December 2008

- 19 CAD for CY 2008 as of December 4th
 - 9 – IHS
 - 3 – DHS
 - 1 – PSC
 - 1 – EPA
 - 2 – CDC
 - 1 – NIH
 - 2 - FDA
- 13 EHOs retired during CY 2008 (as of November 1, 2008)
- Net gain, 6 officers.
- As of December 4th - 365 EHOs

EHO Category Counseling

- Several senior EHOs provided category counseling to officers in the lowest quartile.
- CPO has provided career counseling to several officers this fall.

EHO 2010 Benchmarks

- PAC Chairs suggested the word “Guidelines” be used vs. “Benchmarks”. After lengthy discussion CPOs recommended “Benchmark” be used. Benchmark, attain, goal, achievement and something to strive for vs. guideline seems more of a policy directive.

EHO 2010 Benchmarks

- It was agreed that the language for Assimilation will be the same for all categories.
 - O-4 Assimilated or Applied
 - O-5 Assimilated or awaiting Congressional approval.
 - O-6 Assimilated

AEHAP Article

- Experienced applicants
- AEHAP can possibly provide help in identifying previous graduates currently employed at the private, local and state levels.
- Credentialed with several years experience.

CDR Don Williams presented issues and concerns from the EHAC schools about proposed revisions to the EHO appointment standards.

CAPT Michael Herring presented a perspective from his role as chair of the Uniform Services section of NEHA. CAPT Herring presented what the Navy has done to revise their appointment standards which are now similar to the PHS EHO standards. Navy include waiver authority, as explained this is a little know and quietly used authority to suspend their appointment standards to commission an applicant that doesn't meet the academic requirement. The EHOPAC discussed and rejected adding a backdoor waiver to the PHS appointment standards.

5. JOAG Liaison Report (LT Jessica Schwarz)
Not present, attached report was submitted.

6. Agency/Deployment Reports

Food & Drug Administration - CAPT Noska. Team leader for Rad response at FDA, he is a team of one. It is a fairly new program. 3 weeks ago he started a detail in the commissioner's office in the FDA emergency response center. CAPT Noska revised and upgraded the response plan during the detail with the FDA response staff.

Applied Public Health Team – A workgroup is meeting every other week to refine CON OPS.

LCDR Lisa Delaney attended a Sampling Conference for bio terrorism agents in preparation an increased risk of an anthrax release.

7. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Charter and Bylaws (CDR Carter)

The attached committee report was reviewed.

- b. Marketing and Recruitment/Associate Recruitment (CDR Parham, LCDR Freed)

The attached committee report was reviewed. CAPT Parham discussed a change in the OCCO's CAM team. The hope was the CAM would follow and track the EHO applicants. This has not worked out well. The committee is going to re-establish the role of tracking applicants.

- c. Career Development (CDR Brian Johnson)

CDR Johnson reviewed the attached subcommittee report. A discussion was held on the format for the CV and cover sheet. CAPT Shepherd commented on feed back from last year's Promotion Board: the board strongly advised officers follow the standard format. Officers that deviate from the format make it harder on the board to review their file and can hurt them in the promotion process.

The committee asked if EHOPAC approval is needed changes to their operating committee procedures. They were advised that it would be good so share for informational purposes but don't need approval by the EHOPAC.

The committee is also looking at committee members that are serving on multiple committees.

An issue was raised: can EHOPAC membership serving on multiple sub-committees. Individuals are serving on multiple committees; this includes EHOPAC members and non-members. The concern is there is increased interest by EHO's to serve on EHOPAC committees; opportunities to serve are being taken up by individuals serving on multiple committees. The EHOPAC discussion lead to the consensus that we want to provide opportunity to participate by more EHO's. It is expected that an EHOPAC member serve as a Chair or Co-Chair of a subcommittee. The term of subcommittee membership should also be defined. The bylaws do not proscribe limits of membership. The EHOPAC consensus was to leave terms of membership to the discretion of subcommittees. The bylaws call for a revision to be submitted in writing before a meeting prior to a vote.

Motion – Limit EHOPAC membership to one subcommittee at a time for EHOPAC members and non-members. The motion was carried unanimously. The intent is to increase the opportunity for participation on the EHOPAC committee work.

Motion: request the Charter and Bylaws committee to develop language for subcommittee membership.

Charter and Bylaws Committee will draft the proposal for a formal vote for the spring meeting.

The committee's experience in counseling officers in the lower quartile in the promotion cycle was discussed. The committee was commended for their effort.

CAPT Shepherd encouraged subcommittee chairs to write their members up for unit awards

- d. Mentoring and Orientation (CDR Kates)
The attached committee report was reviewed. CDR Kates is completing his term in January 2009, the committee is reviewing applications for new committee chair.
- e. Information Technology (CDR McMahon)
No great news on progress on transitioning the EHOPAC web site to the new site. The transition was scheduled to be completed by Jan 2009.

CAPT McMahon will be rotating off the IT committee this June and proposed a period of transition for a new committee chair. A new committee chair who is a EHOPAC member needs to take over the committee leadership.

- f. Readiness (LCDR Whitesides)
The attached committee report and draft readiness brochure were reviewed. An EHOPAC member will need to step forward to lead the committee.

A suggestion was made to include a component or guidance for environmental health roles in the Field Medical Station assignments.

g. Awards and Recognition (CAPT Spahr)

CAPT Spahr was not able to attend, he submitted the attached report. A new subcommittee chair is needed.

h. Membership Nominations (CAPT Noska)

Nominations from the recent election have been forwarded to agency representatives; about half have been returned and are ready for submission to the OSG. New terms will start in January. A request was made more additional committee members. LCDR Sara Unthank volunteered to serve on the committee.

i. History (CAPT Dellapenna)

CAPT Dellapenna has been working with the LCDR Carrie Oyster of the COA Category Day planning committee to invite CAPT Richard Clapp (ret) to serve as the luncheon speaker. CAPT Clapp, commissioned in 1943, is one of the first members of our category and played a central role in the early CDC training program that was central in the professionalization of the field of environmental health. CAPT Frank Bryan (ret) has also been invited as a speaker during category day. CAPT Bryan's career at CDC had a brought HACCP practices in common use in food protection. A visit to the CDC Chamblee campus where they worked for years has been proposed.

CAPT Dellapenna is visiting the National Archives Regional Office south of Atlanta following the EHOPAC meeting to research the old CDC environmental health training program.

j. Professional Image and Standards (CDR McKernan)

A discussion was held on the proposed revised appointment standards. The revision proposed accepting applicants to the category that had an undergraduate degree, work experience, and attained professional registration.

CDR McKernan relayed his discussion with NEHA staff on their credential. The committee received approximately 100 responses, about 85 were in favor of the revision about 15 were strongly opposed.

The highlights of the opposition points were reviewed and discussed. The EHOPAC consensus was the NEHA registration alone is not satisfactory. The NEHA registration and work experience requirements were generally viewed as acceptable, but the education standard was not generally supported. The view was NEHA's standard and review of degrees allowed too broad a group of applicants. The committee was requested to consider reviewing state Registrations that may have a stronger academic review requirement.

8. Election (CAPT Noska)

CAPT Dellapenna was unanimously elected Chair and CAPT Noska was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair.

9. Next Meeting

Proposed meeting schedule for 2009

Spring – March-April, USCG in Alameda, CA offered to host the next meeting.

Summer – June NEHA Atlanta, GA

Fall – Sept-Oct School

Winter – December Washington DC (proposed Tower Building)

10. Other Business

CAPT Shepherd presented CAPT Parham a plaque in recognition for his years of service to the EHOPAC.

11. Adjournment

**EHOPAC Charter, By-Laws, and Policy Review Subcommittee Report
08 DECEMBER 2008**

Chair: LCDR Gary Carter

Members: CAPT Charles Higgins, CDR Jennifer Lincoln, CDR Dan Strausbaugh, LT Danielle Mills

Current initiatives:

- Continue to review draft Commissioned Corps policies and provide comment for consideration by the CPO and EHOPAC Chair.
- Continue to monitor EHOPAC proceedings to ensure compliance with Charter and By-Laws.

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- Reviewed and commented on “Global Health Campaign Medal” policy
- Reviewed and commented on “Inter-service Transfer” policy
- Reviewed and commented on “Uniform Regulations”
- Reviewed and commented on “Uniforms and Appearance” policy
- Reviewed and commented on “Insignia and Devices” policy

Long Term Goals:

- Identify EHOPAC processes and proceedings that may compel a modification of the By-Laws.
- Support the Chief Environmental Health Officer.

Subcommittee: Marketing and Recruitment

Current Subcommittee Members:

CAPT Alan Parham (Chair)	LCDR Shawn Lafferty, EPA
LCDR Jennifer Freed (Co-chair)	CDR Brian Lewelling, IHS
CDR Chris Allen, IHS	LCDR Robert Morones, IHS
LCDR Brian Cook, NPS	CDR Gary Perlman, ATSDR
CDR William (Todd) Going, ATSDR	LCDR Michael Quinn, EPA
CDR Wayne Hall, IHS	LT Jessica Schwarz, IHS
CDR Travis Hunt, FDA	LCDR Chris Smith, FDA
CDR Robert Knowles, ATSDR	CDR Jessilyn Taylor, ATSDR

Current initiatives (and projected completion date if applicable):

- Recruitment resources – in progress, led by LCDR Brian Cook
- Acknowledgement workgroup – in progress, led by LCDR Jennifer Freed
- CAM team workgroup – in progress, led by CAPT Alan Parham
- Online recruitment initiative – pilot presentation completed 11/14/08. More presentations to be scheduled for 2009, led by LCDR Jennifer Freed
- COSTEP Marketing – increase number of COSTEP applicants and selections, led by LCDR Shawn Lafferty.
- Adopt-a-school program – looking into how other categories conduct this program, led by LCDR Michael Quinn

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- No more funding for career fair fees; recruitment supplies have been in short supply
- Completed a pilot online recruitment event with University of Alabama at Birmingham – 15 students. Evaluation forms report it as a positive event. Next step – plan for next online event, possibly more than one school.
- Revised COSTEP tips fact sheet.
- Sent out COSTEP reminder and tips fact sheet to category, AEHAP undergraduate schools, ASPH listserv, and ABET-accredited programs.
- ARP - Currently 58 active EHO associate recruiters. 2 recruitment visits need to be completed and documented by Mar 31, 2009.
- ARP – ARs completing 3 years of service will receive a recruitment service ribbon in April 2009. First recruitment ribbon to be awarded.
- Recruitment visits since last EHOPAC meeting: (See Attached ARP Report)
- Planned recruitment: Next EHOPAC meeting at a school – Spring 2009

Long Term Goals:

- Support the EHO associate recruiter program by developing new and innovative recruitment tools and recruitment methods.
- Develop and Maintain contacts with applicable academic programs and accreditation bodies for both undergraduate and graduate levels programs.
- Develop methods/tools to convince non-IHS OPDIVs to consider hiring COSTEPs.
- Increase the Category strength to 400.
- Continue contacting and supporting well-qualified applicants with the application and job search process.
- Increase involvement and recruitment of appropriate graduate school students.

Items for EHOPAC Input/Discussion:

- None

Actions previously directed by EHOPAC (Status and projected completion):

- None

Attachments

- ARP Report

Subcommittee: Environmental Health Officer Mentoring & Orientation

Current Subcommittee Members:

CDR Chris Kates, Co-Chair, CAPT David Robbins, Co-Chair, CAPT Diana Kuklinski, CDR Kit Grosch, LCDR Stephanie Griffin, LCDR Theresa Gallagher, and LCDR Travis Chapman,

Current initiatives (and projected completion date if applicable):

1. Central database for Mentors and Protégés (on hold for website)
2. Mentoring program evaluation (ongoing)
3. Matching mentors to protégés (ongoing)
4. One new mentor/protégé matches completed between November 2008 – December 2008.

Actions previously directed by EHOPAC (Status and projected completion):

None

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

Subcommittee is currently receiving mentor and protégé evaluation for the 2007-2008 mentoring year. Recognition letters will be completed for each mentor and protégé that successfully completes the mentoring program.

Subcommittee completed work on a mentoring program to incorporate civil service mentors and protégés. Mentors for civil servants have been identified and provided training and program orientation. The subcommittee is now working on a marketing theme and roll out plan.

Subcommittee continues to update the mentoring program references and topical guideline. We hope to consolidate these items into one user-friendly document.

Long Term Goals:

1. Continue to develop and enhance the mentor/protégé database to enable subcommittee members to provide more effective and timely services.
2. Focus on marketing of mentor/protégé program, through regional assignments, brochure, etc.

Items for EHOPAC Input/Discussion:

None

Attachments

None

EHOPAC Environmental Health Readiness Subcommittee Report

Current Subcommittee Members: CAPT Mark Miller (co-chair), LCDR John Whitesides (co-chair), CAPT Clint Chamberlin, CAPT Thomas Bowman, CAPT Colleen Pelullo, CDR Kevin Sheehan, CAPT Larry Cseh, LCDR Jason Barr, LCDR Gary Carter, LCDR Lisa Delaney, LT Christopher VanTwuyver

Current initiatives:

- Developing the 2009 Work Plan.
- Finalizing the EHO Deployment Resource CD – the CD is Downloadable from the EHOPAC website.
- Go-kit for Environmental Health Officers – Assess implementation issues and challenges.
- Roll out of an EHO Disaster/Emergency Assistance Brochure
- Explore training options for Officers conducting Humanitarian Missions

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- Completion of Draft Disaster/Emergency Assistance Brochure
- Completed update of the EHO Deployment Resource CD
- Nomination of three officers to the subcommittee.

Long Term Goals:

- Maintain and improve of readiness status of the category.
- Support the Chief Environmental Health Officer.
- Lead the way for the Environmental Health Responder.

Items for EHOPAC Input/Discussion:

Review of drafts:

- Disaster/Emergency Assistance Brochure
- EHO Deployment Resource CD
- Revised Go-kit for Environmental Health Officers

Attachments: Draft Disaster/Emergency Assistance Brochure

EHOPAC Awards and Recognition Subcommittee Report, 2nd Quarter - Winter Meeting, Dec 9, 2008

Subcommittee: Awards and Recognition

Current Subcommittee Members:

CAPT James Spahr -Chair	CAPT (ret) Gary Noonan, AAS Liaison/Representative
CAPT Craig Shepherd	CAPT Jeff Smith, ex officio/plaques & trophies
CAPT Alan Parham	CAPT Kevin Meeks, ex officio/plaques & trophies
CAPT Mike Noska	CDR Chris Kates
CDR Elizabeth Wright	

Current initiatives:

- The EHO Responder of the Year Award open solicitation for nominations closed on December 1st. A one week grace period for late nominations was also completed. The subcommittee received several nominations - and this year's competition will be very tough. Voting instructions have been provided to the subcommittee voting members to select the best qualified officer. Once the voting is completed the winning nomination will be provided by the EHO CPO to the OFRD PHS-wide nominations committee before December 31st.
- Solicitations for the Todd, Moran, Eason, and Crow awards have been published in the PHS eBulletin and distributed by EHO List Service. The nomination period for these awards will close on April 3rd, 2009. Downloadable nomination forms are still available on the old EHOPAC website.

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- The chair position for the Awards Subcommittee will become vacant in the first quarter of CY 2009. If any voting member of the EHO-PAC is interested in becoming the next chair, please make your desire known to the either the current chair, or to the President of the EHO-PAC, as soon as possible.

Long Term Goals:

- (1) Continue to recognize accomplishments of category members through the existing awards program.

Items for EHOPAC Input/Discussion:

- Selection of new Awards Subcommittee Chair for 3 years.

Action Items:

- Plan for CY 2009 COA & NEHA Atlanta conference related awards related activities

Attachments: None