

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, and Fran Dambowski, Emergency Management Director, Naugatuck; Janet Morgan, Fire Chief, and Charles Rutledge, Assistant Emergency Management Director, Woodbury; Steven Savage, Northwest Connecticut Public Safety; Scott Pelletier, Fire Chief, Oxford; David Hardt, Emergency Management Director, Watertown; Shane Lockwood, Pomperaug Health District; and Chet Sergey, Wolcott LEPC

Staff: Virginia Mason, Assistant Director

Ken Hanks called the meeting to order at 5:11 P.M. The EPC reminded Virginia that this meeting was to have been held in Watertown at the new Fire House. She regretted that omission and will schedule the November 8th meeting there.

Mason reported on the September COGCNV meeting where the board had voted to endorse the concept of regional public informational support. The COGCNV envisions a group which will provide background assistance to all municipal departments in a longer than 24 hour emergency. Charlie noted that he will contact Jeremy Rodrigo of Beacon Falls to begin developing the team. The COGCNV will be voting on Charlie Rutledge as the CNV EM representative to the Region 5 Steering Committee and Frank Morgan and Sue Webster as NW EMS representatives tomorrow.

Mason distributed the Communication section of the REOP for update and discussion at the November meeting. Steve noted that the phone tree should reflect the change to one central notification response through Northwest Connecticut Public Safety.

She also distributed the proposed 2007 grant application and explained what had been worked out among the Region 5 RPO directors and DEMHS. The essential point is that the regional emergency planning concept will be enhanced under the FY 2007 grant with Resource typing and SWOT analyses taking place at that level first and then being coordinated at the Region 5 level by a consultant hired by all the RPOs together. COGCNV's level of funding was not increased, but the due dates of the Stages have been pushed back. COGCNV will be asked to vote to apply at the October meeting tomorrow. Dave Hardt suggested to not use the Waterbury Fire Chiefs' Association, but that SWOT analysis at the RPO level will be chaired by EPC members wherever possible. The EPC agreed. Scot Pelletier volunteered to chair the Fire ESF

group. Shane asked why Public Health is not in the application for a SWOT analysis. Virginia stated that there is sufficient money that more than 4 SWCOT analyses may be possible.

Members discussed the school grants due shortly. Charlie Rutledge shared his surprised when he discovered the Regional High School #14 did not have an emergency plan in place. They are now working with the Emergency Management officials. The use of the CCM computer system for the development of such plans was recommended. The issue of daycares needing emergency plans was also discussed. Some town do, some don't or are not registered. The Department of Public Health has the primary responsibility in this, according to Shane, not local health departments. The question of who has cages for animal sheltering was also discussed. So far, each town has been responsible for buying their own. Another issue of major importance to the towns, dealing with special needs, was also raised.

Under Citizen Corps/CERT, Chet Sergey discussed the need for assistance paying for background checks. On a motion by Chet Sergey, seconded by Dave Hardt, the committee voted to write a letter to Commissioner Thomas seeking a resolution of this issue such as support for the cost of the checks by the state police and motor vehicles. A copy should be sent to Chief Austin.

In other CERT Business, Fran discussed a meeting held at ST. Michael's Church in Naugatuck developing a shelter management CERT group. Woodbury is planning a new CERT training class after the holidays. Virginia mentioned that she had been contacted by a Chris Keeling to begin a new team in Southbury through his church. She noted that towns without CERT teams may request "one shot" presentations on what to have ready for an emergency through the state training officer.

Scott announced that Oxford had received a grant from CDAP for an ICR - radio interface which is better than STOCKS. They are working well.

Ken reported that several more municipalities are looking into Code Red for emergency notification - Morris, Oxford, Middlebury, and Wolcott. Charlie reported that the 911 data is still not available but it is hopeful for next year. He noted that they have found getting phone messages into apartment complexes is difficult in some instances. Some people are opting out and then changing their minds. There is a way to include those opting out in a major emergency anyway.

The meeting adjourned at 6:12 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Mason