

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

2. Roll Call: (*voting member in italics*)

Alaska

Mr. Dan Belanger, Alaska DHS/Emergency Management, Anchorage, AK
Dr. Dmitry Nicolsky, University of Alaska at Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK

American Samoa

*Ms. Elinor Lutu-McMoore*¹, American Samoa NWSO, Pago Pago, American Samoa

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

Mr. Brien Nicholas, CNMI Department of Homeland Security, Saipan, MP
*Mr. Chip Guard*¹, National Weather Service, WFO Guam, Barraguda, GU

East Coast States

Mr. Ed Fratto, Northeast States Emergency Consortium, Boston, MA

Guam

Mr. Leo Espia, Guam Homeland Security/Emergency Management, Agana Heights GU
*Mr. Chip Guard*¹, National Weather Service, WFO Guam, Barraguda, GU

Gulf Coast States

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

Hawaii

Dr. Kwok Fai Cheung, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI
*Ms. Savannah Holloway*², Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, Honolulu, HI
Mr. Kevin Richards, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, Honolulu, HI

Oregon

Dr. Jon Allan, Oregon Dept. of Minerals and Geology, Newport, OR

Puerto Rico

No representatives

U.S. Virgin Islands

*Ms. Kieran Isidore*³, Virgin Islands Territorial EMA, St. Croix, VI
Mr. Roy Watlington, USVI at-large, St. Thomas, VI

Washington

Ms. Corina Forson, Washington Division of Natural Resources, Olympia, WA
Mr. Maximilian Dixon, Washington Emergency Mgmt Division, Camp Murray, WA

NOAA

Dr. Diego Arcas, NOAA/Pacific Marine Environmental Lab, Seattle, WA
Dr. Grant Cooper, NWS Western Region Director, Salt Lake City, UT
*Ms. Marie Eblé*⁴, NOAA/Pacific Marine Environmental Lab, Seattle, WA
*Mr. Tom Evans*², NWS Pacific Region Headquarters, Honolulu, HI (visiting CTWP in PR)
*Dr. Paul Huang*⁴, National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK
*Mr. Lewis Kozlosky*⁴, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD
*Dr. Rocky Lopes*⁵, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD
*Ms. Christa Rabenold*⁴, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD
Ms. Christa von Hillebrandt, NOAA/NWS CTWP, Mayagüez, PR

FEMA

Mr. Michael Mahoney, FEMA Headquarters, Washington, DC

USGS

Ms. Stephanie Ross, U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park, CA

28 present, 9.5 state votes (min 7); 5 Fed votes (min 4). Quorum requirement was met.

¹ Coord. Comm member, NOAA employee, non-voting

² Guest, one-time, non-voting

³ Designated alternate for primary CC member

⁴ Regular guest, non-voting status

⁵ Ex-officio, non-voting member

3. Minutes of Coordinating Committee meeting of February 2, 2018.
<http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/documents/NTHMPCC20180202Minutes.pdf>

Chair Grant Cooper called for a vote to approve the minutes of the February 2. The minutes were approved without objection.

4. Status of replacement EM member for Puerto Rico

Rocky Lopes said that he had been in touch with Acting PRSEMA Director Carlos Acevedo to request an appointment to replace Wilfredo Ramos who left PRSEMA and migrated stateside. Sr. Acevedo responded to say that he was in the process of hiring a new person and as soon as the position was filled, he would notify us of the appointment.

Christa von Hillebrandt will be meeting with him on March 21 and will inquire about this appointment again.

5. NTHMP Website is now on <https://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/> more secure site

Federal Government websites have been migrating to a more secure site, starting with https://. The web host for the NTHMP website did that for us (without notice) sometime in January.

We had noticed that some of the functionality of the NTHMP website was not working properly after this conversion was made, such as the rotating image display on the home page not showing images, and pages on the site were not displaying lines, color blocks, or background. We brought this to the attention of the web host management team, and it was fixed.

If you link to the NTHMP website from another website, it should work even if it used the old "http://" start of the URL. However, for best results, when linking to the NTHMP website or a page within it (such as to documents), begin the link with "https://" .

6. Follow-ups from [NTHMP Winter Meetings](#)

Rocky Lopes stated that all meeting notes and presentations from the NTHMP Winter Meetings that he had received have been posted on the website. The only thing missing were meeting notes for the Island Caucus. Chip Guard sent his notes, but we think someone else also took notes. Elinor will ask colleagues from American Samoa if they have them.

7. Annual Work Plan Progress

a. [Mapping & Modeling Subcommittee](#)

Dmitry Nicolsky reported that there is not much of an update yet since it has been a short time since the Work Plan was created, but he would like to point out that the MMS is working on an activity to assemble tsunami sources from states and territories to prepare for Powell Center workshops.

b. [Mitigation & Education Subcommittee](#)

Kevin Miller reported on the status of several items in the MES work plan. The first four items are subcommittee endorsed activities. The *TsuInfo Alert* newsletter is ongoing. Tsunamizone.org is ongoing. The social science project is included in Washington's pending grant request. The task to complete development of NTHMP maritime guidance on response/recovery chapters is in California's FY18 grant request.

Fact Sheets on the community rating system have been developed and under review. The Tsunami Information Guide will be looked at this year.

Christa von Hillebrandt reminded everyone that contributions are requested for the *TsuInfo Alert* newsletter.

Maximilian Dixon stated that Washington is finalizing an RFI. Dr. David Johnston in New Zealand has offered to review the RFI for the social science project.

c. [Warning Coordination Subcommittee](#)

Dr. Paul Huang reported that we are still working on adding seismic observatory message to the tsunami.gov website, but needs more resources.

The Lantex and Pacifex exercise manuals have been completed and have been posted on the website, here: <https://tsunami.gov/?page=exercises>

Work on TView is on hold indefinitely due to lack of funding.

The NTWC may be changing warning areas for Alaska. They are having conversations with Alaska DHSEM. The NTWC is also looking also at warning/break points for Washington at Washington's request.

Christa von Hillebrandt reported that the Caribewave exercise on March 15 was successful. A full report will be available in the future.

Maximilian Dixon stated that the April 5 exercise will look at SOPs for tsunami warning notifications. Washington is requesting the NTWC acknowledge Washington state breakpoints.

8. Regular Subcommittee Meetings – conference calls scheduled

- MES: April 17, June 19, August 21
- No other subcommittees or the Island Caucus have scheduled calls (yet)

Dr. Cooper thanked the MES for being so proactive, and asked other subcommittees and caucus to follow through and schedule periodic calls. Please let Rocky Lopes know when you schedule these calls and if any support (such as a conference call line or on-line meeting) is needed.

9. Status of FY18 Grants Process

Rocky Lopes provide a brief overview. Grant pre-applications are being reviewed by the Federal Review Panel, which has met electronically and by phone, with more meetings scheduled this month.

Lopes stated that when all verification of requested funds were totaled from the second round of grant pre-applications that \$7.83M was requested. We have \$6.0M to allocate and recommend.

More refinements to budgets are being made upon validation of cost estimates, obtaining more accurate cost estimates, voluntary reductions from some grantees, and appropriate calculation of indirect cost rates and applicable object classes.

Even with those refinements, there are more funding requests than funds are available, so not all requests can be recommended for funding.

Most grantees were sent questions regarding certain issues on their requests, to validate cost estimates, to request voluntary reductions for some large-cost items such as sirens and siren maintenance, or about other technical matters.

Responses to these questions are due to Lopes by March 22. Lopes thanked those who have responded already.

Lopes reaffirmed that, "just because I may not have asked about a task or activity that it *will be* recommended for funding. All it means when a question is *not* asked is that we believe we have sufficient information to judge the merits of the request."

The Federal Grant Review Panel plans to provide its recommendations to NOAA/NWS Management by late March. Management review occurs in April. Once Management approves specific amount of grant funds for which applicants may apply, Lopes will send tailored emails to each applicant with the results and more instructions on what to do next. It is anticipated that these notifications will occur on schedule by mid-April.

Rick Wilson asked, "from your status email of March 14, what did it mean when a subcommittee endorsed activity may not be recommended?"

Rocky Lopes replied, "what it said -- *just because an item received an endorsement from a subcommittee doesn't mean that it won't fall on the 'not recommended for funding list' either. There are many factors that the Federal Grant Panel considers when deciding which tasks to recommend for funding, and which tasks not to.*" We know this isn't easy, but every dollar in grant funds is closely scrutinized on a number of levels and we make no promises of funding for any task, subtask, activity, or subaward, regardless of who requests it or endorses it.

10. Status of Summer MES & MMS Meetings

The meeting rooms that we used last summer in the Federal Building in Salt Lake City are under renovation and may not be ready by the July 24-26 preferred meeting dates. We are now looking at meeting in Sacramento. Kevin Miller has identified free meeting space at the USC Price School of Business located in downtown Sacramento. Rocky Lopes is working to confirm availability of adequate hotel rooms at a hotel that Rick Wilson recommended and ensure that the hotel will provide a block of rooms at the Government per diem rate. More information will follow soon.

11. 2018-2023 NTHMP Strategic Plan implementation

Dr. Cooper asked, "now that the new NTHMP Strategic Plan has been released, how are you using it?"

Kevin Richards: we have only used it so far to prepare our grant proposal.

Kevin Miller: we had a recent meeting of the mitigation & recovery discussion group and it helped us inform the discussion.

Rick Wilson: we presented to our steering committee in California.

Christa Rabenold: I am updating the NTHMP Fact Sheet to reflect the new Strategic Plan. I have updated the NTHMP mission, vision, and statistics in the introduction. I have sent this draft update to subcommittee Co-chairs for review and am waiting to hear back from them.

Rocky Lopes: Bill Leith who leads the Natural Hazards Mission Area at USGS Headquarters read the article in *TsuInfo Alert* about the new Strategic Plan and requested a copy. Once it was approved, copies were sent to Bill and his colleague Cecily Wolfe. Bill replied to say, "great work – looks fantastic! I'll be interested to read it more and share it with our team as we update our Strategic Plan. Thanks!"

Dan Belanger: we have had a lot of interest in it since the January 23 Alaska tsunami event. There is renewed interest in TsunamiReady® recognition. The Strategic Plan helps us reinforce the explanation of the NTHMP mission. We are also doing rapid evaluation of schools, so the new Strategic Plan also has been helpful for that.

Jon Allan: have been using it to discuss possible new social science investigations of brochures and evacuation modeling work. The University of Oregon is very interested in the social science piece from the Strategic Plan.

12. Old Business

Kevin Richards announced that the Island Caucus is trying to find meeting times via SurveyMonkey. Look for an email from him and please respond.

13. New Business

Christa Rabenold: The old URL for the NWS TsunamiReady site is changing. If linking to the TR website, use this one: <https://www.weather.gov/tsunamiready/>

14. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 3:46pm EDT. Next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 29, at 3:00pm EDT.