



## Region II Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition

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### Steering Committee Minutes Thursday, November 9, 2006 / 10:00 AM Worcester Department of Health & Human Services 25 Meade Street

**In attendance:** Karyn Card, Kerry Clark, Walt DePaolo, Howard Ziff, Lois Luniewicz, Jana Ferguson, Roger Mallet, Sandra Knipe, Paul McNulty, Chris Montiverdi, Derek Brindisi, Nancy Allen, Lenny Izzo, Andrew Pelletier, Trisha Parent, Ted Wysocki, Barbara Mard, Bill Fisher, Mike Graf, Bernie Sullivan

- **Review & approve minutes of October 12, 2006:** *m/s/a*
- **Next Meeting: December 14, 2006 / Worcester**
- **Updates**
  - **Personnel:**
  - **Budget:** discussed FY 07 funds coming in.
  - **Deliverables:** Jana – discussed draft deliverables, see below
  - **Training:** still working on PeopleForever issues. Kerry will write a formal letter to them indicating legal action will be taken if this is not rectified. 95 coupons are left and they expire in April 2007. Howard reiterated that if your community has fire, police, DPW or selectman connected with your EDS planning, they should be able to attend these trainings.
  - **Equipment:** Go Kits were assembled by Eagle Scouts group; Kerry provided pizza and will provide recognition certificates in the spring.
- **MA DPH Regional Coordinator Updates:** COOP exercises are being scheduled, the one on Friday will have a low turn out due to Veterans Day. Now December 15<sup>th</sup> at Mt.Wachusett. Potential conflict with the December 1<sup>st</sup> date in Shrewsbury. Homeland Security Conference is the same day in Westwood. A letter went out to gage interest. December 8<sup>th</sup> at Nichols College in Dudley scheduled. CEP changes, commitment to local health is still there. Commissioner Cote is pleased on how well communication is going. Working on duplicating the Regional model to the Central office re: breaking down silos. Flu Exercises: got applications from Worcester and Grafton. Kerry – did No. Brookfield submit one? They are going forward with planning, asked Kerry for opinion. Jana needs to double check her list. At this time

if there is no additional applications, everyone should get funded if they meet the criteria (17 applications out of a possible 20). Cannot guarantee that the full flu vaccine allocation will be available for the flu clinics. Deliverables: VERY draft. Made a commitment to talk to local BOH before they are finalized. Drawn more from CDC requirements because there are performance measurements. Some may be difficult for some communities to do as they were written from a County perspective. CDC wants to quantify through exercises or real events. DPH is trying to put together these exercises so that you can participate vs. develop one from scratch.

- **Worcester Regional MRC Updates:** Karyn provided an update on the program via a power point presentation.
  
- **New / Old Business:**
  - Howard: we need to look at how we are holding these meetings. The Steering Committee ought to have the longer agenda.
  - Roger – would like cell phones to be paid for by Coalition. Lois – can Kerry research and poll Steering Committee? Paul – people should have indicated on the last round of equipment requests. Chris – money for phones is really not the best way to spend these funds, should be spent on services. Howard – it would be nice of each town to be empowered. Kerry – any preference on a carrier?
  - Paul – updated committee on Homeland Security proposal which will be sent to EOPS for review and approval of the allocated \$95,000 Pan Flu funds. Jana, Paul, Chris, Trotta and Fitchburg Emergency Management are on the committee.
  
- **Adjourn:** *m/s/a*