

## The Disaster Process and the Importance of Documentation During the Recovery Phase - Gary Rice and Robin English

- a) Disaster declaration process (Gary Rice)
  - i) Where does it all begin
    - (1) Local damage assessment - local state of emergency
    - (2) State of emergency declared - freezes up state resources
    - (3) Federal disaster declaration
      - (a) FEMA comes in
      - (b) Reassessment is done
      - (c) Must meet per capita threshold for public assistance
        - (i) At state level - for any assistance
        - (ii) At county level - for assistance to a specific county
      - (d) Thresholds set for each fiscal year in Oct
  - ii) Documentation
    - (1) Most important thing to be done to get money back
      - (a) Overtime
      - (b) Materials
      - (c) Equipment
    - (2) Equipment and personnel MUST match
  - iii) Preliminary damage assessment
    - (1) Completed ASAP after life safety issues have been completed
    - (2) Paperwork sent to OHS-GEMA
    - (3) Work with field coordinator
  - iv) Issues to consider
    - (1) Roads
    - (2) Bridges
    - (3) School closures
    - (4) Water systems
    - (5) Sewage issues
  - v) Information helps show FEMA that the problem is too big for the county or the state to fix
  - vi) Vector control
    - (1) Category B - emergency protective measures
    - (2) Removal of health and safety hazards
      - (a) Health hazard
      - (b) Verification is required
      - (c) Public health must be involved
    - (3) Process
      - (a) Contact - good to know who these people are before an emergency
        - (i) County EMA Director
        - (ii) State EMA Field Coordinator
      - (b) Coordination between Public Works and Vector Control