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WARREN COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

November 20, 1990

Members Present

Thomas Jenkins, Deputy Director
Office of Natural Disaster & Civil Defense

Donald Sheeley, M.D., Director
Dept. of Emergency Medicine, Glens Falls Hospital

Marvin Lemery, Administrator
Fire Prevention & Building Code Enforcement

James Canavan, Coordinator
Emergency Medical Services

Ron Davies, President
Ames Goldsmith, Inc.

Karen Rae, Director
Greater Glens Falls Transit System

Joan Dillon
Secretary LEPC

Members Absent

Trooper Steve Craig
New York State Police

Sgt. Robert J. Hebert
New York State Police

William M. Roden
Environmental Columnist

Sheriff Fred Lamy

Chief Carl Carlton
Glens Falls Police Dept.

Chief Thomas Donohue
Glens Falls Fire Dept.

James G. Marshall, Publisher/Editor
The Post Star

Herbert E. Riedel
Senior Citizens Council

Philip J. Arthur
Environmental Control Manager
Finch Pruyn & Company, Inc.

Members Absent (continued)

Joan Grishkot, Director
Health Services

Hon. Robert D'Andrea
Assemblyman - 108th District

The meeting was opened by Tom Jenkins, Chairman, at 10:11 a.m.

Minutes of the last meeting were accepted. The chairman reported on activities since the last meeting, as follows:

A Tier II report was received from James River Corporation on releases of chloroform as a result of their process for bleaching waste paper pulp. This is the most complete report we have received to date from any facility.

The chairman receives Right-To-Know Planning Guides. The current guide has two articles in it regarding the physician's role in emergency planning. The gist being that the public believes what doctors tell rather than what government tells them, therefore, doctors should know where to get the correct information. Mr. Lemery brought up the role of first-responders in spill incidents and the fact that they seem to be accused of over-reacting. It was agreed that we would make certain that Dr. Sheeley and his staff have the toll-free numbers for CHEMTREC, etc.

Mr. Jenkins had a conversation with Queensbury's Water Superintendent Tom Flaherty during which he tried to dispel some of the misconceptions Mr. Flaherty had about the fire department's probable reaction to spills at his facility.

Most schools have completed the required emergency plans. Some have completed their Red Cross shelter agreements but most have not. We have received a list from BOCES with the names of the persons responsible for the plans and should be able to get the rest of them within the next month or so.

The chairman had a meeting with representatives of Niagara Mohawk, the DPW, the Sheriff's Dept., Social Services, etc. to update the winter power failure emergency plan. Procedures have been developed to assist NiMo crews to obtain use of County and State equipment, which includes giving the Sheriff's Communication Center the telephone and paging numbers of all parties thereby enabling them to contact all pertinent personnel as necessary.

RACES has requested a radiological monitoring course and we are working with Pat Beland, our Radiological Officer, to set this up as soon as possible.

We have assisted the Clough-Harbor engineers with the Feeder Dam flood plan.

We provided Hallmark Nursing Home with a copy of the tape made of their exercise, and we are pleased that they have made some alterations to their systems as a result of this exercise.

The Chairman and secretary attended the Disaster Preparedness Conference and it seems that the new focus is on earthquakes. They also covered some new haz-mat regulations, and reviewed some recent disasters.

Mr. Lemery brought up the subject of OSHA's 1910-220 which basically requires all municipalities to have a haz-mat plan in place. Mr. Jenkins furnished the Labor Department with a copy of our Title III plan which they are going to review and let us know if it is sufficient or where it needs work to satisfy their requirements. We have not heard from them as yet. After some discussion it was agreed that the Chairman of the Board, or comparable person, should be made aware of the existence of these plans and where they are available.

We toured the Stewart's Bridge construction site with the Upper Hudson River Task Force. The chairman gave a brief summary of what is being done.

Water Superintendent Flaherty would like to attend our next meeting to discuss chlorine and what to do if there is a leak, etc.

It was suggested by the Chairman that the Committee meet four times per year rather than bi-monthly as we have been. A vote was taken of the members present and was passed unanimously.

Mr. Davies mentioned that we still aren't known to the public. The chairman said that he wrote a Letter-to-the-Editor finding it to be the only way to get us any publicity.

The committee will meet next on Monday, April 8, 1991 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.