RESF-1 Transportation Minutes
April 15, 2009

In attendance: Karen Olson, Chair; James Bradford, CTTransit; Stephen Livingston, ConnDOT; Tom Gavaghan & Gordon Harris, DEMHS; Carmine Centrella, CRCOG; Jim Strillacci, West Hartford PD.

Welcome: Karen Olson called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and welcomed everyone

Minutes: The minutes of the March 11, 2009 meeting were approved without changes, on a motion by Stephen Livingston, seconded by James Bradford.

Old Business:

a. Updates:
   James Bradford of CT Transit reported on the effort to recruit and train bus drivers as “emergency responders.” He stated that the first recommendation was to recognize the bus drivers as “emergency responder assistants.” He had put out a notice to drivers about the opportunity to learn more about this potential role, but there had been no response to date. The group discussed the possibility of making CERT training available for drivers. Since CERT training is focused on creating a “citizens team” it was recommended that we investigate a modification of the CERT training program that would give drivers an “orientation” to the role. Ms. Olson offered to investigate this further and report back to the group.

   Tom Gavaghan reported that WebEOC training is still being offered once a month at the Brainard Airport Training Building. Mr. Bradford inquired about the opportunity to participate in that training. Mr. Gavaghan thought that was possible. (It was confirmed later that Mr. Bradford would be allowed to receive the WebEOC training.)

b. Transportation Resource Handbook:
   Ms. Olson suggested that the first item of business should be updating the transportation resource handbook that had been initiated in 2006. She will begin that effort in the next month, and will be looking for assistance from committee members.

c. SME’s (Subject Matter Experts):
   Ms. Olson reminded the group that Bruce Lockwood had suggested that RESF-1 needed to be three or four deep in “subject matter experts.” Since most of the group would have specific responsibilities during a major emergency, we need to look for people with a more generalized background, perhaps a retired emergency manager or responder who would like to keep a hand in as part of a response team. Suggestions for SMEs are welcome.

d. Workshop:
   Carmine Centrella suggested that since developing a workshop for transportation providers would be a major undertaking, we should aim for a date sometime in the late fall. We will begin this effort by making initial contacts to providers through regional bodies: the Connecticut School Transportation Association (COSTA), the Connecticut Association of Community Transportation (CACT), and others.

e. Drills & Exercises:
   Ms. Olson will attempt to make sure that RESF-1 is represented at every appropriate drill and exercise in the Region. (Following this meeting, CT Transit sat in on the Autumn Storm table top that was conducted on April 28.)

New Business, if any: None

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the RESF-1 is TBD. The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.