

**CITY OF PROVIDENCE**  
**LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE #5**

c/o Providence Emergency Management Agency  
& Office of Homeland Security  
591 Charles Street  
Providence, RI 02904  
(401) 228-8000

**Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2006**

**ATTENDEES:**

Chris Roberts – Roger Williams Med. Center	Terry McCormack – Umicore
Mike Russo – Save The Bay	Patrick Humphrey – Brown U.
Alan Cantara – RISD	Diamantino Fonseca – Colibri Group
David Jean – Verizon	Bill Ostiguy – Ferguson Perforating
Mike Turbitt – Univar USA	Steve Knowles – Women & Infants Hospital
Chris O’Connell – Dominion Energy	Susan Mayo – JWU
Brendan Duffy – Keyspan LNG	Tony LaRusso – Keyspan LNG
Dave Walker – Herff Jones, Inc.	Jim Celenza – RICOSH
John Bissonette – NBC	Dave Aucoin – NBC

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•Meeting was called to order at 10:15 am.

•Chief Dillon asked for a motion to suspend the reading of the minutes from the last meeting, the motion was made, seconded, and accepted.

**Correspondence/Handouts:**

•The Narragansett Bay Commission apologized for being late to the meeting. Dave offered copies of the previous meeting minutes for all attendees, along with “pocket reference cards” for First Responders’ and Incident Commanders’ Initial Tasks during an emergency. These pocket guides were obtained via email from Jim Gaffney – EPA.

•Chief Dillon stated that March 1<sup>st</sup> was the deadline for submission of Tier II Reports. 84 Reports have been received, and the PFD is waiting on 15 additional Reports from other EHS facilities. PFD and DEM are working together to find more facilities that need to file Tier II Reports.

**Membership Committee Reports:**

***City of Providence:***

Communications: No Report.

Emergency Management: No Report

Fire Department: 48 Providence firefighters have now been trained to the Hazmat technician level, and two Fire Chiefs will attend the next Fire Academy HazMat Incident Commander course.

- This past January, 13 firefighters attended a sampling class for “white powder incidents,” have been certified, and another class will be offered on 3/30/06.

- There were two recent Hazmat incident entries, both of which ran smoothly.

  - \*Mutual Aid exercise in East Providence at Fugi Films, and

  - \*A Court House exercise last week where a sample of white powder was collected and brought to DOH per PFD’s SOP.

  - \*A live exercise involving white powder will be held this summer.

- There will be a full scale WMD exercise on April 18<sup>th</sup> at “The Dunk” in cooperation with the National Guard Hazmat Team.

- Ammonia Training (May) is being offered through LEPC 4 representatives, and 20 spots have been made available for the PFD and other interested parties.

- If anybody is interested in attending a Level A Hazmat entry technician training class, please let Chief Dillon know.

- Chief Dillon requested assistance in developing an LEPC #5 webpage. Henry Huppert and Patrick Humphrey (Brown), and Dave Aucoin (NBC) will be working with the Chief on this.

Inspections & Standards: No Report.

Mayor’s Press Office: No Report.

Planning & Development: No Report.

Police Department: No Report

Public Property: No Report

Public Works: No Report

Solicitor’s Office: No Report

Tax Assessor: No Report

***State of Rhode Island:***

DEM: No Report

Department of Labor: No Report

RIEMA: No Report

SERC: No Report

EPA: No Report

MSO – Coast Guard Sector SE New England: No Report

Hospitals:

- RW Medical Center** (*Chris Roberts*) has begun upgrading its automatic sprinkler system, covering the basement, ground, and floor levels. This should be completed by 2008.

  - \*In preparation for “Fire Evacuation Week” training, the State has purchased “blow-up” tents that can be inflated within 30 seconds during an evacuation. The Hospital is also using grant funds to apply for adequate flooring for these tents.

•**Women & Infants Hospital** (*Steve Knowles*) will implement O.R. emergency evacuation training soon.

\*Statewide emergency disaster codes for hospitals have been established.

\*A Statewide Hospital DOH/RIEMA Asian Flu Pandemic exercise will take place in July. The primary point of contact for all Hospital exercise scheduling is Nathan Rogers (RIEMA).

•Chief Dillon announced there will be a “Mass Casualty Bomb Exercise” on 10/1/06 in Kennedy Plaza, and invited all hospitals to attend. 20-40 students from each Providence college/university are encouraged to volunteer for the exercise, but community service hours **will not** be given. To this end, Johnson & Wales University is currently trying to work with its Science Department to figure out a way for volunteer students to get credit hours.

•At the previous Hazmat Workgroup meeting for hospitals, it was determined that the number one goal during an incident would be to avoid contaminating the hospital. Chief Dillon stated that the PFD would setup an immediate de-con unit because it could take a while for the setup of a hospital de-con unit under such circumstances.

Red Cross/VNA: No Report.

RIPTA: Chief Dillon recently met with representatives from RIPTA to review their participation in the Kennedy Plaza Exercise on 10/1/06.

Facility Reps/Owners: No Report.

Providence Harbor Co-Op: No Report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

•*PEMA and the PFD* met on 3/15/06 to discuss emergency transportation issues. Due to the fact that RIPTA would be overwhelmed and stretched thin, PEMA and the Providence School Bus Authority have partnered together to provide 3 non-stop evacuation buses during a hurricane evacuation emergency, and 5 Red Cross shelters within Providence.

•*Chief Dillon* announced the Reverse 911 System will be fully operational within the next couple of weeks.

•*Dave Aucoin* briefed the Committee on a recent meeting that was held with the Chairman of LEPC #4, in which Incident Command and Hazmat training spots were offered to LEPC#5 applicable personnel. Chief Dillon and John Bissonette (NBC) were also present at the meeting.

•*Susan Mayo*, who is also a member of the SERC Training Committee, announced that the annual \$2,500.00 grant for LEPC #5 training has been awarded. An offer for any LEPC# 5 training needs was extended.

•One *Univar* representative expressed interest in the Ammonia Training Class to be offered by BUNGE Oils (LEPC #4 – Pawtucket) in May. There are 20 spots available for this training.

•The following question was raised: “What level of ICS training should LEPC members have?” Chief Dillon responded with an answer of “at least level 200.”

The RIEMA offers ICS 100 and ICS 200. Chief Dillon announced that all Captains and Chief Officers will be trained in NIMS 300 on 3/20-3/21.

- *John Bissonette* (NBC) announced fire extinguisher training for all employees will become part of NBC's Training Program, and Chief Dillon offered all services for training needs to NBC and to any other companies who want to begin the same type of training. The training will consist of a cut-down 55 gallon drum, and the PFD will monitor the training.

- *Chief Dillon* announced that the Massachusetts Fire Academy has a higher level of "confidence training" for putting out gas fires, and for this reason the PFD will be sending its firefighters there to train for this type of fire.

- *Jim Celenza* (RICOSH) announced a Pandemic Bird Flu Workshop scheduled for 3/29/06, and offered the invitation to all those interested. The Workshop will include a RI Hospital Representative and a DOH Representative to discuss bird flu scenarios.

- *David Jean* (Verizon) expressed concern over the buildup of sulfuric acid on remotely located generators, and stated that the cause of the problem is that most Verizon facilities are unmanned most of the time.

- *Dave* briefed the committee about ongoing talks with Brown University regarding the launching of an LEPC #5 website. The Brown IT Department will not be able to setup the site, but documents will be created and a preliminary "backbone" will be established first.

#### **MEETING ADJOURNMENT:**

- **April 5<sup>th</sup>** was chosen as the date for the Port evacuation drill follow-up planning meeting. Location is now the Johnson & Wales Harborside Campus's Tyson Amphitheatre. Time is 10:00 am.

- Meeting adjourned at 11:17 am.

- **The next LEPC #5 quarterly meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> 2006 at 10:00 am. Location TBA.**