

MONTGOMERY/GREENE COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**FRIDAY, JULY 31, 1998**  
**MIAMI VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**GREENE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL - HERMAN MENAPACE AUDITORIUM**  
**XENIA, OHIO 45385**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Robert Bauer - Southwestern Portland Cement  
Jason Bergquist - Haarman & Reimer Corp.  
Patricia Bernitt - Greater Dayton Area Hospital Assn.  
Cynette Cavalier - General Motors Corporation  
(Alt. for Ed Wroblewski)  
Tammi Clements - Dayton Water Department  
(Alt. for Donna Gorby)  
James W. Gross - Reg. Air Pollution Control Agency  
Kathryn Hagler - Greene County Commissioners  
(Alt. for T. Shawn Campbell)  
Ernie Hudson - Amateur Radio Emergency Services  
(Alt. for Ron Moorefield)  
Ed Kovar - Miami Valley Emergency Mgmt. Authority  
Pete Lane - Mont. Co. Agricultural Extension  
Ken LeBlanc - Miami Valley Regional Planning Comm.  
(Alt. for Nora Lake)  
Jerry Mahan - Greene Co. Agricultural Extension  
Gavine Pitner - League of Women Voters  
(Alt. for Carol Winslow)  
David Price - Greene County Fire Chief's Association  
Tim Reichard - Ashland Chemical  
Billy Ring - Dayton Regional Haz/Mat  
Thomas Scrivens - Greene County Health Department  
(Alt. for Jane O'Dell)  
Aaron Smith - Quality Chemicals  
John Schlomer - Montgomery Co. Commissioners  
(Alt. for Vicki Pegg)

Andrew Steele - Dayton Fire Department  
(Alt. for Barry Holbrook)  
Jay Weiskircher - Dayton Area Managers Network  
(Alt. for Bruce Sucher)  
Doug Zink - Montgomery County Township Assn.

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Gerald Alcorn - Mont. Co. Fire Chiefs  
Jeanna Bailley - American Red Cross - Greene Co.  
Tim Ballard - Mont. Co. Sanitary Engineering  
Gary Caprarotta - MV Emergency Mgmt. Authority  
Tim Denger - Greene Co. Public Works  
Jeffrey DeVoe - Greene Co. Law Enforcement Assn.  
Michael Dickey - Montgomery Co. Police Chiefs Assn.  
Chris Foster - Cargill, Inc.  
Kerry Onyett - American Red Cross - Dayton Area  
Ned Pennock - Miami Conservancy District  
J. Michael Phillips - Mont. Co. Comb. Health District  
Otis Stanaford - MV Regional Transit Authority  
Nancy Wilson - WHIO/WHKO Radio

**NONMEMBERS PRESENT**

Jim Augustine - Miami Valley Hospital  
Kevin Chesar - MVRPC  
Scott Glum - MVRPC  
Lt. Keith Handwerker - Xenia Fire Division  
Kimberly Mason - Greene Co. Public Works  
Jerry L. Rapp - A. E. Staley  
Chris Tumbusch - WPAFB

I. **Call to Order:** Mr. Price called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. He noted a quorum was present.

II. **Introductions:** Mr. Price asked everyone in attendance to introduce themselves.

MONTGOMERY/GREENE COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COUNCIL

*MGCLERC Meeting Minutes - 07/31/98 - Page 2*

III . **Approval of April 24, 1998 Meeting Minutes:** Mr. LeBlanc noted Chris Tumbusch was present at the meeting and the minutes need to be changed to reflect that. Mr. Gross moved, seconded by Ms. Hagler, that the minutes of the April 24, 1998 quarterly meeting be approved with the noted change. The motion was unanimously approved 22-0-0.

IV. **Public Information Policy:** Mr. LeBlanc noted a written public information policy has been generated and is before the MGCLERC at the meeting. He provided a summary by section. The county prosecutor representatives have reviewed it, as well as the Executive Committee. Mr. Scrivens moved, seconded by Mr. Schlomer, that the Public Information Policy document be adopted as presented. The motion was unanimously approved 22-0-0.

V. **Compliance/Enforcement Committee:** Mr. Kovar said a total of 24 facilities filed late in 1998 and were fined accordingly. Also, a list of new filers was sent to the State Emergency Response Commission this year. Letters are being prepared to send to approximately 70 facilities that have previously filed, but did not file this year. Six facilities have been found that have never filed, but the Compliance Committee believes should be reporting. The committee will also be reviewing releases reported over the last nine months. A total of six information requests have been processed so far this year.

VI. **Exercise Report:** Mr. Kovar reported on the annual exercise held May 28 in conjunction with the Dayton International Airport. He said the SERC reviewed and concurred with the full-scale exercise. The scenario involved a crash landing of a plane with hydraulic failure, and involved 18,000 pounds of jet fuel and miscellaneous hazardous materials. The airport tower was also involved. He noted the only negative aspect was the month delay in the critique.

VII. **Railroad Haz/Mat Survey:** Mr. LeBlanc reported the last of the three observation dates for the railroad survey was July 24. All three surveys were conducted over 24-hour periods in downtown Dayton where both the CSXT and CONRAIL lines use the same viaduct. The most frequently observed placard was A1075" representing LPG gas or propane. According to preliminary figures, sulfuric acid, fuel oil, chlorine, non-specific environmentally hazardous substances, molten sulfur, elevated temperature materials, butadienes, hydrochloric acid, carbon dioxide/ethylene oxide mixture, and caustic soda were some of the more frequently observed placards. Although about half of the trains carried placarded cars, many of the haz/mat loads passed the site during the night. Most placards were on tank cars, with a few on multi-modal containers and covered hoppers. A written report will be produced similar to the truck survey. Mr. Mahan asked what the criteria was for placarding. Mr. Ring said cars carrying 10% capacity or more of haz/mat must have a placard. He noted 10% of a rail tank car is still a large amount of hazardous material.

MONTGOMERY/GREENE COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COUNCIL

*MGCLERC Meeting Minutes - 07/31/98 - Page 3*

VIII. **New Business:** Mr. LeBlanc noted the USEPA has proposed changing the Code of Federal Regulations to exempt inventory reporting under SARA Title III for retail gasoline stations having less than 75,000 gallons of gasoline on-site, including all grades combined. He noted all retail gasoline stations currently reporting to MGCLERC would be exempted by the proposed rule change. Although funding for Ohio's SARA Title III program would be cut by 40% as a result of the proposed change, USEPA has stated they will not consider monetary impacts on individual states. The reasons given by USEPA for the proposed change are that the public is aware that gasoline is stored at retail stations, the public is aware of the hazards of gasoline, and the stations already report under the BUSTR program.

Mr. Kovar said the funding issue will be crucial to MGCLERC if Ohio does not find a way to replace lost funding. The County Commissioners are ultimately responsible for MGCLERC's duties at the local level and would be impacted if MVEMA or MVRPC could not operate the program with severely reduced funding. Mr. Ring said the SARA Title III program provides an emergency contact which the BUSTR program does not. Mr. Augustine said gasoline in the eyes is one of the most common emergency room situations dealing with haz/mat contamination. It was noted other hazardous materials such as propane cylinders are often present at retail gas stations. Mr. LeBlanc questioned USEPA's claim that people know the hazards of gasoline when people are seen smoking while filling up their cars. He said USEPA will receive comments on the proposed rule change up to September 8.

IX. **Special Presentation - Hospital Chemical Emergencies:** Mr. Ring introduced Keith Handwerker of the Xenia Fire Division and Dr. Jim Augustine with Miami Valley Hospital. Mr. Handwerker discussed the results of a survey he conducted of sixteen hospitals. Some of the hospitals were outside of Montgomery and Greene Counties. There are three levels of hospitals regarding treatment and care of haz/mat patients, indicating the number of patients and type of treatment facilities. Miami Valley Hospital is designated Level 1 because of its location near the center of the region and close proximity to manufacturing areas. Level 2 hospitals, are Good Samaritan, Franciscan, and Sycamore. Others are Level 3, which can provide care for only a limited number of patients. Managing contamination, staff use of Level B personal protective equipment, staff training, and resources all must be considered in preparing a hospital to accommodate haz/mat patients. His survey indicated most hospitals have trained only their core people and assume gross decontamination will be accomplished outside the hospital. All have standard written operating guidelines. Some of the respondents to his survey indicated they were not aware of a diversion plan. Ms. Bernitt said there is a regional diversion plan and re-route policy for area hospitals. Mr. Handwerker then showed a training videotape from Miami Valley Hospital regarding haz/mat patients.

Dr. Augustine began his presentation by saying the Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association has been significantly involved since 1990 in preparing area hospitals for haz/mat incidents including train-the-trainer sessions in 1992-1993. Some are still poorly set up to receive haz/mat patients and desire not to receive those grossly contaminated. He said the most frequent hospital emergency room situations involving haz/mat are pepper spray or mace, gasoline in the eyes, and industrial chemicals.

MONTGOMERY/GREENE COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COUNCIL

*MGCLERC Meeting Minutes - 07/31/98 - Page 4*

He said there is good communication locally with fire departments and industry. Industry communication becomes vital when unknown chemicals are encountered by hospital personnel. Also exposures to unknown substances are common, especially in schools and retail stores where it is not immediately known that pepper spray or mace has been discharged. Mr. Hudson noted those incidents usually result from kids having Afun®, an accident, or a disgruntled employee.

Mr. Ring thanked the speakers. He said it is important to identify the product, notify the hospital the patient is coming, and know where 24-hour laboratories are available. Mr. Bergquist suggested local industry be provided an up-to-date list of hospital contact phone numbers. Ms. Bernitt said she has such a list and will get it to Mr. LeBlanc for distribution. Mr. Augustine said the ARed Phone® should be called first. Mr. Ring said it is important to practice redundancy when dealing with hazardous materials incidents. Mr. Steele said it is important for industry to know fire medics sometimes get rerouted on the way to a hospital. Communication among the industry, fire department, and hospital is crucial.

IX. **Adjourn:** Mr. Schlomer moved, seconded by Mr. Bergquist, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:55 a.m. Motion unanimously passed 22-0-0.