

MONTGOMERY/GREENE COUNTY
LOCAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1999
MIAMI VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM – 40 WEST FOURTH CENTRE
DAYTON, OHIO 45402

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tim Ballard - Mont. Co. Sanitary Engineering
Robert Bauer - Southwestern Portland Cement
Patricia Bernitt - Greater Dayton Area Hospital Assn.
Gary Caprarotta - MV Emergency Mgmt. Authority
Cynette Cavaliere – General Motors/DELPHI
Lt. Col. Keith Chandler – WPAFB Bioenvironmental
Frank Clay – Sinclair Community College
(Alt. For Jennifer Wise)
Jeffrey Cooper - Reg. Air Pollution Control Agency
(Alt. for James Gross)
Jeffrey DeVoe - Greene Co. Law Enforcement Assn.
Angie Duvall – Cargill, Inc.
Kathryn Hagler – Greene County Commissioners
(Alt. for T. Shawn Campbell)
Ed Kovar - Miami Valley Emergency Mgmt. Authority
Ken LeBlanc - Miami Valley Regional Planning Comm.
(Alt. for Nora Lake)
Andrea Lapp – OSU Extension - Greene County
Ron Moorefield - Amateur Radio Emergency Services
Jim Neary - Mont. Co. Fire Chiefs
J. Michael Phillips - Mont. Co. Comb. Health District
Gavine Pitner - League of Women Voters
David Price - Greene County Fire Chief's Association
Jerry L. Rapp - A. E. Staley
Tim Reichard - Ashland Chemical
John Schlomer - Montgomery Co. Commissioners
(Alt. for Vicki Pegg)
Aaron Smith - Quality Chemicals
Otis Stanaford - MV Regional Transit Authority
Andrew Steele - Dayton Fire Department
(Alt. for Paul Alexander)
Bruce Sucher - Dayton Area Managers Network
Nancy Wilson - WHIO/WHKO Radio
Donna Winchester – Dayton Water Department
Doug Zink - Montgomery County Township Assn.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Tim Denger - Greene Co. Public Works
Gary Haines - Montgomery Co. Police Chiefs Assn.
Pete Lane - OSU Extension – Montgomery County
Kerry Onyett - American Red Cross - Dayton Area
Billy Ring - Dayton Regional Haz/Mat
Tim Ryerson – American Red Cross Greene County
Gerry Tipton – Greene County Health Department
Chris Tumbusch - WPAFB

ALTERNATES PRESENT (MEMBER PRESENT)

Vincent Festa – General Motors/DELPHI
Ernie Hudson - Amateur Radio Emergency Services

NONMEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Bloomfield – MVRPC
Jeffery Bradley – Greene County Health District
Jeff Busch – Montgomery Co. Sheriff's Dept.
Scott Glum - MVRPC
Lou Greico – Dayton Daily NEWS
Horton Hobbs IV, MVRPC
Jennifer Reidel - WPAFB

I. **Call to Order:** Mr. Kovar called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. He noted a quorum was present.

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

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III. Approval of July 30, 1999 Meeting Minutes: Mr. Smith noted his alternate, Mike Morris, was incorrectly shown as Mike Moore on the sign-in sheet. Mr. Price moved, seconded by Mr. DeVoe, that the minutes of the July 30, 1999 quarterly meeting be approved per the noted name change. The motion was unanimously approved (29-0-0).

IV. Disbursement of SERC Grant: Mr. LeBlanc noted the MGCLERC has received \$49,979 from the State Emergency Response Commission. The \$47,671 LEPC portion of the grant is recommended to be disbursed in a 65%-35% ratio to MVRPC and MVEMA for support services, per MGCLERC's agreement with the two agencies. The MVRPC portion is \$30,986 and the MVEMA portion is \$16,685. The remaining \$2,308 will be reserved for fire department training. Ms. Cavalier moved to approve Resolution #1999-05 involving the disbursement of the SERC grant as explained, seconded by Ms. Bernitt. The motion was unanimously approved (26-0-3) with Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. Kovar, and Mr. Caprarotta abstaining.

V. Submission of MGCLERC Plan Update: Mr. LeBlanc noted the State Emergency Response Commission requires a resolution from each LEPC to submit its Chemical Emergency Preparedness Plan annual update. Mr. Caprarotta explained the changes to the plan involved in the update, principally involving updates of contacts and phone numbers. Updates were also made to hazards analyses. Ms. Bernitt moved to Resolution #1999-06 accepting the plan updates for submission to the State Emergency Response Commission, seconded by Mr. Price. The motion was unanimously approved (29-0-0).

VI. Information Coordinator Report: Mr. LeBlanc noted the MGCLERC membership was revised at the August 11 SERC meeting. A new list of members and alternates, along with an LEPC calendar, was mailed out with the agenda and minutes. MGCLERC support activity by MVRPC and MVEMA for 1999 has included: plan update, two exercises, a pipeline hazard analysis, EHS facility hazard analyses update, two RMP facility meetings, RMP monitoring, LEPC conference, SERC monitoring, 62 public information requests, 20 enforcement actions, 42 first-time filers, submission of compliance and fiscal reports, SERC and HMEP grant applications, appointment of membership, and coordinating four quarterly meetings.

Mr. LeBlanc also reported on the service station issue. The state-level negotiating committee has agreed to reduce paperwork submissions by service stations by having them file one report with BUSTR. BUSTR is currently under contract to revise its reporting form and database. As it stands now, SERC and the LEPCs will receive service station reporting information from BUSTR. Service stations will still report to SERC and LEPCs, as well as pay the fee, for the March 2000 deadline, and it looks like 2001 will be the year the system will change. SERC is still looking for ways to make up the expected 30% loss in revenue, including the Ohio general revenue fund. Some local governments have already forwarded letters to their state legislators supporting continued funding.

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Mr. LeBlanc noted the Chemical Safety Information, Site Security, and Fuels Regulatory Act was signed by President Clinton on August 5. It excludes flammable substances used as fuel, such as propane, from the requirements of the Risk Management Plan program. It also restricts public access to the off-site consequence analysis (OCA) of the RMP plans for one year. During this one-year period, USEPA is to promulgate rules on disseminating and distributing the information. "Covered Persons" such as LEPC members and first responders will have access if necessary. Also, facilities may release as much of the OCA information as they want. Whatever is released, however, will not be restricted. There is a significant penalty for unauthorized release of the restricted information.

RMP facilities must have a public meeting by February 1, 2000, with notice of the meeting legally advertised. Small businesses may just post a notice in lieu of the meeting. Facilities must notify the FBI by August 5, 2000 that a public meeting was held. USEPA and Ohio EPA are both encouraging facilities to work with their LEPCs regarding the meetings. Ms. Duvall asked if the presentations by Cargill, A.E. Staley, and the City of Dayton at the July 30, 1999 MGCLERC quarterly meeting would fulfill the public meeting requirement. Mr. LeBlanc said they were held prior to August 5, but he would check with Ohio EPA and USEPA. The MGCLERC would work with local RMP facilities if they wanted to have a joint public meeting.

VII. Pipeline Study: Mr. Caprarotta and Mr. Hobbs gave a presentation on the pipeline study completed under the HMEP planning grant. Mr. Hobbs played a pipeline safety video produced by Columbia Gas. He then explained a number of maps illustrating the major facilities of the nine pipeline companies within the two-county emergency planning district. Mr. Caprarotta explained the hazards analysis portion of the study is similar to the truck and rail transportation studies completed earlier. A 1/2-mile radius was drawn at 1/2-mile intervals along each pipeline route, representing vulnerability zones based upon the USDOT 1996 North American Emergency Response Guidebook. A study of the populations, facilities, and environmental features impacted with each vulnerability zone was made. Emergency responders can use the information related to the zone most closely representing the location of the incident. The study can also be plugged into computerized emergency response information systems.

VIII. Compliance/Enforcement Committee: Mr. Caprarotta reported that 25 facilities failed to file by the March 1 deadline. There were two repeat offenders and one facility was cited for the third time. Approximately \$1,400 in fines was issued.

IX. Other Business: Ms. Bernitt gave an update on the Poison Control Center issue. Funding for services to the Greater Dayton area are in danger of being lost again. This has been triggered by the balanced budget act and limits to hospital funding. Over the last four years, approximately 10,000 calls per year have been made to the Center from Montgomery and Greene Counties. About 3/4 of all calls are for chemical exposures. This area is the only one in Ohio where hospitals fund the Poison Control Center. Industry has provided funds in other areas, such as Proctor and Gamble in Cincinnati. If the service is stopped, a recording will tell the caller to dial 9-1-1. Approximately \$200,000 per year is needed to maintain this service. December 31, 1999 is the deadline.

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Mr. Kovar stated there has been little public relations work on this issue. Col. Chandler asked what is the profile of the callers. Ms. Bernitt said it is similar to 9-1-1- calls – it is the general public. Mr. LeBlanc suggested looking at how many calls were transportation-related and investigating if there was any transportation-related funding that could be obtained. Mr. Steele suggested looking at local retailer trade associations. Mr. Price suggested looking at the tobacco money received by Ohio.

Mr. Kovar noted the MGCLERC will not be meeting until late January, well after any affects of Y2K are felt. There will be two main Emergency Operations Centers open, one in each county. No huge widespread problems affecting the general population are expected. Public service announcements have been developed to show the general public the dos and don'ts of reacting to Y2K. The main problem is expected to be overuse of the telephone system just after midnight.

X. **Guest Speaker:** Mr. Kovar introduced Lou Greico, Crime and Safety reporter for the Dayton Daily News. Mr. Greico opened by explaining what news is. He said it includes important events and what people need to know about their community. The reporter's role is to inform the public in a proper context. His personal standards are to not misrepresent something and not to lie. Mr. Festa asked how the internet affects a newspaper reporter's job. Mr. Greico said he visits it all the time and finds groups relevant to his reporting subjects. He said the bulk of newspaper revenue is advertising. Mr. Hudson asked if he works at the Franklin plant. Mr. Greico said no. The writers, advertising, and administrative staff still work in downtown Dayton. The newspaper is establishing bureaus in adjacent counties. Mr. Kovar asked if the pipeline study and poison control presentations would qualify as news for the paper. Mr. Greico said his focus has been on "cops and crime" and said the focus is on getting news they can use. Ms. Cavaliere asked how the newspaper balances all the bad newws. Col. Chandler said many readers must be desparate for the other side of the news than trauma. Mr. Greico said "hero" stories are used, but there is an unwritten code among responders not to brag about themselves. Mr. Festa asked how often stories submitted to the editor are changed. Mr. Greico said the newspaper uses a "reverse pyramid" filtering process, trimming stories to the most important elements. The group thanked Mr. Greico for speaking.

XI. **Adjourn:** Ms. Cavaliere moved, seconded by Mr. DeVoe, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:15 a.m. Motion unanimously passed 29-0-0.