

**Central Naugatuck Valley Emergency Planning Committee/Citizen Corps-
CERT
Watertown Fire House
February 19, 2009
5:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

Present: Chet Sergey, Wolcott; Larry Black and Dave Hardt, Watertown; Fran Dambowski and Ken Hanks, Naugatuck; Steve Savage, NW CT Public Safety; Mike Devine, Bethlehem; Jim O'Leary, NWPSTF; Kate Novick, Gradient Planning; and Ed Edelson, PRWC

Staff: Virginia Mason, Assistant Director

Chairman Ken Hanks called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

Virginia introduced Jim O'Leary, COST representative to the DEMHS Coordinating Council and a member of the NWPSTF to discuss the grant application which COG applied for to hire a resource coordinator as the NWPSTF has done. Jim was also on the committee which reviewed the grant application. There were about an equal number of DEMHS and RPO grant requests. No RPO grant requested were funded, only DEMHS ones. There was a lengthy discussion of our application and we were encouraged to include it in the 08 package to be approved by the REPT. Jim outlined what the NWPSTF wants the coordinator to do and the process they went through in selecting him. The offer of the position has been made to a Waterbury fireman. Jim hopes after he gets started, he can open communication with the CNVR.

Kate Novick and Ed Edelson presented an overview of the drought exercise they undertook in December and its recommendations. The major difference in this type of emergency is the length of time leading up to it. Corrective actions include a risk communications plan for the watershed region, a stakeholder "council", use of ICS, and the addition of a drought emergency plan to the municipal EOPs. Ed and Kate will be developing a "white paper" for the review and approval of area towns which defines the policies and initiatives to be implemented over the next two years.

Ken updated the group on the Regional Exercise planning which will be called Operation Gridlock. The Exercise is planned for April 17th prior to the CNVCOG meeting at the Middlebury Fire House.

Concerning the MOA for the FY 2007 grant, a motion by Dave Hardt, seconded by Chet Sergey was passed to approve the distribution of the two Salamander scanners to Watertown and Naugatuck, with any additional scanner to be distributed by population in the region.

From the Coordinating Council meeting today, Virginia reported that attendance was down due to school vacations. She made Commissioner Thomas aware that the Governor had not included OPM funding for the RPOs in her budget as DEMHS relies heavily on the RPO structure.

Citizen Corps has over 2,500 members statewide and is looking to incorporate the Coast Guard Auxiliary as well as the American Legion effort which will be kicking off soon. FEMA will be providing support for the STEP 4th grade program this year with 2 interns. There will also be a k-12 School Security Seminar on April 22 at SCSU. The Regional Collaboration Committee will be collaborating with the AMR on sheltering. Thirteen towns statewide will be recommended next week to the feds for upgrading their EOCs. Bills 760,761,762, and 787 are of interest to DEMHS and these include the one to get the phone numbers for emergencies periodically for free to the towns. A subcommittee for the private sector has been created. The National Infrastructure Protection Program has been released and you can get training on it at FEMA.gov. THE DEMHS/CCN/DPH conference is May 12th, register now as only 400 applicants can attend.

There were no new Citizen Corps applications. ON a motion by Chet Sergey, seconded by Fran Dambowski it was moved and passed to endorse the application for \$4,000 for CNVR CERT support for January to June 2009. The grant includes \$800 for a regional exercise this spring. Virginia noted that it was announced at the meeting that trailers to hold equipment for CERT teams are an eligible Category 2 request. There will be a Train the Trainer class March 24th for Campuses. The deadline is February 27th.

Mike Devine announced that Bethlehem had passed its pre-disaster mitigation plan Tuesday night, the first of the six to do so. Beacon Falls and Southbury plans are being reviewed by FEMA and Thomaston will be voting on theirs next month. Middlebury and Naugatuck public hearing have not yet been set.

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Mason
Assistant Director