

**Central Naugatuck Valley Emergency Planning Committee/Citizen
Corps-CERT
COGCNV Offices
60 North Main Street
Waterbury, CT
September 13, 2007
5:00 P.M.**

Minutes

Present: Ken Hanks, Chair, Naugatuck; Chet Sergey, LEPC, Wolcott; Steven Savage, NW CT Public Safety; Charlie Rutledge, Woodbury; Dave Hardt, Watertown; Steve Savage, Northwest CT Public Safety; and Roy Piper, DEMHS 5 Coordinator

Staff: Peter Dorpalen, Executive Director; Virginia Mason, Assistant Director;

Chairman Hanks called the meeting to order at 5:01 P.M. There were no guests present.

Charlie Rutledge handed out basic guidance for public information officers and discussed the training he underwent at Emmitsburg, Maryland on the subject. He and Jeremy Rodrigo are offering to create a regional pio resource team for major regional emergencies, those that last more than 24 hours or where you need a Joint Information Center (JIC). Such a team would pre-establish relationships with the press, and provide backup to existing local resources. After discussion and clarification the group felt that the idea should be presented to the COGCNV at its Friday meeting.

Mason asked if towns were happy with the 2006 grant application process so far. There were no problems mentioned. Peter discussed the recommendation of the Area 5 RPO directors, not to apply for the 2007 grant due to limited financial support for coordinating RPO, convoluted government process, and geographic responsibilities outside our 13 municipalities. Virginia mentioned that some discussions were being held at "high" levels of government to resolve the issue. Roy suggested that DEMHS is waiting to hear that we have decided not to apply and Virginia said she would check with DEMHS before the COG meeting.

Virginia described how she and Jeff Cormier of our GIS staff had met with Dave Hardt and Chet Sergey to locate debris management sites for their municipalities. In Watertown's case, the town transfer state appears to be adequate for the site, and in Wolcott's case, several smaller sites may have to be put together to make a 10 acre site. Each town will meet with COG staff individually.

Under Citizen Corps CERT, Virginia noted that November 20th will be a Citizen Corps Conference with good speakers. Applications are taken on line. A motion was made by Fran Dambowski and seconded by Chet Sergey to co-sponsor the November conference. The motion passed, and Virginia will make that request at the Statewide Citizen Corps Committee meeting.

Ken Hanks presented a summary of the National Response Framework and the current NIMS Implementation Activity Schedule for the fire service. NIMS is discipline specific. He stated that there are small problems, and some lack of clarity. NIMCAST will allow compliance on line and go directly to the Deputy Commissioner. New NIMS material is coming out soon. He will keep the group informed.

Ken also reported that a Unified Response Manual tabletop exercise will take place in Naugatuck on September 28th. if enough are interested. Steve Savage agreed to participate.

Dave Hardt invited everyone to the dedication of the renovated Watertown firehouse on Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m.

Mason noted that the after action report from the June 13th exercise is being compiled by Bob Christ and Roy Piper.

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Mason