

**WARREN COUNTY
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

June 15, 2006

Present:

Pat Auer
Joe Bethel
Kevin Conine
John Farrell
Amy Drexel
Bruce Hersey
Marv Lemery
Cheryl Murphy
Barb Orton
Robert Phelps
Shane Ross
Sharon Schaldone
Gary Scidmore
Laura Stebbins
Rob York
Ginelle Jones

Meeting called to order at 10 AM.

Minutes of previous meeting accepted as read.

Old Business – None

New Business – John Farrell welcomed new members Chief Joe Bethel and Amy Drexel.

John Farrell reported the county has purchased six 10K generators as well as 200 cots. The rest, John said, was planning, planning and more planning.

Barb Orton reported the Warren County Pandemic Flu Plan was submitted to the state, and we are waiting for approval. Barb said it was a combined effort of 17 counties and the newly-formed Warren County Pandemic Influenza Committee. Barb reported she and Dan Durkee, Public Health Educator, will be going to ACC to do educational programs on Pandemic Flu and Preparedness, and she noted Ginelle Jones presented a similar program to dental hygienists. Barb talked about the Isolation/Quarantine Information Technology meeting and drill noting it was not the most successful as they were not able to connect to everyone involved; but, the drill would be redone, and more is learned each time. She advised that there will be a meeting concerning mass fatality which included the county coroners. Regarding this year's performance goals, Barb mentioned the state wanted the counties to develop an emergency plan to include sheltering issues for special needs populations.

Continuing with Agency Updates, Rob York informed us that mental health has a Coordinating Committee that meets quarterly to organize mental health response. He said they now had a team of volunteer clinicians (21) who completed training, and they were also developing a phone tree. Rob said he plans to send two to three volunteers to each POD on November 18th, and they would participate, as requested. Rob noted they were trying to coordinate with the Red Cross and Chaplain regarding special needs populations, etc. Rob said he was also asking people to take the ICS (Incident Command System) training.

Chief Joe Bethel reported they were participating in Active Shooters Response Training and Rifle Training. He said they would also participate in the POD exercise on November 18th.

Chaplain Bruce Hersey stated he worked at The Open Door on South Street and was the Warren/Washington County Coordinating Chaplain for emergency preparedness working together with about 11 other clergy members. He said he appreciated the working relationships with New York State, Glens Falls Police Department and the County. Bruce reported they were working on a phone tree and looking for faith fellowships to be supportive in emergency response efforts. He said he

was involved with training programs, and has worked with Rob York and Shane Ross.

Laura Stebbins reported Glens Falls Hospital's Emergency Response ICS has recently been changed and will now be the Hospital ICS so that it can be used in all circumstances and not just emergency situations. A new plan she said was coming out, and they are in the process of training more people in ICS 100 and 200, NIMS 700 and NPR 800. Laura stated the hospital POD will be November 9th over a 12 hour period using the seasonal flu vaccine, which would also provide an opportunity for training with Occupational Health staff. Laura reported the hospital was currently developing a plan for the newly-developed Pediatric Emergency Response Team focusing on advanced level pediatric care.

Continuing, Laura said the hospital is in the process of having several of their employees, who enjoy working with animals, work with CARTS and the SPCA by obtaining information on care for animals (pets) during an emergency situation. Laura noted that of the 21 volunteers on the mental health crisis response team, eight of them were from Glens Falls Hospital, and they were in the process of expanding that number. She reported the tabletop at 12:00 noon today, in the hospital Learning Center, was a drill involving an airport scenario with mass casualty. She invited everyone to attend.

Gary Scidmore reported funds had been procured for an MCI trailer and some renovations to it will be made to make it usable. He said they were also waiting for some burn supplies. Gary reported guidelines for response were also being written for the Hazmat Team. He noted they were almost ready to launch the EMS website to increase communication with EMS and the public.

Marv Lemery reported they would be delivering ICS 100 and NIMS 700 training starting in November at 7:00 p.m. (tentative dates are November 2nd at North Creek Firehouse and November 13th at West Glens Falls Firehouse) with ICS 200 being delivered at a later date. He said he would let everyone know the exact dates when they were available.

Cheryl Murphy reported the Red Cross was working together with local health departments regarding special need shelters for medically fragile people. She said they were working on a schedule for Red Cross training to which local health departments would be invited. Cheryl said they recently sent out new agreements to their current shelters trying to tighten up any loopholes.

Bob Phelps reported his emergency preparedness focus was on keeping the doors to services open, keeping systems benefits going by extending certification periods, having abbreviated applications and enabling staff to work from home.

Shane Ross reported they again received the LETPP (Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program) grant in the amount of about \$24,000. He said they were working closely with the Glens Falls Police Department to have their radio capability upgraded and to procure better security at the County Airport. He said he was waiting for the executed contracts.

Ginelle Jones reported this year's BT grant dollars included funds for a Universal Porta Count Fit Test System for N-95 masks. She said Public Health would then be able to help fit test their partners and she proceeded to explain the fit testing process.

Hal Payne said they have been working on a Transfer Agreement between facilities which was now in the hands of the County Attorney's Office.

Chaplain Bruce Hersey added he participated in a FEMA training for trauma victims which will be expanded to other clergy.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45AM

Next meeting on June 18, 2007