

GLAMORGAN VALE FLOOD EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GROUP

"Looking after each other"

Newsletter No 1.

On the 30th March the Glamorgan vale Hall hosted the third meeting of the local flood emergency group. At this meeting a number of topics were discussed and progression towards a flood monitoring and management plan for the Glamorgan vale area is a little closer to being achieved.

A general overview was presented as to the progression to date, milestones achieved and what the group needs to accomplish to stand officially recognised under the State Emergency Management Plan.

The topics discussed during this meeting included:

1. The need to have safe areas, (Key Points) to which people effected by flooding may relocate and areas suitable for air evacuation should the need for medical relocation arise. It was suggested that three such areas would be required. Negotiations with owners of these properties has achieved agreement in principal and as the process of official recognition of the Glamorgan vale Flood Emergency Management Group (GFEMG) is achieved and included in the state plan, final agreements with these generous people will be undertaken.
2. The ability for those persons offering their properties as Key Points to be protected under a form of legislation in the event of group activation. This protection action and associated legislation needs to be further assessed and documented. Discussions with the chairman of Somerset Regional Disaster Management and legislation will further highlight such protection, also an invitation to address the GFEMG will be offered to Mr. Tony Jacob when he returns from leave. The outcome will be advised in the near future.
3. The meeting was advised of the design completion of the "Night Owl" early flood warning system. Manufacture, testing and initial installation is still to be accomplished, Thanks to Daryl and Alison Brown who kindly gave their permission to install the first "Night Owl" early warning system at their property in Glamorgan vale for evaluation trials.
Discussions on the requirements for an additional two "Night Owl" systems, possibly to be located outside Marburg and midway to Glamorgan vale on Black Snake Creek respectively, also took place. The meeting was advised that although the original "Night Owl" system did not require a Radio telemetric processing unit or automatic paging interfacing devices, the planned additional remote "Night Owl" types would require such technology and therefore grant funding would be required if the need for the additional two devices is firm. Further discussion on this topic will be undertaken in the future after researching possible access to grant funding.
4. A general activation plan was discussed should commencement be required. The logical process would be along the lines of:
 - (a) Activation of possible inundation is sensed by "Night Owl" at Browns property and alerts them.
 - (b) Browns advise Murray Drain by phone, Murray has offered his experience with emergency services and has agreed to act as Co Coordinator of GFEMG.
 - (c) Murray will confirm the flood rise rate and make the decision to recommend the activation of GFEMG to the Rural Fire Service (RFS) First Officer by phone.
 - (d) The RFS First Officer will confirm the activation of GFEMG to Murray. In doing so, also activates the Local Emergency Plan, the First Officer also advises Key Point persons of the activation.
 - (e) Key Point persons contact Murray for instruction.

Remember folks, we have a long way to go getting this off the ground and I do appreciate feedback and ideas. This Newsletter, suggested by Elona, goes a long way in keeping us all informed, so if you attended any of the GFEMG meetings or wish to be kept abreast of events happening let us know and we'll include you in the news letter circulation.

Next meeting date is 20th April 7-00 pm for 7-30 pm start. All welcome.

Regards,

Doc Hannah

H: 54 266 246 or

M: 0417 786 227 (24Hrs)

QFCI

Date:

06/05/11
JM

Exhibit Number:

294