

1. Call to order: Chair Grant Cooper called the meeting to order at 3:02pm EDST.

2. Roll call

NOAA

Dr. Grant Cooper, NWS Western Region Director, Salt Lake City, UT  
Ms. Marie Eblé\*, NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Lab, Seattle, WA  
Ms. Kara Gately\*, National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK  
Dr. Laura Kong\*, International Tsunami Information Center, Honolulu, HI  
Mr. Lewis Kozlosky\*, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Rocky Lopes\*, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Charles McCreerey\*, Pacific Tsunami Warning Center, Honolulu, HI  
Ms. Christa Rabenold\*, Tsunami Program, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Vasily Titov, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, Seattle, WA  
Mr. Paul Whitmore, National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK

FEMA

Ms. Gala Gulacsik\*, FEMA Region 10, Lynnwood, WA

USGS

Ms. Stephanie Ross, USGS Menlo Park, CA

Alaska

Mr. Dan Belanger, Alaska DHSEM, Anchorage, AK  
Dr. Dmitry Nicolsky, University of Alaska at Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK

American Samoa

Ms. Jacinta Brown, American Samoa DHS, Pago Pago, AS  
Ms. Elinor Lutu\_McMoore\*, Weather Service Office, Pago Pago, AS

California

Mr. Kevin Miller, California Office of Emergency Services, San Francisco, CA  
Mr. Rick Wilson, California Geological Survey, Sacramento, CA

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

No representatives

East Coast States

Mr. Ed Fratto, Northeast States Emergency Consortium, Boston, MA  
Dr. Stephan Grilli, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI

Guam

Mr. Chip Guard\*, NWS Forecast Office, Barrigada, Guam  
Ms. Pilar Carbullido, Guam HS/EM, Agana Heights, Guam

Gulf Coast States

Dr. Juan Horillo, Texas A&M University at Galveston, Galveston, TX  
Mr. Chayne Sparagowski, Coastal Bend Council of Governments, Corpus Christi, TX

Hawaii

Mr. Kevin Richards, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, Honolulu, HI

Oregon

Dr. Althea Rizzo, Oregon Dept. of Emergency Management, Salem, OR

Puerto Rico

Dr. Victor Huerfano, Puerto Rico Seismic Network, Mayaguez, PR  
Mr. Wilfredo Ramos, Puerto Rico Emergency Management Agency, San Juan, PR

U.S. Virgin Islands

Ms. Kieran Isidore\*, U.S. Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Mgmt Agency, St. Thomas, VI  
Mr. Roy Wattlington, Professor Emeritus, St. Thomas, VI

Washington

Ms. Tabitha Laird\*, Washington EMD, Camp Murray, WA  
Mr. Tim Walsh, Washington Division of Natural Resources, Olympia, WA

32 present, 10.5 state votes (min 7); 3 Fed votes. Quorum requirement was met.

\*Non-voting; ex-officio or guest 12).

## 2. Minutes of Coordinating Committee meeting of February 5, 2016.

Kevin Richards moved to approve the minutes. Cooper seconded and called for acclamation. With no objection, the minutes of February 5, 2016, were approved.

## 3. Update from Mitigation & Education Subcommittee

- a. Gala Gulacsik reported that the MES will be holding a webinar before the summer meeting. A doodle poll will be sent to MES members to select a date.
- b. Travel logistics: Rocky Lopes reported that most MES members have registered for the MES summer meeting which will be held July 26 – 28 in Lynnwood, Washington – hosted by FEMA Region X. A few MES members have not registered or reserved a hotel room. We have a limited block of rooms, so if you are coming but haven't registered or reserved a room, please do so immediately. Wait for further instructions on making airline arrangements.

Dan Belanger asked, "when will invitational travel be issued?" Rocky responded that he hoped that travel orders can be issued in about two weeks, which is much earlier than usual because the number of people receiving invitational travel is less than the threshold that invokes the requirement to submit a NOAA group travel request.

### c. Other MES activities

Laura Kong reported that at the Global Tsunami Warning System meeting held recently in Paris in February, two items resulted from it in which NTHMP efforts have been engaged: 1) tsunami evacuation and planning, with efforts to develop guidance on how to construct an evacuation map. Dr. Kong stated that she wanted to get NTHMP partner best practices on these efforts. 2) consolidation of guidance on ports for marine preparedness. Dr. Kong will be engaging the NTHMP's MMS for this guidance.

## 4. Update from Mapping & Modeling Subcommittee

Marie Eblé stated that the MMS is in transition of NOAA CO-chairs from Kara to Marie. The MMS is engaged in finalizing the currents benchmarking report (this is a result of the workshop held before the 2015 Annual Meeting). (Dmitry Nicolski reported on this work this as well.)

Kara Gately asked for clarification of what MMS meetings will be supported during FY2017. Rocky Lopes stated that NTHMP grantees were asked to request travel in each of their respective FY16 NTHMP grant requests for travel to participate in a two-day "Landslide Workshop" (not all NTHMP partners may choose to participate) and a three-day "MMS Science Exchange Meeting." Dates for the workshop and science

meeting will be determined by the MMS. Grantees can use funds from NTHMP grants to attend these meetings (provided funding is approved and awarded). NWS Headquarters will not be providing invitational travel for anyone to attend either of these meetings due to budget cuts for FY17 and a cap on travel impacting all of NOAA.

Stephanie Ross and Kara Gately reported that “state needs from the USGS and how the USGS can help the states” has been developed and is under review by the MMS. Any final inputs or edits are requested by the MMS Co-Chairs.

Dmitry Nicolsky reported that a new model for tsunami inundation was submitted to the MMS. Subcommittee members are looking at it. He is also sending it to reviewers to determine if the model can meet certain requirements.

Kara Gately said that she will be sending a doodle poll to select dates for the next MMS meeting. She will request input again for the “state needs” report (if any).

Rick Wilson asked, “did Mike Angove meet with David Applegate?” Rocky Lopes responded to say that yes, he did, but Mike met with Dr. Applegate alone and that Mike can report on this himself next time he is on a Coordinating Committee call.

Stephanie Ross reported that she just received approval to release all USGS presentations given at the NTHMP/USGS workshop February 1-2. She will be sending those presentations to Rocky for posting on the NTHMP website today.

Kara Gately reported:

- During the MMS meeting in Boulder, there was a discussion about maritime guidance. The MMS is working on it; will finalize soon. They are also finalizing their recommendations for off-shore safety depth.
- The MMS is setting dates for future technical meetings – landslide workshop and scientific exchange meeting.
- Ensemble modeling is encouraged.
- Inundation benchmarks will be advertised on the tsunami bulletin board for review, and then be followed by a presentation.
- Notes from the MMS meetings in Boulder are under review and should be finalized soon and sent to Rocky for posting on the NTHMP website.

Marie Eblé thanked Kara again in her service as MMS Co-Chair for the last two years.

## 5. Update from Warning Coordination Subcommittee

Paul Whitmore reported on behalf of the WCS:

- WCS to start re-creating the Warning Effectiveness Survey this month and will share with Hawaii CD who will host the survey.
- TWCs have started dialog on combining the two different types of Tsunami Information Statements that are issued into one as suggested at the last

meeting. Should have a plan to go forward by next meeting.

- NTWC TWS training to be held last week of August if there is sufficient interest and attendee ability to cover travel costs.
- WCS Terms of References Updated as discussed at last meeting.
- Southern CA WEA activation by polygon - no progress to date.
- San Onofre State Beach break point changed to Orange/San Diego County Line - will be implemented in April.
- Tweb development - PMEL developers still on track to deliver operational capability by October.
- GNSS Meeting - NTWC hosted a meeting with PTWC and 5 groups of researchers at Palmer in early-March. The new techniques hold promise to deliver more accurate tsunami source characterization faster than presently possible, and a first level implementation is planned for this fall.

Dr. McCreery stated that the schedule to transfer domestic products for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands was changed to March 1, but we agreed that the transfer wouldn't happen until the PTWC website can support it. Changes that can make it operational are with NIDS (the NWS server support office). If they can't do it soon, then the transfer may need to be pushed to May 1.

Lewis Kozlosky said that the Service Change Notice (announcement about such changes) will state that the transfer will be indeterminate until we have affirmation that the website is working.

Kevin Richards asked whether we are holding up something important to Puerto Rico just because of the website.

Chip McCreery replied that there is no break in service; it's only the timing of a transfer of service providers from NTWC to PTWC that is delayed.

## 6. Modeling archiving update

Rick Wilson reported that we are looking for a location to hold benchmarking modeling data in an archive. He contacted Kelly Stroker at NCEI to explore options there. There are many questions going back and forth. He is bringing MMS Co-Chairs into the conversation. By our next meeting, he will have more to report.

Rocky Lopes added that if there is a cost for this archiving service, the funds would have to come from the "NTHMP support" funds (aka NTHMP grant pool), and if we need those funds this year, we need to know by late next week or we'll miss the window for this year's funds and will have to wait until next year (provided Congress restores the funds to the NWS budget, as the funds were once again requested by NOAA to be deleted in the President's Budget.)

Dmitry Nicolsky asked, "is tsunami inundation modeling workshop data included?"

Rick Wilson replied, "we can consider that if you wish. Please send details describing it to me."

## 7. NTHMP External Review update

Rocky Lopes reported that he worked with a work group to nominate people for him to ask if they would serve as a reviewer to conduct the five year NTHMP review as previously done in years past.

The understanding during the February 5 NTHMP meeting was that we would find a way to fund travel for five reviewers to attend next year's NTHMP annual meeting and subcommittee meetings, and that they would each write a report. NTHMP grants or NOAA cannot pay a stipend or consulting fee.

Lopes asked, and was informed, that NOAA/NWS will not be able to provide invitational travel for reviewers. He therefore asked Jon Allen from Oregon DOGAMI to add a travel task to their FY16 NTHMP grant request specifically to cover travel costs for reviewers. Jon did that, so the travel funding issue has been handled.

Lopes said that 14 well-regarded people have been nominated to serve as a reviewer. Lopes asked the work group members to help winnow down the list by ranking them. Lopes will take that input and contact people to inquire their willingness to serve under the constraints described.

## 8. FY16 NTHMP Grants status

Rocky Lopes stated that the NTHMP Federal Grant Review Panel completed its review ahead of schedule. He thanked all grantees for responding quickly to questions that were asked as a part of this process. Lopes will provide formal recommendations to Dr. Cooper shortly.

Upon review, adjustment and/or concurrence, Dr. Cooper (through Lopes) will provide his recommendations to NWS Management for approval. Lopes anticipates being able to provide notice of what tasks and funds were approved to each grantee by sometime in April, at which time NTHMP partners will be asked to respond to a formal Request for Application (RFA) through grants.gov – SOP as in years past.

## 9. NTHMP website update

Rocky Lopes reported that since the NTHMP website was migrated to the NWS Tsunami Program, it has been easy to update it almost in real time.

The top most-visited sections of the website include:

- "About NTHMP" page
- Tsunami Preparedness week pages (highly popular year-round)
- Sections about each NTHMP subcommittee

- Tsunami Safety Fact Sheet

Lopes stated that while information about visitors is anonymous, it is possible to tell what domains, states, and countries they come from. The NTHMP website receives 200 to 500 unique visitors each day from all over the world. After the United States, the following countries have people who visit the website often: Canada, Australia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and India. Visitors from state agencies as well as from the U.S. Congress frequently view pages on the site.

Victor Huerfano reported that Puerto Rico got more than 100,000 people to register for the CARIBEWAVE16 exercise via tsunamizone.org.

Lopes clarified that tsunamizone.org is managed by the University of Southern California under contract with California OES from NTHMP grant funding. It's not the same website, but they are related and linked.

Dr. Cooper thanked Lopes and Rabenold for their work to maintain NTHMP website.

#### 10. Old Business

There was no old business.

#### 11. New Business

There was no new business.

#### 12. Adjourn

Dr. Cooper reminded everyone that the next meeting will be on May 17. Lopes will send the usual reminders.

Dr. Cooper adjourned the meeting 3:52pm.

Approved by Chair Cooper: \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Lopes  
NTHMP Administrator