

MINUTES
Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley
J&M Restaurant
1512 Wolcott Road, Wolcott
Friday, February 8, 2008, 12:00 Noon

COGCNV Members: Susan Cable, First Selectman, Karen Wilson, Alternate, Beacon Falls; Jeff Hamel, First Selectman, Bethlehem; Jerry Sitko, Alternate, Cheshire; Thomas Gormley, First Selectman, Middlebury; Michael Bronko, Mayor, Naugatuck; Herman Schuler, Alternate, Oxford; Robert Chatfield, First Selectman, Prospect; Maura Martin, First Selectman, Thomaston; Thomas Dunn, First Selectman, Wolcott.

Speakers and Guests: Peter Applegarth and Mike Staley, Code Red; Christopher Swan, Carrie Waybeck, and Matt Hickey, CL&P; Susan Webster, Northwest CT Public Safety Communications Center; Barbara Buddington, DEMHS 5 Emergency Planning Consultant; Ray Piper, DEMHS5; Lou Mangini, Office of Congresswoman Rosa Delauro; Grayson Wright, ConnDOT; Gennady Sheyner, Republican American.

Staff: Peter Dorpalen, Executive Director; Virginia Mason, Assistant Director; Samuel Gold, Senior Planner; Jeffrey Cormier, Regional Planner/GIS Specialist; Selma Alves, Administrative Assistant.

1. Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, Introductions, Public Comment

Chairman Susan Cable called the meeting to order at 12:07pm. Those present recited the pledge of allegiance. Barbara Buddington, former executive director of the Windham COG, was introduced as the new DEMHS5 emergency planning consultant, under contract with COGCNV. Roll was called. There was no public comment.

2. Administrative Items

- a. *Minutes of January 11, 2008 COGCNV Meeting* – On a motion by Thomas Gormley, seconded by Thomas Dunn, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the January 11, 2008, COGCNV meeting.

- b. *Financial Report* — Peter Dorpalen reported that, as of January 31, 2008, the Council was 58.6% through the fiscal year and had expended 43.4% of the \$810,376 operating budget. Of the total budgeted amount which includes pass-through funds, 21.1% of the \$2,446,210 budget has been expended. The STIF account totaled \$70,255. The Webster Checking account balance was \$7,052. The STIF Reserve Fund had a balance of \$241,555.

On a motion by Thomas Gormley, seconded by Jerry Sitko, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the financial report.

- c. *Correspondence* — Peter Dorpalen summarized recent correspondence:

January 16, 2008	Letter from OPM Undersecretary David LeVasseur requesting that COGCNV help establish a Regional Roundtable for “ongoing participation of local officials and [to] foster the development of responsible growth planning agendas tailored to the specific needs of different parts of the state, starting with new transit corridors.” He suggests quarterly meetings and membership of chief elected officials, regional planning, economic development, environmental, housing, transportation, agriculture, and other interests.
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January 24, 2008	Letters to area legislators from Chairman Susan Cable transmitting COGCNV’s 2008 Legislative Position Statement.
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January 25, 2008	Emails from CCM, ConnDOT, and Middlebury on state reimbursement for volunteer fire department for limited access highway emergency calls — \$100 per call (until 2002) replaced by \$1250 per year from State Fire Administrator.
January 28, 2008	Letters from COGCNV to DEMHS 5 regional planning organizations transmitting memorandums of understanding for the coordination of emergency planning tasks.
February 7, 2008	Letter from Cheshire Police Chief requesting that Cheshire's portion of the JAGLLE grant (\$5,500) be transferred to the Southcentral Regional Council of Governments because of the Town's wish to participate in the New Haven area program.

3. **Power and Transmission Lines in Connecticut** — Christopher Swan, Director of Municipal Relations and Sitings at Connecticut Light and Power updated COG on the status of various power transmission projects in the state and region. Swan said that CL&P's transmission projects will improve reliability and the price of electricity. The Central Connecticut Reliability Project will connect the Frost Bridge substation in Watertown to the North Bloomfield substation. New transmission poles will be installed in existing right of ways, and the new poles will be slightly taller than existing ones.
4. **Code Red Municipal Notification System** — Peter Applegarth from Code Red demonstrated the Code Red reverse 911 notification system to the COG. Code Red allows municipal officials to notify residents in case of emergencies via phone. Officials can pinpoint parts of town for notifications using interactive maps. Code Red is being used by over 600 municipalities.
5. **Other Actions**
 - a. *February 2008 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments* — Jeff Cormier reported on the February 2008 TIP amendments listed in Memo 013108. On a motion by Robert Chatfield, seconded by Thomas Dunn, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the February 2008 Amendments to the 2007–2011 Transportation Improvement Program.
 - b. *OPM JAGLLE Grant Agreement for 800-mhz Radios* — Virginia Mason reported that OPM approached COG about applying for a JAGLLE grant for emergency equipment for Middlebury, Naugatuck, Thomaston, Watertown, and Wolcott. The towns decided that they would like to spend \$28,000 for 800-mhz radios. The smaller towns will receive five radios, and the larger towns, six radios. On a motion by Thomas Gromley, seconded by Michael Bronko, it was unanimously

VOTED: To authorize Chairman Susan A. Cable to enter into an agreement with OPM for the JAGLLE Grant.
6. **Project Updates**
 - a. *DEMHS Region 5 Emergency Planning* — Virginia Mason reported that the consensus of the EPC was to endorse the Code Red program. Joe Perrelli has begun resource typing. Barbara Buddington said that she will be meeting municipal officials and staff to gather the information necessary for the emergency support functions. Roy Piper reported that there is now someone responsible at DEMHS for the resource typing data that municipalities are collecting. Roy Piper also reported that DEMHS is pulling the personal care kits for cots that have been purchased since 2003. The toothpaste in the care kits is contaminated with anti-freeze. DEMHS is collecting the care kits and will be disposing of them properly to ensure they are not repackaged or used. The annual Emergency Managers Conference will be held on June 17 in West Haven. Annual Regional Emergency Planning Meeting for chief elected officials will be held at 1pm, May 12 at a place yet to be determined. At the meeting a spending plan will be created for the homeland security funding.

- b. *Regional Plan of Conservation and Development* — Peter Dorpalen reported that staff has presented the Plan to all thirteen of the region’s planning and planning and zoning commissions. The 65 day public review process began in the beginning of January. A public hearing will be held on March 4, and then the Plan will go to the Regional Planning Commission for a recommendation to COG. The Plan will be brought before COG for approval in May or June.
- c. *GIS parcel mapping project* — Virginia Mason reported that Oxford and Naugatuck have expressed interest in joining the GIS parcel mapping project. Oxford has not yet funded their project, and Naugatuck lost its employee that was going to do the work in-house. On a motion by Thomas Dunn, seconded by Maura Martin, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the expansion of the GIS parcel mapping project to include Oxford and Naugatuck.

- d. *Naugatuck River Greenway* — Samuel Gold reported on the status of the Naugatuck River Greenway. COGCNV submitted a grant application for a \$5,000 grant from the Greenway License Plate Fund. The grant would be used to hire a graphic designer to design a logo for the Naugatuck River Greenway and to create trail marker signs that could be installed along the corridor.

7. **Regional Business**

Sue Cable reminded members to remember the municipal training academy when working on next year’s municipal budgets.

Jeff Cormier reported that there was a meeting of the region’s public works directors about the new law that requires manufacturers to pay for the recycling of televisions, computers, and monitors. By the end of the month DEP should have a list of certified e-waste recyclers. After receiving this list, another meeting will be scheduled to discuss a regional contract for e-waste recycling.

Samuel Gold reported that the application packages for the state’s Municipal Grant Program for Senior and Disabled Transportation has been sent out to the five non-Greater Waterbury Transit District towns.

8. **Other**

There was no other business.

- 9. **Adjournment**) At 1:30 pm, on a motion by, seconded by, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by
Samuel Gold
Senior Planner

for

Michael Bronko
Secretary