



U.S. Public Health Service

Environmental Health Officer's Professional Advisory Committee (EHOPAC)

Meeting #188 Minutes, October 14, 2014

I. Call to Order 1300 EST

EHOPAC Chair, CDR Jennifer Freed, called the meeting to order. Roll call was held for members in attendance.

EHOPAC Members Present	
CAPT Alan Parham, Chief Professional Officer	CDR Michael Reed
CDR Jennifer Freed, Chair	CDR Jill Shugart
CAPT David Cramer, Vice-Chair	CDR Chris van Twuyver
CDR Jamie Mutter, Secretary	CAPT Bobby Villines
CDR Joe Laco	LCDR William Fournier
CDR Derek Newcomer	CDR Carla Tuite
CDR Carrie Oyster	LT Daveta Bailey
CDR Stephen Piontkowski	
EHOPAC Members Absent	
CDR Shawn Lafferty, Treasurer (Excused)	CDR Lisa Delaney, Outgoing Chair (Ex-Officio) (Excused)
CAPT Melanie Mayor (Excused)	LCDR Katie Hubbard (Excused)
EHOPAC Liaisons Present	
LT Daveta Bailey, JOAG Liaison	CDR Lauralynn McKernan, CCWIAB Liaison
CAPT Don Williams, EHAC Liaison	

II. Chief Professional Officer Update – CAPT Alan Parham

- Please see attached PowerPoint slides (Attachment 1)

III. EHOPAC Chair Report – CDR Jennifer Freed

A. Updates

- We are nearing the end of the year so EHOPAC Voting Members need to identify things that need to be wrapped up and/or voted on.

IV. EHOPAC Vice Chair Report – CAPT David Cramer

- Career counseling (if needed) has to be included in your eOPF by December 31, 2014.
- Fundraising document developed by PAC Chairs Group is almost complete.
- Nurse category was open for 2 days and received approximately 60 applicants.
- AMSUS meeting is in Washington D.C. and is December 2-5. The USPHS social is the night before the conference starts.

V. EHOPAC Treasurer Report – CDR Shawn Lafferty

- Current COF Account Balance: \$1,404.05
- 2014 Expenses: \$66.95 Responder of the Year Plaque
\$500 for AAS NEHA Award Ceremony
\$195 COF Speaker Gifts
\$280 NEHA Award Cost
- 2014 Deposits: \$390.00 (\$150.00 pending)
- Current Coin Inventory: 134 + 39 coins with EHOPAC Chair = 173
- Sales/donated coins 2014 = 56
- Anticipated expenses 2014
 - COF Speaker Gifts \$150
 - EHOPAC Awards \$500
 - Coin Donations \$300 (training speakers and new CADs, plus a few donation requests from HQ)
 - recruitment materials/give-a-ways \$500
 - Website fees \$148.80
 - NEHA Awards Ceremony \$280

VI. Workgroups and Liaison Reports

A. National Prevention Plan Workgroup Report

Current Subcommittee Members:

Chair(s): CDR Stephen R. Piontkowski

Members: CDR Tina Lankford, CDC
LCDR Daniel Adams, USEPA
LCDR Elena Vaouli, ATSDR

Current initiatives (and projected completion date if applicable) based on workplan:

- Developed NPS EHOPAC Implementation Strategy
 - Conducted bimonthly calls to write document
 - Revised, finalized, & distributed Strategy as guided by CPO by [30 May 2014]

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- “EHOPAC NPS Implementation” finalized and approved by PAC leadership
- “EHOPAC NPS Implementation” posted on EHOPAC Website on 28 August 2014

RAIL/Items for EHOPAC Input:

- EHOs please notify [CDR Piontkowski](#) of current activities you conduct that align w/ [EHOPAC NPS Implementation](#) (e.g. PACE) through CY2014 in order to document recent NPS work and he will post/highlight those activities on the EHOPAC Website/FB/other

Attachments

- [EHOPAC NPS Implementation](#)

B. JOAG Liaison Report – LT Daveta Bailey

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- The call for volunteers for the 2014-2015 Operational Year has been issued.
- Journeyman Speaker Series Meeting: Friday, November 14, 2014; 1300 – 1400 EST. Additional information on the next Journeyman Speaker Series Meeting will be posted on the JOAG listserv and website, <http://www.usphs.gov/corpslinks/JOAG/>.
- General Member Meeting: Friday, December 12, 2014; 1200 – 1330 EST

C. EHAC Liaison Report – CAPT Don Williams

There are a record number of programs working towards accreditation this year and if they meet accreditation guidelines, they will be invited to apply for accreditation. EHAC makes it clear that an application for accreditation is not a guarantee of accreditation as only the EHAC Council makes accreditation decisions at its annual meeting. Accreditation Mentors are faculty from EHAC programs who agree to support programs seeking accreditation by offering advice on curriculum, self-studies and the overall accreditation process.

The following programs have been assigned accreditation mentors and are interested in applying for EHAC accreditation in 2014-2015 (if they are invited to apply)

Programs Assigned to Mentors (may possibly apply 2015-2016)

Florida International University-Miami

Univ. of Wisconsin-Stout
Goodwin College-East Hartford, CT
Fort Valley State Univ.-Central GA
Drury Univ.-Springfield MO
Univ .of Northern Iowa-Cedar Falls

University of Ibadjan, Nigeria

Previously Accredited Programs that want to reapply in 2015 or 2016

Cal State Fresno
Spelman College

D. American Academy of Sanitarians Report - CAPT Gary Noonan (Ret)

- No updates at this time

**E. Commissioned Corps Women's Issues Advisory Board (CCWIAB) Liaison Report –
CDR Lauralynn McKernan**

Current Subcommittee Members:

Co-Chair and EHO Representative: CDR Lauralynn McKernan

Members of CCWIAB represent the various operating and staff divisions within HHS, non-HHS entities in which Corps officers serve, and the eleven professional categories.

Current initiatives (and projected completion date if applicable):

- Violence Prevention Committee
- Outreach Committee
- Pregnancy Committee-Expectant Parent Guide
- Membership Committee

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- **Expectant Parent Resource Guide** –The CCWIAB is requesting comments from OSG leadership, OSG policy office, SGPAC, PAC Chairs, and Flag Officers on the draft Expectant Parent guide. We are seeking feedback for accuracy and concept, not formatting, grammar, etc. Our hope is to receive comments back no later than November 15. The draft guide is attached. If EHOs have any comments, please send to CDR McKernan at LMckernan@cdc.gov.
- **October Domestic Violence Month:** According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV), domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault and/or other abusive behaviors as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partners against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, threats, and emotional abuse.³

On September 30th, President Obama issued a Presidential Proclamation proclaiming October 2014 as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This observance presents a unique opportunity for all members of the Corps to rededicate themselves to breaking the cycle of violence. Commissioned Corps Instruction CC29.9 “Domestic/Family Violence and Treatment” provides an overview of the Corps’ stance on domestic violence, while outlining officers’ and agencies’ responsibilities to take appropriate steps to prevent acts of violence and support those in need of assistance. We encourage all members of the Corps to take time this month to review this policy as we remember those who are battered and have lost their lives to domestic violence.

A more detailed article is attached.

Attachments:

- Commissioned Corps draft Expectant Parent Resource Guide
- Domestic Violence Article

VII. Subcommittee Reports

A. Awards and Recognition

Current Subcommittee Members:

Chair(s): LCDR Katie Hubbard and LCDR Carla Tuite

Members: CDR Michael Box
LCDR Eva McLanahan

Current initiatives (and projected completion date if applicable):

- Call for 2015 EHO Responder of the Year Award sent out on October 1st. Nominees must be active duty or retired members of the Commissioned Corps of the USPHS, EHO category. Activities must have been performed during FY2014 (1 OCT 2013 thru 31 SEPT 2014).
- The award packet for the 2015 EHO Responder of the Year Award can be downloaded from the EHOPAC website’s Document Library at: <http://www.ehopac.org/index.php/document-library/category/2-award-nomination-forms>
- Please submit all award nominations to LCDR Katie Hubbard at knhubbard@anthc.org no later than close of business on **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2014**. All nominations must be submitted with the Nomination Form as the cover sheet along with a narrative. Please see the award packet for more specific requirements for the award.
- The winner of the 2015 EHO Responder of the Year Award will go on to compete for the USPHS Commissioned Corps-wide Responder of the Year Award.

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- Two new subcommittee members.
 - CDR Michael Box, IHS/Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Anchorage, AK

- LCDR Eva McLanahan, ATSDR, Atlanta, GA
- Draft subcommittee SOP submitted to EHOPAC Chair and Vice-Chair in September.
- Drafts of successful award narratives currently being reviewed and finalized by A&R subcommittee members for posting on EHOPAC website by end of October.

Long Term Goals:

- Develop specific scoring matrices for each award based on award criteria by December 2014.
- Develop marketing plan to increase awareness of EHOPAC awards and other environmental health and public health awards by December 2014.

B. Career Development

Current Subcommittee Members:

Chair: CDR Joe Laco
 Co-Chair: CDR Carrie Oyster

Members: CDR Aimee Treffiletti
 LCDR Danielle Mills
 LCDR Chris Fletcher
 LT Beth Wittry

Current initiatives (and projected completion date if applicable):

- Promotion season: Senior EHOs are finalizing promotion counseling for EHOs not promoted or those who were in the bottom decile. Thank you letters are being drafted and now that eOPF lines are open, counseling sessions are being recorded in eOPFs.
- Benchmarks: Continue to review the PY 2014/15 EHO Benchmarks. Subcommittee is anticipating a review of the geographic/programmatic mobility benchmark before the end of CY 2014.
- Partnerships:
 - Continue assisting with the EHO survivor guide
 - Current senior EHO mentoring list to assist with end-of-year counseling
 - **Mentoring SC and Policy & Standards SC**
 - **Training SC**
- Next Career Development Subcommittee meeting:
 - TBD

C. History

Current Subcommittee Members:

Chair(s): CDR Michael Reed
 LCDR Martin Stephens (Co-Chair)

Members:

CDR Kenneth Crombie
CDR Tim Duffy
CAPT Patrick Hintz
CDR Abraham Maekele
LCDR Victoria Murray
LCDR Susan Shaffer
LCDR Christian Witkovskie
LCDR Emily Lee

Current initiatives (and projected completion date if applicable):

- “EHO Time Capsule”
- Posting Historical Meeting Minutes since PAC Inception (1968)
- Posting Historical Photos and Documents to the Website
- Completion of Admiral and CPO Biographies
- Creating Timeline of Key EH Landmarks & Contributions
- Update Hail and Farewell Records
- Update the Status of the EH Category Document

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- Delayed report from last period– Meeting with CAPT Cramer and IT team:
 - Discussed Time Capsule Project, Timeline, and discuss how current initiatives differ or duplicate existing efforts
 - Discuss opportunities for Subco members to contribute: i.e., assist with updates to the website and posting of historically relevant materials
- Officer’s updating Hail & Farewell
- Martin Stephen’s – Progress on ADM Grinnell's Profile

Rail Items:

- Maintain Historical narrative Proudly describing the “Roots” of the EH Professional Category
- Maintain list & service dates of CPO and PAC Chairs
- Archive PAC Minutes, Pictures, Memos, and Letters of Historical Significance
- Update the Website and Make These Items Available for Viewing By the Public

D. Information Technology

Current Subcommittee Members:

Chair(s): CDR Bobby Villines
Co-Chair: CAPT Gary Perlman

Current initiatives (and projected completion date if applicable):

- Identify potential candidates for assuming site administration duties
- Continue to participate in combined PAC website discussion workgroup
- Maintain currency of website information

- Complete site redesign
- Develop a secure are with the site for sharing of internal EHOPAC information

Significant Accomplishments:

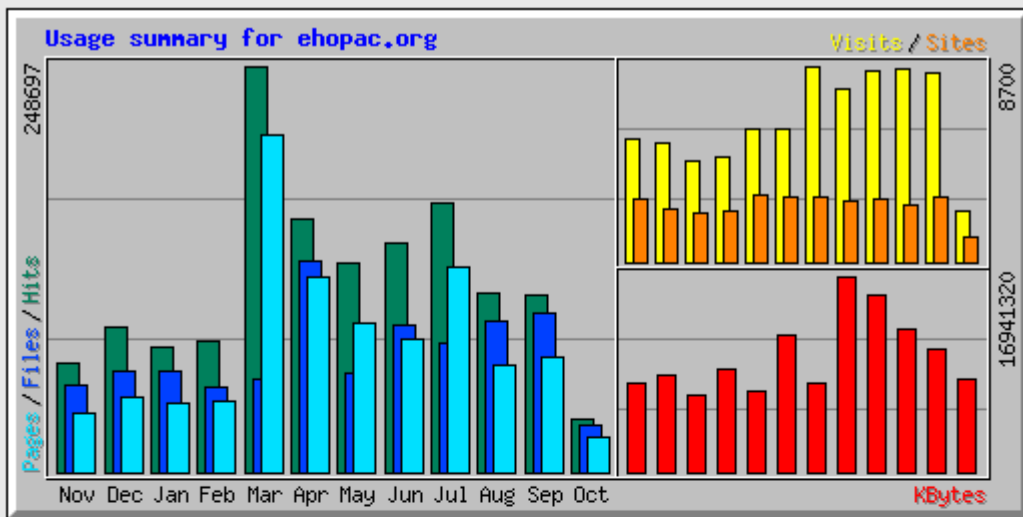
- Complete regular site backups
- Maintain site security to current industry standards
- Provided access to members of two subcommittees allowing users to update/manage their information on the site directly.
- Updated site to latest version of content management system.

Long Term Goals:

- Continue working with subcommittees to update information on website
- Reassign site administrator duties as CDR Villines rotates off of the PAC in 2015.

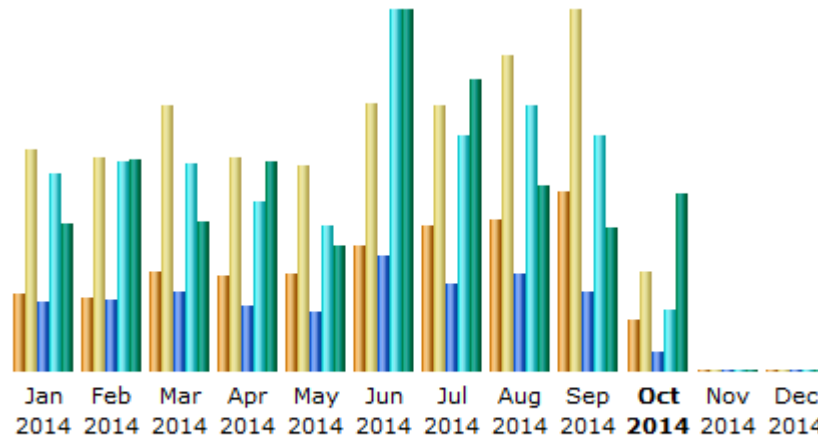
DRAFT

Website statistics



Summary by Month										
Month	Daily Avg				Monthly Totals					
	Hits	Files	Pages	Visits	Sites	KBytes	Visits	Pages	Files	Hits
Oct 2014	3656	3255	2431	254	1120	8097267	2294	21880	29297	32911
Sep 2014	3613	3237	2343	280	2905	10607463	8402	70317	97128	108399
Aug 2014	3534	2993	2111	275	2515	12360363	8529	65448	92804	109557
Jul 2014	5308	2556	4068	272	2799	15384957	8459	126109	79254	164571
Jun 2014	4695	2985	2710	256	2698	16941320	7701	81329	89571	140878
May 2014	4139	1971	2954	280	2928	7757367	8700	91584	61131	128331
Apr 2014	5149	4307	3966	196	2862	11853374	5905	118996	129230	154479
Mar 2014	8022	1824	6667	189	2959	6993398	5860	206692	56566	248697
Feb 2014	2850	1860	1536	166	2245	8843559	4666	43016	52090	79815
Jan 2014	2456	1988	1371	143	2132	6627129	4445	42514	61631	76144
Dec 2013	2880	1985	1488	171	2334	8460262	5310	46134	61552	89285
Nov 2013	2232	1760	1216	182	2773	7648130	5487	36508	52820	66964
Totals						121574589	75758	950527	863074	1400031

Monthly visitor history from January 2014 to present



Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2014	507	1,457	12,872	36,707	4.72 GB
Feb 2014	479	1,405	13,348	39,163	6.83 GB
Mar 2014	656	1,744	14,859	38,591	4.81 GB
Apr 2014	630	1,395	11,950	31,478	6.71 GB
May 2014	632	1,351	11,133	27,190	4.06 GB
Jun 2014	824	1,758	21,396	67,201	11.61 GB
Jul 2014	947	1,746	16,162	43,923	9.36 GB
Aug 2014	986	2,066	18,041	49,291	5.99 GB
Sep 2014	1,181	2,365	14,874	43,732	4.60 GB
Oct 2014	336	655	3,557	11,515	5.74 GB
Nov 2014	0	0	0	0	0
Dec 2014	0	0	0	0	0
Total	7,178	15,942	138,192	388,791	64.42 GB

E. Subcommittee: Marketing and Recruitment

Current Subcommittee Members:

Chair(s): CDRs Jill Shugart & Shawn Lafferty

Secretary: LT Kristen Szenderski

Members by Workgroup:

Applicant Assistance and Placement: CDR Monica Leonard (Lead), CDR Michael Boley, CDR Gino Begluitti, LCDR Alaric Denton, LT Scott Daly, LT Michelle Dittrich, LCDR Jason Lewis

Information Technology and Communication: LT Lauren Shade (Lead), LCDR Hristu Chepa, LT Steve Galvez, LCDR John Masters

JRCOSTEP: LT Corey Butler (Co-lead), LCDR Charles Craig (Co-lead), CAPT John Smart, CAPT Jeff Smith, LCDR Travis Bowser, LCDR Kenny Fent, LCDR Angela Hodge, LCDR Andrew Kupper, LCDR James Speckhart

Marketing and Materials: LCDR Kyle Wright (Co-lead), LT Katie Burbage (Co-lead), LCDR Valerie Herrera, LCDR Greg Calvert, LT Rachel Lee, LT James Miller, LT Erin Harman

Adopt-a-School: CAPT Rhambarose (Lead), CAPT Don Williams, CDR Jason Thomas, CDR Keith Schwartz, CDR Craig Ungerecht, LCDR John Hansen, LCDR Don Hoeschele

Agency Organization Workforce Recruitment: LCDR Jamison Honeycutt (Lead), LCDR Charity Webb, LT David Erez

Current initiatives (based on Subcommittee Workplan):

- **COSTEPs at FDA** – During 2014, the Marketing & Recruitment Subcommittee will work with FDA Leadership to identify a duty station and preceptor in order to place a COSTEP in the FDA during 2015.
- **Recruitment Give Aways** – During 2014, M&R will identify and purchase luggage tags to give away at recruitment events.
- **M&R Materials and Handouts** – During 2014, M&R will update all of the materials and handouts on the EHOPAC website, including the Best Kept Secrets document maintained by DCCPR on the USPHS.GOV website.
- **Successfully Boarded Applicants** – During 2014, M&R will provide a tracking tool of all successfully boarded EHOs after each appointment board. This tool will include the following information: name, email address, phone number, school/degree, applicable internships/COSTEP, Work experience, EH publications, professional credentials, current federal employee, ability to relocate, and if they have a 1662.
- **Adopt-a-School Program** - During 2014, M&R will promote this program and increase the number of participating EHOs and the number of universities in the program.

- **Social Media Advocacy** – During 2014, M&R will monitor all of the EHO related social media sites and ensure only appropriate content is being pushed out and will fulfill all requests to post EHO related news, activities, and job vacancies on a regular basis.
- **Officership with EH Associations** – During 2014, M&R will create an opportunity to provide Officership opportunities to EHOs interested in participating in events sponsored by National, state, and local professional EH-related associations.

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- **Board Clears 40 EHO Applicants** – Appointment boards met in April, May, June, July, and October to clear and rank EHO general duty applicants based on highly qualified, qualified and not qualified status. During the process, the boards have cleared 40 officers for general duty thus far. Out of the 40 boarded EHOs, there are 25 available for hire; 10 have either secured positions or have pending 1662s; 4 have been medically disqualified, and 1 individual is no longer available. We have sent this list of applicants to the POCs on the securing your first assignment brochure and have been helping to answer questions the applicants have by reaching out to appropriate agency contacts and liaisons, and EHOPAC leadership.
- **General Active Duty Open Application Window** – The general active duty open application window is now open for all individuals who have completed a JRCOSTEP since 2011. There is not a defined closing period yet. Interested applicants need to start by calling the PHS Call Center. The PHS Call Center phone number is 800-279-1605 and details are on the USPHS website at: <http://www.usphs.gov/apply/apply.aspx>. All applicants must meet the degree requirements for the category that they are applying for in order to be eligible.
- **2015 JRCOSTEP Open Application Window** - The JRCOSTEP open application window is from 17 September to 19 December. All interested applicants must call the PHS Call Center before this deadline to start the pre-screening process. All application materials must be post marked by 31 December 2014. There are no major changes in the JRCOSTEP process this year. Applicants must first call the PHS Call Center to go through the pre-screening process.
- **Recruitment Presentation** – LCDR Charity Webb gave a recruitment presentation to approximately 30 students from the Oklahoma Health Sciences Center's College of Public Health and from the East Central University's Environmental Health Science Program.

RAIL Items:

- **JRCOSTEP Preceptor Survey** - By December 15, the JRCOSTEP Workgroup will submit a JRCOSTEP Preceptor Survey to obtain important information on we can improve the JRCOSTEP process and be more of a resource end thank you notes to all the JRCOSTEPs and participating agencies and preceptors. The letters have been drafted and sent to the CPO for signature.

- **Luggage Tag Purchase** – By November 15, the Marketing & Materials Workgroup will place an order for 500 luggage tags with the EHOPAC and USPHs logos. The workgroup is working with the vendor on obtaining proofs and pricing quotes.
- **Marketing Documents** – By November 1, the Marketing & Materials Workgroup will update all relevant resources on the EHOPAC website with the most recent information.
- **Partnership with EH Associations** – By December 15, the Agency, Organization, and Workforce Recruitment Workgroup will create a template in order to track Officership opportunities for EHOs to participate in National, state, and local EH associations. The document will be posted on the EHOPAC website and interested officers will be able to work with members of AOWR to participate and receive a letter in their eOPF.
- **Social Media Tracking** – Weekly, the IT workgroup will respond to all appropriate requests to post EHO related news, activities, and job vacancies to all of the social media venues for the category, including Facebook, Linked In, and Google+.

F. Mentoring and Orientation

Current Subcommittee Members:

Chair(s): LCDR Bill Fournier

Members: LT Christine O’Leary (Vice Chair), LCDR Monique-Rachelle Lester, LCDR Aaron Otis, LT Jennifer Dobson, LT Kimberly Garner, LCDR Derek Sakris, CDR Mike Quinn

Current initiatives (and projected completion date if applicable):

- Finishing up the new Welcome Packet for newly commissioned EHO’s
- Recruiting protégés

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- Matched two more mentor-protégé pairings.

Long Term Goals:

- Implement a Mid-Level Officer Mentor Program
- Assign Mentors to newly commissioned officers as soon as they graduate OBC
- Improve data system for keeping track of mentor/proteges
- Working on a new document for mentor guidance

G. Policies and Standards

Current Subcommittee Members:

Chair: CDR Derek Newcomer

Members:

CDR Robert McCleery

CDR Tina Lankford

CDR John McKernan

CDR Luis Rodrigue

LCDR Elena Vaoli
LT Chris Fish
LT Kimberly Smith

Current initiatives (and projected completion date if applicable):

- Drafting PHS Survival Guide Reviewing curriculum of programs accredited under the new CEPH and ABET criteria
- Authoring reference sheet discussing appropriate work experience for appointment board members
- Drafting summary list of accredited school programs for use by appointment board
- Soliciting votes for approval of the EHOPAC Charter
- Finalizing revisions to EHOPAC Bylaws

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

- Review charter (April 2014) -complete
- Review bylaws with emphasis on sub-committees (July 2014) -complete

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- Submitted Charter to EHOPAC member for approval

Long Term Goals:

- Conduct review of EHO appointment standards and provide recommended changes, if deemed appropriate.
- Draft PHS Survival resource guide
- Review and revise Charter and Bylaws

H. Readiness

Current Subcommittee Members:

Chair: CDR Chris van Twuyver, FDA

Co- Chair: CAPT Melanie Mayor, FDA

Members: CAPT Mark Miller, CDC
CAPT Larry Cseh, CDC/ATSDR
CDR Brad King, CDC/NIOSH
CDR Jason Barr, NIH
CDR Martin Smith, IHS
LCDR Elizabeth Valenti, FDA
LCDR Patrick Wallace, USCG
LCDR Justin Gerding, CDC

Current initiatives (and projected completion date if applicable):

- *Resources Workgroup - LCDR Justin Gerding-Lead*
 - Continue to review the EHO Resource CD
- *Marketing and Communications Workgroup - CDR Bradley King-Lead*
 - Review the EHOPAC Readiness Subcommittee webpages on a quarterly basis

- Solicit EHO response narratives for inclusion on the EHOPAC website
- *Readiness Workgroup - LCDR Patrick Wallace-Lead*
 - Continue to contact and advise EHOs who are failing to meet basic readiness

Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:

- Resources Workgroup
 - EHO Utilization Handbook, and EHO Domestic Deployment Survey posted to the EHOPAC website
- Marketing and Communications Workgroup
 - Updated Environmental Health Officer Deployment Pamphlet posted to the EHOPAC Website
- Officer Readiness
 - Two EHO candidates processed for PACE certificates

RAIL items:

- Maintain and improve the EHOPAC Readiness Subcommittee Website
- Post EHO responder experiences on the EHOPAC Website
- Contact and Advise EHO Officers who fail to maintain basic readiness
- Continue to review and revise the EHO Resource CD

I. Training

Current Subcommittee Members:

Chair(s): LT Daveta Bailey & LT Laura Annetta

Current initiatives (based on Subcommittee Workplan):

- Study Buddy Program
- Lunch & Learn Webinars
- COF Category Day
- COF Pre Conference Training
- EHO Career Life Cycle Document

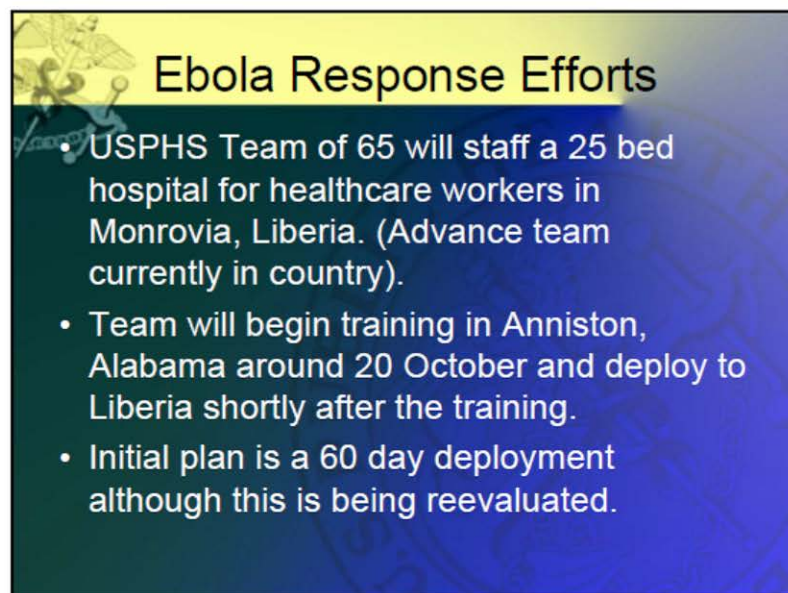
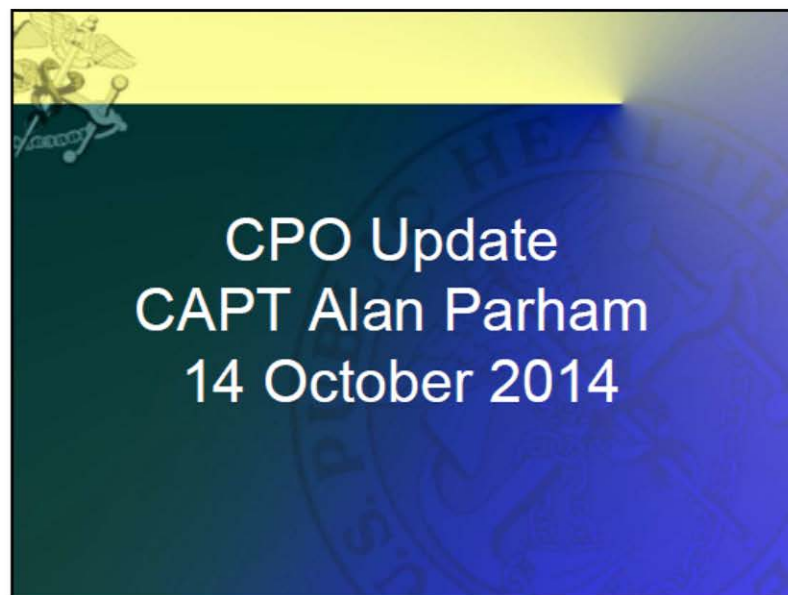
Notable news/activities/accomplishments since last EHOPAC meeting:


- Call for Category Day Abstracts have been distributed via EHOPAC Listserv
- Stage one of the Study Buddy program is underway with daily study questions

RAIL items:

- Develop new EHO Training Course for 2014/2015
- Distribute call for Category Day Presenters
- Develop marketing and content delivery program for Study Buddy Program
- Develop Tabletop ICS idea for Pre-Conference Training @ the 2015 Symposium
- Working with NEHA to offer CCFS and REHS exams at the 2015 Symposium


Attachment 1: CAPT Parham PowerPoint Slides






Ebola Response continued...

- USPHS is planning to staff the hospital for at least 6 months.
- This will require more rotations of officers.
- Four EHOs are currently on the roster for the first rotation.
- Other missions are possible.




General Duty Applications for Former COSTEPs

- Opened October 1, 2014
- Eligible if they began their JrCOSTEP tour in 2011 or later.
- No closing date yet.
- Applicants must first contact the Commissioned Corps Recruitment Call Center at 1-800-279-1605.
- So far...




COSTEP 2015 Applications

- December 19 deadline (postmarked).
- Minimum GPA of 2.8
- Applicants now have to see a provider for medical clearance
- Applicants will also undergo a Security Check
- Selections are highly competitive
- To initiate the process applicants must first call the PHS Call center 1-800-279-1605



Appointment Boards

- Appointment Board met October 1st to consider two more applicants.
- One was boarded and the other referred to the HSO category.
- More Appointment Boards will be scheduled to consider former COSTEP applicants.



Readiness


October 1, 2014– Data has not been released yet

PACE program – Readiness Subcommittee




Physical Fitness Requirement Changes

- Officers have until June 30, 2015 to transition to APFT
- APFT will also change to allow more options (possibly replacing sit-ups, and adding stationary bike, etc.)
- New APFT should be released soon.



COERs

- The Online Annual COER is available in the Secure Area of the CCMIS Web site on **01 October 2014**.
- The Online Annual COER is due to the Rater by **17 October 2014**;
- The Online Annual COER is due to the Reviewing Official by **07 November 2014**; and
- The completed COER must be in the officer's eOPF by **28 November 2014**.
- Online COER availability will end on **07 January 2015**.



2015 Promotion Cycle

- Make sure you get everything in your eOPF EARLY!
- Be sure to include updated information on your certifications (REHS, CIH, etc.)
- eOPF fax system is working?
- Check and double check.
- Want someone to look over your file?

EHOs #1 Again (COA by Category)

CATEGORY	MEMBERS	OFFICERS	% OFFICERS AS MEMBERS
EHO	261	352	74.1%
Therapists	110	161	68.3%
Dietitians	67	100	67.0%
Scientists	228	353	64.6%
Pharmacists	773	1244	62.1%
Veterinarians	53	90	58.9%
Dentists	159	271	58.7%
HSO	756	1310	57.7%
Engineers	228	400	57.0%
Nurses	896	1618	55.4%
Physicians	401	840	47.7%

Army 10 Miler

- LCDR Chris Fletcher



Attachment 2: EHOPAC NPS Implementation

<http://ehopac.org/documents/EHOPACNPSImplementationStrategy-FINAL8-14.pdf>

DRAFT

Attachment 3: Commissioned Corps draft Expectant Parent Resource Guide

CDR McKernan is requesting comments on the draft resource guide for expectant parents. Please provide any comments you may have in the form of 'tracked changes' and email CDR Lauralynn McKernan directly at LMcKernan@cdc.gov. CCWIAB is seeking feedback for accuracy and concept, not formatting, grammar, etc. Our hope is to receive comments back no later than November 15, 2014. The Guide will be attached to the listserv email containing the meeting minutes.

DRAFT

Attachment 4: Domestic Violence Article

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Submitted by LCDR Tracy R. Powell

Member, Commissioned Corps Women's Issues Advisory Board

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV), domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault and/or other abusive behaviors as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partners against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, threats, and emotional abuse.³

On September 30th, President Obama issued a Presidential Proclamation proclaiming October 2014 as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. As the President notes in the Proclamation "Domestic violence has and continues to affect every American. Its impact harms communities, weakens the foundation of our Nation, and hurts those we love most. During National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we acknowledge the progress made in reducing these shameful crimes, embrace the basic human right to be free from violence and abuse, and recognize that more work remains until every individual is able to live free from fear".⁴

This observance presents a unique opportunity for all members of the Corps to rededicate themselves to breaking the cycle of violence. Commissioned Corps Instruction CC29.9 "Domestic/Family Violence and Treatment" provides an overview of the Corps' stance on domestic violence, while outlining officers' and agencies' responsibilities to take appropriate steps to prevent acts of violence and support those in need of assistance. We encourage all members of the Corps to take time this month to review this policy as we remember those who are battered and have lost their lives to domestic violence.

However, reading the policy is not enough; we must also know the facts about domestic violence.

According to NCADV's fact sheet³

- One in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime.
- An estimated 1.3 million women are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year.
- 85% of domestic violence victims are women.
- Females are most often victimized by someone they know.
- Females who are 20-24 years of age are at the greatest risk of nonfatal intimate partner violence.
- Most cases of domestic violence are never reported to the police.
- Almost one-third of female homicide victims that are reported in police records are killed by an intimate partner.
- In 70-80% of intimate partner homicides, no matter which partner was killed, the man physically abused the woman before the murder.

- Less than one-fifth of victims reporting an injury from intimate partner violence sought medical treatment following the injury.
- Intimate partner violence results in more than 18.5 million mental health care visits each year.
- Women who have experienced domestic violence are 80 percent more likely to have a stroke, 70 percent more likely to have heart disease, 60 percent more likely to have asthma and 70 percent more likely to drink heavily than women who have not experienced intimate partner violence.

Active duty officers, retired officers, and/or family members concerned with this issue are encouraged to seek early assistance through their Employee Assistance Program, Military Treatment Facility and/or local community resources. Officers may also obtain assistance by calling the Medical Affairs Branch at 1-800-368-2777. The National Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-799-SAFE (7233)) is staffed 24 hours a day by trained counselors who can provide crisis assistance and information about shelters, legal advocacy, health care centers, and counseling.

Please remember that domestic violence is a crime that can result in serious injury or death. If you face immediate danger of being abused, call 911.

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!

The information is provided by the Commissioned Corps Women's Issues Advisory Board (CCWIAB). The CCWIAB was established by the former US Surgeon General, Dr. Regina M. Benjamin to ensure that women's issues are reviewed and addressed within the Commissioned Corps of the U. S. Public Health Service (Corps). The Board identifies and analyzes key issues that impact women in the Corps and recommends an action plan to address the issues. The Board is chaired by RADM Sarah Linde, a medical officer and the Chief Public Health Officer at the Health Resources and Services Administration.

REFERENCES

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