

**TOWNSHIP OF HOLLAND**  
**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
*March 15, 2010*

The Holland Township Emergency Management Council Meeting was held on Monday, March 15, 2010, at the municipal building, 61 Church Road, Milford, NJ, in the Meeting Room / EOC.

**EM COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chief David Van Gilson (E.M. Coordinator); Sgt. John Harris, Jr. (D.E.M.C./P.D.); Chief Larry Lutz (D.E.M.C./Milford-Holland Rescue Squad); Tom Holzworth (D.E.M.C. Communications); Chief Steve Underhill (Holland Township Fire Company); Al Turdo (Holland Twp. D.P.W.); Helen Jones (Social Services); Nancy Yard (Holland Twp. School); Pearl Hammerstone (Board of Health); Anthony Roselle (Board of Health/ 15-Fire); Rick Botto, Jr. (Hazmat Safety Officer/ Communications/C.E.R.T.); and Dennis Miller (Georgia Pacific Corrugated III, LLC).

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Colleen Pursell (Holland Twp. Police/E.M. Secretary); Gail Rader (C.E.R.T. Trainer); C.E.R.T. Members: Elizabeth Bantel, Donna Lizanich.

**OPENING STATEMENT**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chief David W. Van Gilson, E.M.C. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Van Gilson. Recording Secretary, Colleen Pursell, announced publicly at the commencement of the meeting the following statement: "Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to the open public meeting act law, by the Township Clerk on December 10, 2009 by her: 1. Posting such notice on the bulletin board at the municipal building, 2. Mailing the same to the Hunterdon County Democrat, The Express Times, and to other parties, if any, who are entitled to the same."

Minutes of the September 21, 2009 meeting previously mailed to Council Members on October 2, 2009, were made available for review. Minutes were approved as distributed on a motion by Sgt. John Harris, seconded by Larry Lutz.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence listed below, received or mailed since the 9/21/09 meeting, was made available for review by interested parties and open for discussion if necessary, with Chief Van Gilson giving a brief review of several items:

- 10/7/09 Swine Flu School Planning Workshop, November 19-20 in Chicago, IL
- 10/9/09 **CERT MRC Bell Mountain Drill Stats**
- 10/15/09 Email- Beverly Hall Update/Weather
- 10/16/09 Email- Beverly Hall Nor'easter Alert
- 10/16/09 Weapons of Mass Destruction Training- November 19, 2009
- 10/20/09 Emergency Preparedness and Prevention & Hazmat Spills Conference, Nov. 15-18
- 10/22/09 Email- Beverly Hall NJ State Homeland Security Training Calendar – Nov 2009
- 10/23/09 Hazardous Weather Outlook – Saturday
- 11/14/09 Email- Frank Venezia Nor'easter Damage Assessment
- 11/17/09 Email- Beverly Hall H1N1 Vaccine (vaccine is in short supply, more is expected)
- 11/18/09 Email- Beverly Hall H1N1 Clinics open to EMS Providers Only

- 12/8/09 Email- Beverly Hall Flood Watch
- 12/18/09 Email- Beverly Hall Winter Storm Warning
- 12/19/09 Email- Frank Venezia Winter Storm Warning- Update Snow
- 12/19/09 Email- Beverly Hall Weather Update
- 1/4/10 National Hurricane Conference March 29, 2010 – April 2, 2010 in Orlando
- 1/7/10 Email- Beverly Hall EMEA Quarterly Report due
- 1/13/10 Email- Beverly Hall Message from NJOEM/FEMA Re: Haiti Disaster
- 1/25/10 Email- Beverly Hall 2010 OEM Coordinator Meeting Dates
- 1/25/10 Email- Beverly Hall Flood Warning
- 1/25/10 Minutes from December 8<sup>th</sup> Coordinator Meeting
- 2/2/10 Email- Beverly Hall Invitation for Mayors/Administrators to attend OEM Coordinator Meeting
- 2/5/10 **Letter and Donation from R.R.I. Energy**
- 2/8/10 Email- Beverly Hall Snow Storm Damage / Costs
- 2/8/10 Email- Beverly Hall Snow Storm Warning
- 3/11/10 Email- OEM General Account Latest Hydrology Briefing from NWS Mount Holly
- 3/11/10 Email- OEM General Account Situational Awareness: Flood Watch
- 3/12/10 Email- OEM General Account Latest Weather Briefing from NWS Mount Holly- 9 am Friday
- 3/12/10 Email- OEM General Account Situational Awareness: Flood Watch
- 3/12/10 Email- OEM General Account Latest Weather Briefing- NWS Mount Holly- 3 pm Friday
- 3/14/10 Email- OEM General Account Free Water & Ice Available to JCP&L Customers who remain without power

### **STATE / FEDERAL O.E.M.**

### **LOCAL O.E.M.**

Chief Van Gilson discussed the current Hydrologic Prediction Service from Mt Holly. Originally, the Delaware River was expected to reach 21 feet. Due to New York releasing water earlier in the week, the Delaware River in Holland Township is not expected to flood.

On September 30, 2009 Holland Township used the CAN Alert system for the six wolf hybrids who escaped. Since that time, we have joined a new alert network called “Nixle.” The police department inputs the information into Nixle’s database and Nixle sends out the alert to all registered users. Registration is easy to do and can be done by visiting their website at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com). All messages are sent via text messaging or emails.

Chief Van Gilson and Sergeant Harris recently attended a scheduled lockdown drill at the Frenchtown Elementary School. It was run by the schools administration and the Frenchtown Police Department. Chief Van Gilson commented that the staff and students have the lockdown procedure “down to a science”. “They are always testing their procedure and you can tell.”

Sergeant Harris explained the upcoming drill. On Thursday, May 27, 2010 at 5:30 pm the Holland Township O.E.M. / Police will be conducting a full scale exercise along with the Hunterdon County Prosecutors Office. The drill will stem from a school shooting, and will be split into two separate drills, running simultaneously. The first drill will be for First Responders. They will arrive and begin first aid and triage on victims who will be outside the school. The second drill will be for law enforcement and some First Responders and Squad Members, who will be inside the school. The drill will end with the Hunterdon County Prosecutors Office inside the school with a barricaded subject.

Sergeant Harris expressed the need for victims. Anyone who is willing to volunteer as a victim or has children that can be a victim, please let us know. We would also love to have teachers at the drill, if possible. All kids will be kept outside of the school with the First Responders. We are hoping to get local CERT team members to be victims. We will need the victims to arrive at the school around 5:30 pm to get set up. We are also looking for a volunteer who would be willing to videotape the drill. If you are interested, please contact Sergeant Harris. If you are interested or have children who are interested in being victims, please contact the Holland Township OEM at (908) 995-9629 or email [oem@hollandpolice.org](mailto:oem@hollandpolice.org).

### **COUNTY O.E.M.**

In the last County OEM meeting the Health Department reminded everyone that the next wave of Swine Flu is expected to be in April.

Chief Van Gilson announced that we now have a new Hunterdon County OEM Coordinator, Laurene Fleming. During the last flood Laurene ran the cantina.

Chief Van Gilson attended a HART's Traffic meeting put on for fire departments, police departments and OEM. It was held at the Clinton Borough Fire House. HART's provides traffic alert information to commuters traveling to and within Hunterdon County, NJ. They can send information out through email or text messaging. The program is for Hunterdon County, and their office is located in Flemington, NJ. Chief Van Gilson advised that the Department of Transportation also has an alert system which can be utilized by dialing 511 from your cell phone. The alert system will provide you with traffic details for major incidents.

### **C.E.R.T.**

Members of the Holland Township CERT participated in the Mercer County drill which was held on Saturday, September 26, 2009. The drill was held at Belle Mountain. Gail Rader stated that there were 2 components of the drill. The first component was a search and rescue from a wooded area and the second component was a rescue on the ski slope. Gail said that we learned a lot because everyone comes with their own perspective from their organization. They also realized that they need to practice search and rescue in a wooded area. When the CERT members hit the tree line they lost visual sight and were able to practice a lot of things they couldn't do in a classroom atmosphere.

One big issue participants ran into was communications. They found out radios did not work and they ended up using cell phones. Tom Holzworth said we did not have radio communication but we did have the portable radios working. Next time we should preset our radios and then set them out. Larry Lutz related that there were too many different groups with too many frequencies. Next time we should set out all equipment and not wipe out one trailer at a time and organize equipment at end. Chief Van Gilson stated that the County has about 25-30 radios that would be used for team leaders in a Hunterdon County event. Rick Botto asked if there is any special training for search and rescue with dogs. Chief Van Gilson said he believes dogs go through special training. Chief Van Gilson said he will look into a search and rescue with dogs.

### **REPORT OF COMMITTEES / AGENCIES**

**911 Coordinator** (Cathy Miller) – Not in attendance. Chief Van Gilson advised Ben Karmondi is working with the Boy Scouts to get the address plaques for homes. They are going to be offering this to township residents. This will help fire, rescue and police in locating homes.

**Communications** (Tom Holzworth) – The bus was checked about a month and a half ago and everything looked good. Saturday he made sure everything was okay again in case of a flood. Chief Van Gilson stated that the next phase for the bus is to get a monitor to mount to the wall and a cd player. We are going to use grant money that was given for OEM.

**Health Department** (Pearl Hammerstone) – Nothing new to report.

**Resource Management** (Colleen Pursell) – Thank you to everyone for getting me the organization rosters so I can continue to update the books. If you have any changes, please let me know.

**Hazmat** (Rick Botto) – Nothing new to report.

**Damage Assessment** (Chuck Cooper) – Not in attendance. Chief Van Gilson said we were lucky with the last storm. All we had was trees down on wires.

**Holland Township School** (Jim Stryker) – Nancy Yard in attendance. Chief Van Gilson said we will be working with the school to have a lockdown drill. Nancy Yard related they had a lockdown today with teachers at the school and they plan to begin getting on a schedule next year. Chief Van Gilson suggested that school representatives attend a lockdown at the Frenchtown School to see their plan.

**Industrial Plant- Plant Representative** – RRI Energy, Inc. (Frank Miechur) – Not in attendance.

**Georgia Pacific** (Dennis Miller) – They recently got permission from the fire department to take their fire hoses out. They are getting break away vests at Georgia Pacific and Dennis Miller offered us the vests they can't use anymore. We will be putting them on the bus.

### **Agencies**

**Fire** – (Steve Underhill) – In December they placed an order for a new fire engine. It will be replacing a 25 year old truck and should be delivered in August. Chief Van Gilson asked about the fire departments pumping equipment. Chief Underhill stated that they have five portable gas pumps and two portable electric pumps. Four of the five are only four years old. Chief Van Gilson advised that OEM has some money and will try to get another pump for them.

**Police** – (John Harris, Jr.) – Nothing to report.

**Rescue Squad** (Larry Lutz) – The rescue squad has a course April 17-18 and the following Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>. They just had a CPR class for Milford Fire and for the squad. If anyone needs to be recertified please contact Larry.

**Public Works** (Al Turdo) – Public Works got a new truck this year. Al Turdo thanked the police department for putting out the barricades during the last storm.

**Welfare** (Debbie Patrylo) – Helen Jones in attendance. Nothing new to report.

**Garden State Underwater Recovery** (Greg Mactye) – Not in attendance.

### **Unfinished Business**

No Report

### **New Business**

No Comments

### **Open to Public**

No Comments

### **Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

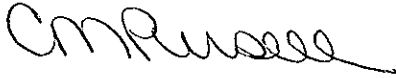
- June 21, 2010
- September 20, 2010
- December 20, 2010 (tentative)

\* Visit us on the web at [www.hollandpolice.org](http://www.hollandpolice.org) "OEM/CERT" \*

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm on a motion by John Harris, seconded by Tom Holzworth.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CMPursell", written in a cursive style.

Colleen M. Pursell  
Recording Secretary