

**Water Committee  
Village of Millbrook  
September 26, 2011**

**In attendance:** Trustee Stanley Morse, Ken Sabia of VRI, Howard Schuman, Dr. William Augerson, Frank Genova and Russell Urban-Mead from the Chazen Companies, Linda Wiltse, Clerk.

**Call to Order**-Trustee Morse at 4:35 PM

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Administrative Notes**-A meeting is to be held by the Regional Economic Development Council to aid in the creation of a five-year economic development plan on October 4, 2011 from 5:30 to 7 pm at 2683 South Road, Locust Grove Estate in Poughkeepsie.

The Dutchess County Soil & Water Conservation District invites residents to a meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers to discuss a watershed management study for the watershed outlined in the Project Management Plan on October 5, 2011 at 10 am at the Farm & Home Center in Millbrook.

Partial findings of the GWUDI study as written in a memo by Scott Osborne of 9/16/11 to the D. C. Health Dept stated the Village must do a wet and dry weather test for coli form bacteria. Coli form bacteria was detected in the water source but never made its way into the drinking water supply and VRI chlorinates the water to kill these bacteria as stated by Ken Sabia.

VRI report on Emergency Preparedness for the Village Water Supply-Dr. Bill Augerson wrote in a July 24 memo with "Thirteen Questions".

Q1: What is the People Communications Equipment Resources VRI has available for a water emergency?

1. Ken Sabia responded that they have cell phones, walkie talkie style cell phones, land phones, email and texting.

Q2: What Written Procedures for a Water Emergency are available? Where are they located? How available are they? Would we understand them?

2. Dr. Augerson stated that in other words is it written down how communications take place and with whom. Frank Genova also added communicating with residents is important. Ken stated that some municipalities use Alert Now by phone and they have the ability to take a message of at least one minute. Alert Now is the equivalent to Robo calling. Ken added that to use these types of services the Village would need to update KVS. These services must be contracted with ahead of time. Howard asked for contact information and if the power goes out does the walkie talkie technology still work. Ken answered yes but this technology needs a tower. Frank stated that under the direst of

circumstances the Village could utilize the Fire Dept. to go door to door. Dr. Augerson added they can fall back on messengers as well as the Fire, Police or Highway Departments but they should be put in tiers. Dr. Augerson stated they must create a plan that is exercised.

Ken stated that mostly the written plans are for spills of some sort which list agencies that must be contacted. This is not so for a water main break. This plan will be copied and attached as an appendix to the Emergency Preparedness Plan notebook.

Q3: What Past Water Emergencies has VRI had in the past? What experiences and lessons were learned?

3. Ken stated the most recent was hurricane Irene which caused power outages. They had major water main breaks. He added that this was a learning experience and they must use outside sources to assist with some emergencies.

Q4: What way will VRI handle Notification of Village Officials that a water emergency exists? Phone? E-mail? Other?

4. Ken Sabia responded that they have cell phones, walkie talkie style cell phones, land phones, email and texting.

Q5: What are the Five Most Serious Potential Water Problems estimated by VRI which can happen in the Village?

- 5a. Chemical-such as an oil spill in the aquifer area which is the water source area. The Village would need filtrations equipment brought in. Russell stated that ideally the Village wants the water source area spread out but this is not reality and the Health Dept. has approved well fields located close together. The Village may stop bumping water to prevent pulling the spill material into the water source area.
- 5b. The loss of the storage tank would be a catastrophic loss of the use of the tank.
- 5c. The loss of both turbine pumps.
- 5d. Multiple water main breaks at one time.
- 5e. A severe drought including the element of recovery time.
- 5f. Terrorism.

Q6: VRI has a small staff. What if VRI staff is not available? How will it be handled? What if staff cannot make it into work to handle an emergency?

6. Ken stated VRI has staff on call 24/7.

Q7: What are VRI's Outside Emergency Resources? Does VRI have contingency contracts with outside firms which would assist in an emergency?

7. Ken responded VRI has contractors for digging and they have emergency numbers for vendors of whom they can also reach out to for assistance.

Q8: If there is a power failure, how long can back-up mobile generators operate? Is fuel availability an issue for a prolonged emergency?

8. Ken stated the generators can operate for several days at the water plant and he added the generator propane levels are monitored when in use. The sewer plant can run for at least 24 hours if not 48 hours according to Ken. Dr. Augerson stated that backup systems are generally used for a short duration until the main system can be brought back on line.

Q9: What are the Capabilities of the Water Tower to provide water as measured in length of time?

9. The water tower is 24 hours of available water at best.

Q10: How would VRI handle Malicious Mischief or Vandalism at some point in our water system? What is VRI's security process and capability?

10. Russell stated it may be a good idea to dig rock formation wells which have a different capture area and is separated from the current water gallery system. This would reduce the GWUDI concern but this type of well may not have enough volume of water. Ken doesn't think the Village is able to do this since the studies have been done. Ken answered VRI's course of action would be to call the Police and/or D.C. Sheriff's Departments.

Q11: What Village staff involvement would be needed in a Water Emergency? What extent?

11. They would need the Highway Dept. for digging for water main breaks, the Fire Dept. on main breaks for setting up and the Fire Police as well as the Police Dept. for directing traffic.

Q12: What is the Maximum Water available daily?

12. Ken responded VRI can turn both turbine pumps on but this creates dirty and/or silty water problems do to the volume of water being pushed through the system. This will possibly over pump the aquifer which is not permitted by the NYS DEC to pump that much water 280,000 per day.

Q13: Describe the process for trucking emergency water into the Village.

13. When trucking emergency water into the Village VRI can use various vendors. They can tie into a hydrant and back feed the system and this will take several trucks to accomplish this. They can also have water trucks at many locations throughout the Village for residents to come acquire water for home use. This would be a regional drought preparedness situation.

**Future Meeting Scheduled**-Monday, October 24, 2011, 4:30 PM Village Hall to focus on what to present to the Village Board in November as main ideas and concepts from the past three meetings.

**Roundtable**-Howard asked about large water storage tanks being installed. Trustee Morse answered he does not know but will follow up with Trustee Spagnola.

**Adjourn**-The meeting concluded at 6:02 p.m.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Linda T. Wiltse  
Village of Millbrook  
Clerk/Treasurer