

Minutes

**Central Naugatuck Valley Emergency Planning Committee/Citizen Corps-
CERT
Naugatuck Town Hall
229 Church Street
Naugatuck, CT
August 9, 2007
5:00 P.M.**

Present: Ken Hanks, Chair, Assistant Fire Chief, Naugatuck; Janet Morgan, Fire Chief, and Charles Rutledge, Assistant Emergency Management Director, Woodbury; Roy Piper, Region 5 Coordinator; Steven Savage, Northwest Connecticut Public Safety; Scott Pelletier, Fire Chief, Oxford; David Hardt, Emergency Management Director, Watertown; Shane Lockwood, Pomperaug Health District; and Paul Perrotti, Fire Chief, Middlebury

Staff: Virginia Mason, Assistant Director

Ken Hanks called the meeting to order at 5:03 P.M. He discussed the concept of a regional information support team and turned the presentation over to Charlie Rutledge who had recently attended a week long training session on public information/communications at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, Md. (Course # E388 Advanced PIO). Charlie felt it was the best training session he had ever been to and suggested that several others might like to sign up. A one year's wait period is the norm for the August class. The concept of the regional resource team would be to have several people trained, perhaps from different disciplines, who could support municipalities and their public information people in incidents that last more than 24 hours. While the municipality would retain the "on camera" visibility, the team would help prepare press releases and statements for the municipality's use. The committee supported the idea and asked Virginia to see if COGCNV was interested at its September meeting.

Ken announced that Naugatuck is buying Code Red, and Paul stated that they had presented in Middlebury and there was also interest there. Charlie noted that Code Red is now offering text messaging for no additional cost and no deduction from your prepaid minutes. Paul asked if there were other sources of money to fund this, and Virginia noted that Middlebury's LETPP 06 money had not yet been obligated as far as she knew, otherwise it would have to be gotten out of the 07 money regionally.

Ken reported that Bob Chatfield was resigning after many years from the NW EMS Council. Virginia reported that Frank Morgan, Assist Fire Chief in Woodbury, had volunteered and Sue Webster of NW Public Safety would be willing to be the alternate. It was moved by Scott and seconded by Paul to endorse those persons to the COGCNV.

Virginia distributed the proposed bylaws for Region 5 and explained the two tier system of management. The final responsibility for how the funds are spent belongs to the chief elected officials. They, or their designees, will make up the REPT and are anticipated to meet semi-

annually or annually. A Steering Committee composed of the Regional Coordinator, a rep from each of the RPOs, one emergency management director from each region (except Central Connecticut), and the chairs of each active ESF will meet monthly to develop a plan and a budget for the REPT's approval. Dave Hardt asked how the money was allocated among the 5 DEMHS regions. Roy replied that each region is being treated equally regardless of population or number of towns. Virginia noted that in 2006, Region 5 received about \$550,000 and that \$800,000 will be available in 2007. The guidance is coming out August 10th. There is \$125,000 to be split among the 5 Regional Planning organizations, and COGCNV has agreed to be the "coordinating" RPO and pass the grants through.

She also distributed a memo by Joe Perrelli on the ESG-5 meeting on August 3rd.

Ken noted that a URM tabletop exercise will take place in Naugatuck on September 28th for state agencies and those interested in playing. This is one of two exercises statewide.

Roy discussed the roll of the mutual aid legislation which passed in the last legislative session. Now all municipal departments can be shared under the legislation, including city clerks, assessors, etc. unless a municipality opts out. He also noted that his office will take over the Southbury office at the STS in October, and he hopes to move in by the end of the year.

Virginia discussed what had occurred at the Coordinating Council meeting that morning. She also announced the State training conference for Citizen Corps/CERT on September 8th and 9th and the annual Citizen Corps conference on November 20th. Dave Hardt asked about educational evacuation training for private and parochial schools. Virginia will follow up.

The meeting adjourned at 6:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Mason