



WARREN COUNTY EPR/LEPC COMMITTEE

1340 State Route 9, Lake George, NY 12845: www.WarrenCountyNY.gov

Public Health Emergency Response and Preparedness Committee/LEPC MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 24, 2024 @ 9:00AM

1.) Introductions:

Meeting was called to order at 9:00am by Dan Durkee. He gave a brief overview of the agenda items.
Recording of minutes: Nancy Rosati

Attendees:

Armstrong	Jake	Hudson Headwaters
Combs	Joe	Northern GI
Connor	Daniel	DHSES, Homeland Security
Delorenzo	Tammie	Asst. to the County Administrator
Durkee	Dan	Warren County Public Health
Iwinski	Tom	National Grid
James	Donald	Red Cross - RACES
Leach	Richard, Dr.	Retired Physician
LeBarron	Sandy	Finch Paper
Lehman	Don	Warren County Administration
Mason	Ann Marie	Warren County OES
McKee	Peter	Red Cross
Mitchell	Jon	DHSES, Homeland Security
Modert	Izzy	Deputy Chief, Glens Falls Fire Dept
Samiof	Jon	DHSES, Homeland Security
Stack	Don	Warren County
Stebbins	Laura	Glens Falls Hospital
Vaisey	Wendall	SUNY Adirondack
Williams	Pat	Washington County

2.) Glens Falls Hospital – Hazard Vulnerability Assessment/Medical Surge Exercise Review

Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA)

The Glens Falls Hospital HVA identifies potential emergencies or other circumstances that may impact the hospital and the community. It includes the direct and indirect effects these emergencies may have on the organization's operations and the demand for our services. Glens Falls Hospital (GFH) HVA reviewed annually by the multidisciplinary Emergency Management Committee and revised as needed. The HVA is brought to this committee today for review and any recommendations. The GFH HVA analysis includes the current Warren and Washington County Emergency Preparedness Assessment (CEPA). The GFH off campus sites develop individual HVAs that generally have the same potential hazards with each site including vulnerabilities/assets specific to their location and population served. The Emergency Management Team reviewed the current HVA and revised as needed based on:

- Weather predictions
- Crime statistics –local and national
- Facility structure and events
- Public Health information
- Regulatory guidance from DNV, DOH, CMS, and CDC guidance

Revisions reviewed during meeting.

Top 5 Emergency Vulnerabilities as determined by Probability x Impact:

1. **Patient Surge**- medical, trauma, evacuation of other healthcare facilities (probability & impact)
2. **Mass Casualty incidents** –transportation/violence (probability & impact)
3. **Information System Failure**-intentional or accidental (impact)
4. **Blizzard/ice storms** (probability & impact)
5. **Pandemic** (impact)

These vulnerabilities consistent with county CEPA and regional HVAs.

Education

2024 education & training determined by hospital, county & regional risks.

Tabletops 12-1pm GFH Community Learning Center

3/20/24 "Eclipse" incident
4/17/24 Fire -facility evacuation
5/15/24 Belmont Stakes event
6/19/24 Cyberterrorism in healthcare facility
7/17/24 Incident at Children's Camp/pediatric surge
8/21/24 Boating accident on Lake George/MCI
9/18/24 Explosion at fertilizer plant in Washington County
10/16/24 Illness outbreak at school
11/21/24 Severe winter ice storm
12/18/24 Roof collapse at a nursing home

- Continual promotion of Stop the Bleed training
- June 26 8am-4pm HazMat class
- Facility Response Team workshops
 - Dry Decontamination 3/1
 - NYSDOH Hazard Specific Annex 3/1

- Pediatric decontamination 5/3
- Forensic canines & support animals 6/7
- Chempack update TBD
- White powder exposure (anthrax and illicit drugs) TBD
- Rescue Task Force training -June? Train the Trainer – September Team training

NYSDOH Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Coalition (HEPC)

- Pediatric Emergency Preparedness Work Group reviewing and revising the NYSDOH Pediatric & Obstetrical Toolkit.
- Annual Pediatric Emergency Preparedness Seminar scheduled **September 18th** at the Albany School of Public Health.
- Recommendation for consistent color code/plain language designations in review.

Exercise

NYSDOH Medical Response Surge Exercise (MRSE) 4/23/24.

Scenario a surge of patients with exposure symptoms present to hospitals across the state. They all attended mass gatherings during the eclipse yesterday. 29 regional hospitals determined the number and type of patients they could receive. GFH activated Code HICS and established the Hospital Command Center. HICS team determined location of 40 admissions. Patient Access reviewed eFINDS (NYS electronic patient tracking system), in the event an Adirondack Hospital was being evacuated. Interoperable communication included HCS HERDS system, phone contacts, 2-way radios, Everbridge mass notification system, HEOCC contacts and amateur radio connectivity between GFH command center and Warren County OES. Case Management contacted area Nursing Homes for possible decompression locations. Pharmacy reviewed Chempack contents and Cipro & Doxycycline availability. Facility Response Team staged decontamination tent & inventoried resources. GFFD representative observed and provided recommendations.

Some Lessons learned - Hazmat equipment, ED being restructured (hazmat storage area); contact numbers updates; could accommodate 651 medical patients

Dan indicated Warren County would act as a call center in the event of a medical surge. More questions about where the message would come from and who to include – more questions need to be answered which is the goal of these tests to determine gaps in the planning.

3.) Warren County OES – Updates

Exercise/Training

2/17 – First Responder Safety-Aircraft incidents – at Warren County Airport; toured the aircrafts

2/21- NYS DHSES – hosted winter TTX through all regions in NY, as a result of the storms that hit Buffalo.

3/21 - TTX at Finch – Jamie Schrammel, County Hazmat Coordinator, facilitated. It was well attended by key Finch staff. OES & GFFD attended as well.

4/23-4/24 OES hosting DHSES HSEEP – training, the class is full

Upcoming Event:

10/19/2024, Saturday 11am – 12pm – OES is hosting Citizens Preparedness training

Spring 2024 Weather Spotter Training Sessions:

To Register for the “in person” Training, visit the below website and click on the [Register here!](#) Link.

<https://www.weather.gov/aly/skywarn#fragment-2b>

Date	Time	Location	Link
May 1, 2024	7pm-9pm	Slingerlands Firehouse - 1520 New Scotland Road, Slingerlands, NY 12159	https://www.weather.gov/aly/skywarn#fragment-2b
May 6, 2024	7pm-9pm	Virtual - GoToWebinar	Register here!
May 9, 2024	6pm-8pm	Town of German Flatts Building - 555 State Route 5s, Mohawk, NY 13407	https://www.weather.gov/aly/skywarn#fragment-2b
May 14, 2024	1pm-3pm	Virtual - GoToWebinar	Register here!
May 20, 2024	7pm-9pm	Virtual - GoToWebinar	Register here!
May 31, 2024	6pm-8pm	SUNY New Paltz (Lecture Center Room 102) - Sojourner Way, New Paltz, NY 12561	https://www.weather.gov/aly/skywarn#fragment-2b

Plans

CEMP will be going soon to the committee for review.
Still waiting on some department responses for the COOP.

Real Events

Early Spring snow storms – 3 early spring storms, power outages
Solar Eclipse – 4/8/2024, next (one visible in our area 20 years). Lots of traffic and some accidents to report
Earthquake – centered in NJ, 4.8 on 4/5/2024; no damage or issues to report

Highway Safety Days – Municipal DPW departments attend this 2-day event hosted by our Self-Insurance Dept – 2 days of community outreach for OES, **May 21-22**

4.) Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Ann Marie Mason – Tier 2 Reports

New:

- Windstream (Paetec) – phone service provider
- Heidelberg Materials purchased Lehigh Cement, this facility location has closed, reporting will continue until the materials are no longer on site.

Extremely Hazardous Materials – none are below the reporting threshold

Base Polymer, Cas #
Chlorine, Cas #7782505
Formaldehyde, 37.5% cas#5000
Hydrazine, Aqueous Solution Cas #302012
Hydrogen Peroxide, Cas # 7722841

Hydroquinone, Cas #123319
Nitric Acid, 67% Cas #7697372
Sulfuric Acid 7664939
Ammonia (Anhydrous) 7664-41-7
Lead Acid Batteries 7664-93-9
Aqueous Ammonia 7664417

Previously reported:

Ethylene Glycol Scrubber Solution 107211 — Relocated to Washington Cty

Ethylene Oxide 75218 — Relocated to Washington Cty

No longer required to report

Hadley-Luzerne CSD Bus Garage - #2 Diesel Fuel 68476302Oil
Hadley-Luzerne High School/Elementary Sch - Fuel #2 68476302

New – 7 new chemicals have been reported in 2023.

- Ammonium Formate, D-(-)-Isoascorbic acid, Silver Oxide, Sodium Persulfate, Lead, Base Polymer, #2 Fuel Oil Solution
- 23 Companies filed Tier 2 Reports in Warren County, spanning 37 locations.

5.) Public Health EPR Update – Dan Durkee

- 2 primary sites – multiple sites secondary – community centers – looking for places that have large areas to meet; 12 sites keep up to date
- Monitoring the measles outbreak in this area – 0 in this area – will be monitoring as the tourist season ramps up. Vaccination is 83%
- Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza – nothing here but the state is monitoring this – someone from public health will be sitting in on this – more of a concern than an issue - **10-12:30 April 25**
- Dr. Leach gave a general overview of the Avian Influenza, not at all like at a COVID level.

6.) Committee Member Updates:

Laura Stebbins, Glens Falls Hospital

In addition to above updates from Laura:

- Training – full day Hazmat training, every month – workplace
- Rescue Task Force – medical based team in GF – train the trainer in the fall. Volunteer task force that would go in with the law enforcement knowing that there is a risk involved in doing so.
- NYS Dept of Health Tool Kit – working on reviewing the sections – provide any changes or updates to the state
- Color Codes – reviewing the color codes for announcing warnings - utilize the same codes across all hospitals and/or use plain language

Jake Armstrong, Hudson Head Waters Health Network

- Safety assessment for our center
- Color code system to plain language
- Lock down procedure for our centers

John Mitchel, DHSES, Homeland Security

Jon Samiof, DHSES, Homeland Security

Daniel Connor, DHSES, Homeland Security

- CEPA to transition to their office – schedule warren county by the end of the year
- Belmont stakes – involved in this planning – along with a concern that Americade is the same time?

Tom Iwinski, National Grid

- Thanked Ann Marie for all the support she provides to National Grid along with DPW
- Upstate upgrade – Energy transition transmission systems – removal generation where it needs to be Natural Gas, transitioning to solar and wind – new substations, bigger lines, economic development – load continues to grow along with the people needing
- Life Support list – asked county to help with this support due to the large resources needed.

For more information on who qualifies for Life Support and forms to apply for this service, use this website link, [Special Protections | National Grid \(nationalgridus.com\)](https://www.nationalgridus.com)

Sandy Lebaron, Finch Paper

- Thanked OES, Jamie Schrammel – training on emergency response
Went over very well, made some adjustments based on the training
- June outage – working with the Fire Chief – clean out tanks, etc.

Wendell Vaisey, SUNY Adirondack

Cybersecurity tabletops – 2 – Great Castle agency –

Moving from Regroup to Rave – WC Sheriffs Dept will be transferred over to Rave – asked to send your email and phone numbers to be added

Tammy DeLorenzo, Asst. to the County Administrator

County wide comprehensive plan –

- housing for seasonal staff
- overall labor pool shortage
- Aging population

Feasibility Study - regional forensic Center – coroners back log

Pat Williams, Washington County

Pat started 6 months prior to when Covid hit – she is still in learning mode

Peter McKee, Red Cross

Single and multi-family or shelters needed - working with Ann Marie

Dan Durkee asked if there are any other agenda items than the ones he lists, please either bring it with you to the next meeting or send Dan the topic to add to the agenda.

Next 2024 Tentative Meeting Dates

July 31st, October 30th

Closed the meeting at 10:25 am

Minutes submitted by:

Nancy Rosati

Warren County OES

April 25, 2024