

1. Chair Grant Cooper called the meeting to order at 4:01pm PDT.

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

Alaska

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

American Samoa

No representatives

California

*Ms. Yvette LaDuke*<sup>3</sup>, California Office of Emer. Services, Valencia, CA  
*Mr. Kevin Miller*, California Office of Emergency Services, San Francisco, CA  
*Mr. Rick Wilson*, California Geological Survey, Sacramento, CA

Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

*Mr. Chip Guard*<sup>1</sup>, National Weather Service, WFO Guam, Barraguda, GU  
*Mr. Brien Nicholas*, CNMI Department of Homeland Security, Saipan, MP  
*Mr. Jonathan Villagomez*<sup>2</sup>, CNMI Department of Homeland Security, Saipan, MP

East Coast States

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

Guam

*Mr. Chip Guard*<sup>1</sup>, National Weather Service, WFO Guam, Barraguda, GU

Gulf Coast States

*Mr. Brad Baker*, Santa Rosa County EM, Milton, FL  
*Dr. Juan Horrillo*, Texas A&M University at Galveston, Galveston, TX

Hawaii

*Dr. Kwok Fai Cheung*, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI

Oregon

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

Puerto Rico

*Mr. Joel Figueroa*, Puerto Rico Emergency Management, San Juan, PR  
*Dr. Victor Huerfano*, Univ. of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez, Mayagüez, PR

U.S. Virgin Islands

*Ms. Mona Barnes*, U.S. Virgin Islands Territorial Emer. Mgmt Agency, St. Croix, VI

Washington

*Mr. Maximilian Dixon*, Washington Emergency Mgmt Division, Camp Murray, WA  
*Mr. Daniel Eungard*<sup>3</sup>, Washington Division of Natural Resources, Olympia, WA

NOAA

*Mr. Mike Angove*<sup>5</sup>, National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK  
*Dr. Diego Arcas*, NOAA/Pacific Marine Environmental Lab, Seattle, WA  
*Dr. Grant Cooper*, NWS Western Region Director, Salt Lake City, UT  
*Ms. Marie Eblé*<sup>4</sup>, NOAA/Pacific Marine Environmental Lab, Seattle, WA  
*Dr. Rocky Lopes*<sup>5</sup>, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
*Ms. Christa Rabenold*<sup>4</sup>, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
*Ms. Christa von Hillebrandt*, NOAA/NWS CTWP, Mayagüez, PR

FEMA

*Ms. Tamra Biasco*, FEMA Region X, Lynnwood, WA  
*Mr. Michael Mahoney*, FEMA HQ, Washington, DC

USGS

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

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30 present, 11 state votes (min 7); 6 Fed votes (min 4). Quorum requirement met.

<sup>1</sup> Coord. Comm member, NOAA employee, non-voting

<sup>2</sup> Guest, one-time, non-voting

<sup>3</sup> Alternate for primary CC member (guest)

<sup>4</sup> Regular guest, non-voting status

<sup>5</sup> Ex-officio, non-voting member

### 3. Opening remarks by Chair

Dr. Cooper welcomed Joel Figueroa who was appointed to serve as the Emergency Management representative for Puerto Rico in place of Wilfredo Ramos who left last Fall.

Dr. Cooper also welcomed Jonathan Villagomez who joined us from the CNMI for this meeting.

### 4. Minutes of Coordinating Committee meeting of June 5, 2018.

<https://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/documents/NTHMPCC20180605Minutes.pdf>

Dr. Cooper called for approval of the minutes. They were approved by acclamation.

### 5. Annual Work Plan Progress

#### a. [Mapping & Modeling Subcommittee](#)

Dmitry Nicolsky: The MMS has not met much since January. There has been steady progress on the MMS annual work plan. So far we have created a tsunami source database; started on gap analysis for different states; worked on guidance for tsunami inundation and currents.

Powell Center workshops – conducted first workshop; second one on Alaska/Aleutian subduction zone sources scheduled for first week of October – update to follow. A white paper will come out soon that will summarize efforts from the first workshop and provide a plan for subsequent workshops. Want emergency managers to consider “what would be a worse-case scenario” to use for probabilistic tsunami modeling.

#### b. [Mitigation & Education Subcommittee](#)

Kevin Miller: *TsuInfo Alert* – increase in readership seems to have occurred; there is active engagement from NTHMP in submitting articles. Three more pages for AK, OR, and WA for [tsunamizone.org](http://tsunamizone.org), including analytics was requested. Social science evaluation of tsunami evacuation products to be conducted starting this Fall – Washington to conduct. Maritime guidance being developed to include mitigation & recovery. Tsunami information guide & CRS fact sheets are in development. Work to develop shape files for coastal polygons for WEA is ongoing.

Tamra Biasco: P646 document ([Guidelines for Design of Structures for Vertical Evacuation](#)) has been updated by FEMA. Mike Mahoney is looking for reviewers from NTHMP of the next draft. Contact Tamra if you would like to volunteer to review it.

Jon Allan: is the social science project only for WA?

Maximilian Dixon: No, it will cover Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington to have a more reasonable amount of work to include in the project. Will be done through focus groups, surveys, and methodology recommended by selected contractor. We will be expecting a report on model practices and recommendations.

c. [Warning Coordination Subcommittee](#) (Belanger, Angove, McCreery)

The WCS has not met since the February winter meeting.

Mike Angove: the discussion results about the WCS from the winter meeting were helpful. We are waiting for the new NTWC Director to be appointed.

6. Status of Warning Coordination Subcommittee

This subcommittee has not met or advanced issues on the WCS Work Plan since the NTHMP winter meeting. How should this matter be addressed?

Kevin Miller: the WCS is a powerful entity and helpful for the states. Once a new NTWC Director is appointed we can begin again.

Maximilian Dixon: what we work on may be directed by events (such as January 23, 2018, tsunami event).

Grant Cooper: are there suggestions for WCS work in the near term?

Mike Angove: will work on recommendations from lessons from the January 23 event. Maybe the NTWC could represent both TWCs for the WCS.

Christa von Hillebrandt: PTWC serves the territories, so they should also be included.

Rocky Lopes: pointed out that the NTHMP *Rules of Procedure* were updated in February to provide for designation of a representative from each TWC to serve the NTHMP WCS; not required to be the Director any more.

Rick Wilson: great value in having representation of both TWCs

Dan Belanger: I stepped in for Althea to complete her last year as Co-Chair. January 23 event gave us a lot of material to work on.

Mike Angove: nothing has influenced procedures at NTWC more than the WCS. Give us a little more time to work on this.

## 7. NOAA/NWS Tsunami Activities Grants List Update

Chair Grant Cooper appointed Leo Espia (MES), Dan Belanger (WCS) and Jon Allan (MMS) to serve on a short-term Work Group facilitated by Rocky Lopes to review and recommend updates/changes to the list of allowable/disallowable grant activities and subcommittee activity endorsement process.

Rick Wilson: why are we doing this?

Rocky Lopes: Now that we have experience with alignment of the allowable activities list with grant project narratives, we can tweak the list to include those items being used and clarify some confusion that arose during the past grant round.

## 8. Status of "Mitigation & Recovery" recommendations

Tamra Biasco: Tamra distributed a proposal to create a "mitigation and recovery working group" for discussion. She stated that the MES tends to focus on educational components and some hard core mitigation components have been overlooked. Recovery could be a difficult mountain to climb. We might also pull in more people to work on these issues.

She suggested that a Mitigation & Recovery working group would report to both MES and MMS and allow for inclusion of other partners and include some focused recovery topics with ideas on how to bring these matters to the NTHMP efficiently.

Kevin Miller: not take on more workload. Would take on review of partner projects and pull in additional people to help with projects, such as Guidelines. Project-driven.

Marie Eble: still unclear about goals on recovery and our mission. What is the overall goal?

Tamra Biasco: a working group is needed to figure that out. TWERA says that recovery planning assessment is needed.

Rocky Lopes: TWERA section that includes recovery states: *§3204, NTHMP; (c) Program Components; (2) Integration of tsunami preparedness and mitigation programs into ongoing State-based hazard warning, resilience planning, and risk management activities, including predisaster planning, emergency response, evacuation planning, disaster recovery, hazard mitigation, and community development and redevelopment planning programs in affected areas.*

Lopes pointed out that this section specifies these efforts are for state-based programs – so the states should be addressing these issues.

Rick Wilson: The new NTHMP Strategic Plan states that guidance on mitigation and recovery should be developed. The idea is to develop list of projects to help steer forward.

Marie Eble: we support these efforts for developing these products.

Maximilian Dixon: looking at end state for making sure that for life safety purposes, we should have a work group to bring people together for input on mitigation & recovery components to help organize and prioritize.

Dmitry Nicolsky: I am struggling with the recovery piece. NTHMP should focus on mitigation. This seems to be trying to spread us too thin. When would it meet? How would logistics be handled? We may have communities unprepared for tsunamis, so why look at recovery?

Marie Eble: what would FEMA want from NTHMP?

Tamra Biasco: MES talks about sirens, outreach, and education. We aren't really talking about evacuation, pedestrian modeling, and some other issues. We have a lot to share about recovery from AS, VI, and PR experiences. Mitigation: we rarely talk about building codes. We advocated for tsunami vertical evacuation.

Rick Wilson: we're not trying to take resources away from NTHMP but perhaps can get resources from FEMA for recovery planning. Maritime planning is needed and NTHMP can do that.

Rocky Lopes: states can request resources from various FEMA funding streams, but not the NTHMP since the NTHMP is not a fundable entity.

Jon Allan: for recovery, what time scales are we talking about? Days, weeks, months, years? It takes many entities not in this room to generate recovery guidance.

Diego Arcas: providing data for HAZUS software for the tsunami module – does FEMA use that for HAZUS?

Tamra Biasco: Yes. Need a working group for how NTHMP can resolve these issues.

Grant Cooper: We are talking about a Mitigation & Recovery working group and a Mitigation & Education Subcommittee. What is the difference with the "mitigation" between both groups?

Kevin Miller: hard and soft mitigation.

Grant Cooper: is it time to review the structure of the NTHMP subcommittees?

Tamra Biasco: it might be time to do that.

Rick Wilson: we wanted to take baby steps on this. If in future years we look at restructuring, we could consider it then.

Dan Belanger: where did it say that the NTHMP should work on this?

Rocky Lopes: There is one statement in the [2017 NTHMP External Review](#) that suggested eventual creation of an NTHMP Subcommittee on Mitigation & Recovery. There are a number of recommendations that the Coordinating Committee can choose to act on, or not, considering available time and resources. It is a review, not an action plan or directive.

Marie Eble: I would support notion of restructuring. Another working group would add pressure to the time available already.

Rocky Lopes: there is a capacity issue. Currently, subcommittees are not functioning as well as envisioned due to lack of time from volunteers in states & territories to work on projects. I truly do not believe the NTHMP has sufficient capacity to take on additional work.

Maximilian Dixon: if you look at what was presented at the MES meeting this summer, a lot of it was on mitigation and recovery. I support consideration of restructuring the subcommittees.

Christa von Hillebrandt: for now, within the MES, we should give the charge to a working group.

Daniel Eungard: restructuring subcommittees would make sense. Education outreach has been predominant for MES. Let education be the focus of MES. Another group should focus on mitigation.

Chip Guard: how would restructuring affect the size of NTHMP? Meeting logistics? Grants?

Rocky Lopes: good questions. These issues would have to be figured out and included in a recommendation for the Coordinating Committee. But remember, we're only talking about possible restructuring of the subcommittees, not the NTHMP as a whole.

Tamra Biasco: create a M&R working group under MES but have ability to pull in members of other subcommittees to help with addressing other strategic plan elements.

Grant Cooper: does this address all of the elements of the NTHMP?

Maximilian Dixon: can we address restructuring at the annual meeting?

Rocky Lopes: the annual meeting has a longer (three-hour) time for the Coordinating Committee to meet, so that is the ideal time to have a report and set of recommendations prepared in advance.

Grant Cooper: do we need a group to explore the broader view of the subcommittee structure?

Jon Allan: are you suggesting forming a group to explore this?

Grant Cooper: Yes

Marie Eble: independent group?

Grant Cooper: No

Tamra Biasco (motion): I move to form a Working Group under the MES to address mitigation and recovery issues. Motion was seconded by Brien Nicholas.

Dmitry Nicolsky: this is for those involved in the MES and not a separate group?

Tamra Biasco: Yes

Grant Cooper: (vote). The motion to develop a working group on mitigation and recovery within the MES was passed with unanimous consent. This group will be re-evaluated after one year.

Dan Belanger: (motion) to form a work group appointed by the NTHMP Chair to create a proposal on NTHMP Subcommittee restructuring for discussion at the Coordinating Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting (February, 2019). Maximilian Dixon seconded the motion.

Grant Cooper: (amendment): this group would be led by Rocky Lopes.

Dan Belanger: accepted as friendly amendment

Grant Cooper: (vote). The motion to form a work group to develop recommendations on NTHMP subcommittee restructuring led by Rocky Lopes was passed with unanimous consent.

## 9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 5:03pm PDT.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, September 4, 2018, at 3:00pm EDT by conference call.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Lopes  
NTHMP Administrator