

**EMO meeting
February 4, 2009**

Meeting commenced at 7:00 pm.

Peggy Boudreau recorder of the meeting completed the roll call.
(18 members present) Regrets from EMO NS, Public Works, and Clinton Saulnier.

EMO Coordinator's Report- December 22-23-24-2008 Storm

Eugene reports on the activities with the EOC on the storm days. He thanks the staff at the Municipal Office with special thank you to Peggy Boudreau and Alain Muise for all their help.

He mentions that one of the main problems during the storm was communications. Phone lines were down in some areas of the Municipality as well the phone system at the EOC was not working properly. Eugene suggest that the communications at the Wedgeport Fire Hall could possible be set up differently maybe using the fax line to communicate. Comfort centers had been set up at the Wedgeport Fire Hall, the West Pubnico Legion, the Municipal Office, the East Pubnico Fire Hall and the Surette's Island Fire Hall.

Pre the partial opening of the EOC the Municipal Office staff had made the arrangement with the Red Cross and the contacts personnel for the Comfort Centers.

The EOC partially opened at 4:15 p.m. on December 22, 2008. See Attached Incident Report for full details.

Eugene also reports that he has attended a regional EMC meeting in Kentville. The Red Cross had made a presentation on their policies and procedures during an emergency. The Red Cross member of our committee explains that they had possibly overreacted during the storm of December 22, 2008. Their policy states that the comfort centre are the responsibility of the community or the municipality. Red Cross shelters are only set up in confined area of the community if large evacuations are needed. For example: large apartment building fires or Forest Fires.

After much discussion on this matter the committee identified that the Red Cross policy would not always work depending on the circumstances of the emergency for example if the power goes out when the temperature outside is -12 degrees or when the temperature is +12 degrees the situation for shelter would be different.

John Surette of the Islands and District Fire Department gives a brief report on the activities of the comfort centre at the Surette's Island Fire Hall during the storm of December 22, 2008.

Peggy reports on the storm activities and would like to thank all the volunteers who helped in the Comfort Centers, especially the Red Cross team.

Invitation to tender for the generator has been advertised.

The EMO Training Calendar for 2009 is now set. Anyone interested in courses please notify Peggy as soon as possible.

Eugene advised the committee that Andre Volontaire EMC for Clare has been appointed to the EMO NS executive committee.

Coordinator Eugene would like to send a memo to council regarding contact information to residents. During the December storm he received several calls from residents that should have been going to the Municipal Office or the Councillor for the district. Eugene also mentions that we should be looking into having a gas agreement with our service stations that have generators and can operate during power outages.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm

Peggy Boudreau
Recorder

Eugene Doucette
Coordinator