

1. Call to order: Chair Grant Cooper called the meeting to order at 3:01pm EDST.

2. Roll Call

NOAA

Mr. Mike Angove<sup>1</sup>, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Grant Cooper, NWS Western Region Director, Salt Lake City, UT  
Ms. Marie Eblé<sup>2</sup>, NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Lab, Seattle, WA  
Dr. Laura Kong, NOAA/NWS – International Tsunami Information Center, Honolulu, HI  
Mr. Lewis Kozlosky<sup>3</sup>, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Rocky Lopes<sup>1</sup>, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Ms. Christa Rabenold<sup>3</sup>, Tsunami Program, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Vasily Titov, NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Lab, Seattle, WA  
Ms. Christa VonHillebrandt-Andrade<sup>3</sup>, Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program, Mayagüez, PR  
Mr. Paul Whitmore, National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK

FEMA

Ms. Tamra Biasco, FEMA Region 10, Lynnwood, WA  
Ms. Gala Gulacsik<sup>2</sup>, FEMA Region 10, Lynnwood, WA  
Mr. Mike Mahoney, FEMA Headquarters, Washington, DC

USGS

Ms. Stephanie Ross, USGS Menlo Park, CA

Alaska

Mr. Dan Belanger, Alaska Homeland Security/Emergency Mgmt, Anchorage, AK

American Samoa

Ms. Elinor Lutu-McMoore<sup>4</sup>, NWS Forecast Office, American Samoa

California

No representatives

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Mr. Chip Guard<sup>4</sup>, NWS Forecast Office, Guam

East Coast States

Dr. Jim Kirby, University of Delaware, Newark, DE

Guam

Mr. Chip Guard<sup>4</sup>, NWS Forecast Office, Guam

Gulf Coast States

Dr. Juan Horrillo, Texas A&M University at Galveston, Galveston, TX

Hawaii

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

Oregon

Dr. Jonathan Allan, Dept. of Geology and Mineral Industries, Portland, OR

Puerto Rico

Dr. Elizabeth Vanacore<sup>5</sup>, Puerto Rico Seismic Network, Mayagüez, PR

U.S. Virgin Islands

No representatives

Washington

Mr. Maximilian Dixon, Washington EMD, Camp Murray, WA  
Mr. Tim Walsh, Washington Division of Natural Resources, Olympia, WA

24 present, 6.5 state votes (min 7); 6 Fed votes (min 4). Quorum requirement was not met for the state partners, but was met for Federal agency partners.

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<sup>1</sup> Ex-Officio, non-voting

<sup>2</sup> Subcommittee Co-Chair, non-voting

<sup>3</sup> Guest, non-voting

<sup>4</sup> NOAA Employee, non-voting

<sup>5</sup> Designated Alternate for Science Representative

## Chair's opening remarks

NTHMP Chair Dr. Grant Cooper welcomed Gerald Guerrero who is the CNMI Governor's Homeland Security Advisor and was recently appointed to serve as the CNMI Emergency Management representative on the Coordinating Committee. Mr. Chip Guard was appointed to serve as the Science representative for CNMI, having now a dual role in also serving as the Science Representative for Guam as well.

Dr. Cooper reminded Coordinating Committee members to submit biographical statements for the Annual Meeting and one-pagers describing 2016 accomplishments for the 2016 Annual Report to Rocky Lopes.

### 3. Minutes of Coordinating Committee meeting of October 4, 2016.

<http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/documents/NTHMPCC20161004Minutes.pdf>

Dr. Cooper called for approval of the minutes. The minutes were approved with no objection.

### 4. Update from Mitigation & Education Subcommittee

Laura Kong reported for the MES as follows:

- MES-MMS webinar was held on October 18

See notes:

<http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/Minutes/mesminutes/MESMeeting20161018.pdf>

- The MES Co-Chairs are developing a draft agenda for the MES meeting on January 30 during the annual meeting.
- MES is having pre-discussions for MES-MMS input to the next NTHMP Strategic Plan.
- Please use Basecamp to track to-dos for MES activities.
- Partners within the MES supported World Tsunami Awareness Day (WTAD) as described in Appendix A of these minutes.
- Mike Angove: we prepared social media and it all came together at the last minute. Since this event will continue in years to come, should we (U.S.) align with WTAD given that states now have their own weeks?
- *Note this motion passed by unanimous consent at the October 4, 2016 NTHMP Coordinating Committee meeting: "The NTHMP would support each state/territory tsunami preparedness campaign timeframe as the respective state designates."*
- Grant Cooper: let's discuss this at the Coordinating Committee meeting during the Annual Meeting. (Lopes took a note for the agenda.)

- Vasily Titov: Former PMEL Director Eddie Bernard was recognized for an award on this day – the Hamaguchi Award presented by Japan. See Appendix B for more information about this award.

## 5. Update from Mapping & Modeling Subcommittee

- a. Landslide Workshop – January 9 – 11, 2017 (Kirby/Grilli)  
<http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/2017MMSLandslide/index.html>

As of today, there are 32 registrants.

Marie Eblé: It would be useful to have a list and brief description of the models for which results will be presented in advance of the workshop.

Jim Kirby: Agreed. We have plans to post that information about two weeks before the workshop after the AGU Conference in which most participants are attending. 6 domestic / 7 international workshop attendees are receiving travel support through the NTHMP grant awarded to the University of Delaware. People are working on the benchmarks.

Rocky Lopes: The courtesy room block at the Tremont House Hotel has been released. Anyone without a confirmed reservation and who may need housing is on their own. There are a number of hotels in Galveston, and January is an off-peak season, so competitive rates should still be available at other hotel properties.

- b. MMS activities

Marie Eblé reported on behalf of the MMS:

- Three of the four DEMs to be constructed by NCEI for NTHMP in federal FY17 have been decided:
  - Alaska: Bristol Bay DEMs (after data collected in March 2017)
  - Washington: Bellingham Bay to the North (how far TBD)
  - Gulf Coast: Stretch from Miramar Beach to Laguna Beach
  - A few actions before we can pick the fourth DEM for 2017.

The fourth DEM is pending investigation of data availability by NCEI and the gathering of information from specific states. Candidates for the fourth DEM are:

- Swains Island, American Samoa
- Montauk to Narraganset Bay, East Coast
- Puerto Rico (to correct issues with rivers, embayments, etc.)
- California (specific sites unknown)
- USVI (bare earth?)

- MMS submitted reviews of Grantee FY14 progress reports. On the whole, progress was clearly provided and reviewers found efforts by all states to be notable.
- MMS Co-chairs are working on a draft agenda for the January 30 MMS meeting at the Annual Meeting to send to all members. The agenda is ambitious and includes benchmark verification of three inundation models (pending pre-meeting receipt of modeler report):
  - NHWAVE
  - Cliffs
  - HySEA

## 6. Update from Warning Coordination Subcommittee

Paul Whitmore reported on behalf of the WCS:

- Version 1 of Pacifex/Lantex exercise handbooks complete - under review
- Update from NWS Western Region Headquarters on the use of Auto EAS software at Western Region WFOs
- TWC training at NTWC to be held week of April 3, 2017; so far have 9 people who have requested to attend, can handle in the 12-14 range. Contact Paul Whitmore directly if you have a candidate for this training.
- Tsunami.gov status update: this website is combining both the NTWC and PTWC website content and alerts. If you haven't seen it in a while, check it out: <http://www.tsunami.gov>
  - PTWC static content is now included on the site
  - Presently testing PTWC product transfer to the new site

Christa VonHillebrant-Andrade: The CaribeWave 2017 exercise handbook is now available:

[http://tsunami.gov/exercises/Caribewave17\\_Handbook\\_Final.pdf](http://tsunami.gov/exercises/Caribewave17_Handbook_Final.pdf)

## 7. Update on NTHMP Annual Meeting

<http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/2017annualmeeting/index.html>

Monday, January 30 to Friday, February 3 in Portland, Oregon

Rocky Lopes: as of today, 40 people have registered to attend meetings during Annual Meeting week, plus five Reviewers. The number of pre-registered participants is a bit lower than for the same time last year, but the lower pre-registration may be due to people waiting for Subcommittee agendas before making a final decision to request approval for travel. Also, the NOAA Group Travel request for those supported by NOAA invitational travel is still pending and NOAA employees and invitational travelers cannot make a travel commitment until the NOAA Group Travel request is approved.

Lopes commended subcommittees for indicating that they are developing their respective subcommittee meeting agendas. He provided guidance for agenda content that all subcommittees need to include regarding time for NTHMP

Reviewers to have a dialogue with subcommittee membership as well as time to plan for the respective subcommittee's input to the next NTHMP Strategic Plan.

Lopes reminded everyone that in place of going around the room for introductions, Annual Meeting attendees are asked to fill out and return a "bio statement" with a photo that will be assembled into a "bio book". This was at the request of your peers who wanted to have a reference to place a name with a face. The bio statement template is here:

<http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/2017annualmeeting/Biostatement.doc>

Lopes also stated that five Reviewers will be at the Annual Meeting for the entire week. They will prepare reports that he will assemble into one report and he intends to have it ready for the NTHMP CC by July. This report will further inform the next NTHMP Strategic Plan.

Marie Eblé: who are the reviewers?

Lopes:

- Dr. Jim Goltz, retired from California OES and former NTHMP Coordinating Committee member
- Ms. Chris Jonientz-Trisler, FEMA Region X Grants Director and former NTHMP Coordinating Committee member and MES Co-Chair
- Mr. Bill Knight, retired Deputy Director of the National Tsunami Warning Center
- Dr. Mike Lindell, internationally recognized social scientist and hazards researcher
- Ms. Patti Sutch, Executive Director of the Western States Seismic Policy Council

## 8. FY17 NTHMP Grants

Rocky Lopes announced that the [FY17 NTHMP Grant Guidance](#) is now available, along with revised and updated Project Narrative, Budget Narrative Explanation, and Budget Spreadsheets for Prime and Subaward partners. All supporting information and templates are available on this page of the NTHMP website: <http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/grants/reference.html>

Lopes reminded everyone that the Federal Government is operating on a Continuing Budget Resolution through December 9, 2016. Congress must act to pass either a full budget for NOAA or another Continuing Resolution, and the NOAA/NWS CFO must confirm if NTHMP grant funds are included in budget appropriations before we can confirm that we will have NTHMP grants to award in this cycle. Stay tuned.

We are operating on the premise that NTHMP grant funds will be available so that NTHMP partners have adequate time to prepare their respective NTHMP grant pre-applications and that the regular process will be followed according to the schedule published in the [FY17 NTHMP Grant Guidance](#).

A webinar on using the new grant application budget spreadsheets has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 7, at 3:00pm EST via this webinar link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6182646620662326017>  
Webinar ID: 744-627-523. Pre-registration is required.

#### 9. Appointment of FY17 NTHMP Grant Review Panel

Dr. Cooper appointed the following people to serve on the FY17 NTHMP Federal Grant Review Panel: Marie Eblé, NOAA/Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory; Gala Gulacsik, FEMA Region X; Rocky Lopes, NTHMP Administrator.

#### 10. NTHMP Grant Progress Report Reviews

Rocky Lopes described a legacy issue related to NTHMP grant semi-annual report reviews. In the past when the NTHMP Coordinating Committee reviewed grant proposals and made recommendations for grant awards, the Co-Chairs of the NTHMP subcommittees were designated to review semi-annual progress reports and advise on accepting or rejecting them.

Since NOAA General Counsel advised that the NTHMP Coordinating Committee should not have a deciding or recommending role for NTHMP grants, and also since we have overlapping grant performance periods now, thus introducing more confusion, Rocky recommended that:

- NWS Headquarters Tsunami Program do the official "accept or reject" for semi-annual and final grant progress narratives ... and
- Simultaneously provide the narrative reports to the subcommittee co-chairs for information purposes, but not on a deadline for official review.

Lewis Kozlosky confirmed this recommendation because the current process is antiquated. Review deadlines have been missed by subcommittee co-chairs and reminders have not been successful.

Paul Whitmore agreed that the process is antiquated. Appreciates having reports on informational basis as long as comments will be accepted.

Lopes confirmed that comments on reviews will always be welcome and accepted as communication with grantees occurs on an ongoing basis.

Tamra Biasco: definitely recommend this change. Reviewing the narrative reports was a lot of work. The co-chairs having these reports as information is sufficient, and what is needed for subcommittee decision-making.

This is an administrative action and did not require a vote by the Coordinating Committee. This new process for reviewing semi-annual and final narrative reports is effective immediately.

11. 2016 NTHMP Annual Report

Rocky Lopes thanked the Warning Coordination Subcommittee and Alaska for being the first to submit a one-pager for the 2016 NTHMP Annual Report. All NTHMP partners and the MES & MMS are reminded that their input of a one page description of activities during calendar year 2016 is needed by the end of December, or sooner.

12. Old Business

There was no old business.

13. New Business

There was no new business.

14. The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Cooper at 3:46pm EST. The next meeting will be the in-person meeting on February 3, 2017, in Portland, Oregon.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Lopes  
NTHMP Administrator

## Appendix A – World Tsunami Awareness Day Activities

- Hawaii participated in a pre-event conference for World Tsunami Awareness Day on “Communicating Disaster Science,” Sept 15-17, 2016. The conference was sponsored by the International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRiDeS) of Tohoku University, University of Hawaii College of Social Sciences and Sea Grant, and ITIC. NTHMP Prof Kwok Fai Cheung and Dr. Laura Kong gave talks. The agenda included high-school students and journalists sharing their experiences from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, and the first showing of the survivor movie “The Great Tsunami in Japan: Reflecting on the 2011 Disaster.”
- NOAA Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program (Christa von Hillebrandt-Andrade) participated at the invitation of the UNISDR as an observer to Indian Ocean Wave 2016 tsunami exercise in Patisonapur, Odisha, India, September 7, 2016. IOWAVE16 exemplified they key WTAD themes of “effective education and evacuation drills.”
- NOAA/NWS Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program (Christa von Hillebrandt-Andrade) spoke at the Caribbean World Tsunami Awareness Commemoration Activity, Oct 20, 2016, held prior to the Special Committee Meeting of the Disaster Risk Reduction and Transport of the Association of Caribbean States, in Trinidad and Tobago.
- NOAA/NWS International Tsunami Information Center (Laura Kong) moderated the Special Session for the World Tsunami Awareness Day on November 2, 2016 prior to the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) in New Dehli, India, and spoke as a panelist at the AMCDRR World Tsunami Awareness Day commemoration on November 5, 2016.
- ITIC Tsunami Awareness materials were distributed at both the Caribbean meeting, and the Asian Ministerial Meeting.

## Appendix B -- Hamaguchi Award

Congratulations to Dr. Eddie Bernard, former Director of NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, for receiving the inaugural Hamaguchi Award for Enhancement of Tsunami/Coastal Disaster Resilience. This award from the government of Japan recognizes Dr. Bernard's significant contributions to the global tsunami detection, forecast, warning, preparation, and mitigation capability. Dr. Bernard's work has significantly influenced today's comprehensive end-to-end tsunami warning system, which is vital to our Nation's resilience as well as that of our many international partners.

### Background:

The Japanese government, commemorating World Tsunami Awareness Day on November 5, has instituted the Hamaguchi Award for Enhancement of Tsunami/Coastal Disaster Resilience for individuals and/or organizations that have made significant scientific or pragmatic contributions to the enhancement of coastal resilience against tsunami, storm surge and other coastal disasters. The award is named after Mr. Hamaguchi Goryou who protected and saved a village from a tsunami about 150 years ago. The Award Ceremony was held on October 31 in Tokyo.

Dr. Eddie Bernard was one of the three recipients of this inaugural award. During his career Dr. Bernard made extraordinary contributions to the global tsunami detection, forecast, warning, preparation, and mitigation capability. His vision for, and development and implementation of, the Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunami (DART) system represents the single most important advancement in support of tsunami warning systems around the world. As Director of the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center, Chairman of the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP), and Director of the Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, his work has significantly influenced today's comprehensive end-to-end tsunami warning system, which is vital to our Nation's resilience as well as that of our many international partners. NOAA's continuing support of the DART system and the NTHMP is a direct result of his hard work.