

3.4

Flood Recovery Task Force, Inc. Executive and
Steering Committees, 1973

Minutes of Meeting of FRTF Executive Committee and Board of Directors,
August 7, 1973, 12:15 p.m., Hotel Sterling

Present: Margaret Anderson, Richard Demmy, Charles Hardwick, Robert Jones, Edgar Lashford, Roy Morgan, Max Rosenn, Ed Schechter, A. J. Sordoni, III, Ray Turner, Jr., Oscar Weissman; Thomas Moran, Betty Schechter, Andrew Shaw, Jr.

1. Financial Report

Shaw presented a financial report showing a revised budget which enables the Task Force both to continue in operation a second year and to pay \$161,000 for consultant and contract services. He explained that there were two reasons for the budget revision: first, the Task Force decision to engage the services of consultants in three important areas of the recovery effort at cost that exceeded the amount originally budgeted for consultant and contract services; and second, a strong recommendation by the Economic Development Administration that the Task Force continue to exist for the duration of the studies it funds in order to remain in close contact with its consultants and to monitor their activities. (Financial report attached.)

2. Activity Report

H. R. 4772 and S. 1144 - bills before the House and Senate proposing a National Catastrophic Disaster Insurance Program

Betty Schechter reported that the Task Force has acted to support this proposed legislation through a multi-pronged letter-writing campaign and by cooperating with an intensive lobbying effort sponsored by B'nai B'rith.

Letters have been sent on Chamber of Commerce stationery over the signature of Chamber President Ed Boltz to Chambers of Commerce in the home districts of the members of the House and Senate Committees which will be conducting hearings on disaster insurance legislation. These letters tell of the need for this kind of insurance, describe the merits of the Flood-Schweiker bills, and ask the recipient Chamber to write to its representative in the House or Senate in support of the bill. Similar letters have been sent to selected alumni of King's, Wilkes, and Wyoming Seminary on the stationery of their respective schools and signed respectively by Father Kilburn, Dr. Michelini, and Dr. Stettler. Alumni of these three educational institutions receiving these letters live in the states represented by Senate and House Committee members charged with considering disaster insurance legislation.

Task Force cooperation with the B'nai B'rith lobbying effort in support of the Flood-Schweiker bills has taken the form of printing and distributing 18,000 fliers, supplying the organization with up to date statistics on Wyoming Valley's recovery experience, and participation by Betty Schechter in a B'nai B'rith sponsored lobbying conference held in Washington on July 24th.

Studies of Local Government

Shaw reported that as an organization, the Task Force is participating in current studies of local government only through its representation on a committee charged with advising the Pennsylvania Economy League during the course of the study of local government it has contracted to make for the Commonwealth's Department of Community Affairs. He added, however, that he is serving as consultant to several government study commissions and can report that they are all at work and beginning to make progress.

Less encouraging, Shaw reported that although all meetings of charter study commissions are open to the public, there were no representatives of the public at any of the meetings he has attended. He expressed the hope that a way would be found to arouse public interest in the work the commissions are doing.

Hardwick raised the possibility of renewed life on a broad membership basis for the Good Government Group that was instrumental in rallying public support for the election of apolitical, objective county government study commission. He pointed out that like its representation on the PEL Advisory Committee, the Task Force's cooperation with the Good Government Group was part of its ongoing efforts to improve local government.

Shaw concluded the discussion of local governments by saying that he has been meeting with several borough and county officials in a consultant capacity and that he has found them all to be favorably impressed with Task Force interest in local government and leadership in efforts to improve it.

Valley Housing Problems

Shaw reported attending a multitude of inconclusive meetings held to consider the region's serious housing problems. He also reported that CEO is proposing a new agency (Housing Development Corporation of Luzerne County) to coordinate whatever work will be done to resolve these problems. Members of CEO staff would become the staff of this new agency.

Wilkes-Barre Steam Heat Company

Shaw reported that no way has yet been found to ensure operation of the Steam Heat Company during the coming heating season. Rosenn reminded those present that the Task Force made a number of determined efforts to find a solution to the problems created by the company's financial difficulties. He added that the Task Force finally withdrew from the situation upon finding that those who would be most directly affected by a failure of the company to continue operations were not very interested in working for the same aim.

Susquehanna River Basin Association

Shaw reported that the newly revived Susquehanna River Basin Association is making slow but steady progress towards its goal of arousing Basinwide interest in vitally important river-connected matters.

Rainbow Recovery Fair

Morgan reported that the final accounting of expenditures for the Fair showed that it had cost the State under \$12,000. He pointed out that since DCA had approved a budget of \$16,550 for the festivities, this total means a substantial saving for the State.

Rosenn moved that the Task Force give Morgan and his Recovery Fair Committee a vote of thanks for the fine work they did in bringing their carefully laid plans to fruition and in making the Fair a success. The motion was passed.

3. New Programs

a. Sharing Cost of Wilbur Smith Wyoming Valley Sketch Plan with EDC

Hardwick reminded those present that the decision to allocate \$25,000 of Task Force funds to helping EDC pay for the Sketch Plan arose both from an awareness that EDC was finding it difficult to pay Wilbur Smith in full and from a realization that the Sketch Plan had turned out to be a valuable tool for the Task Force and for the region as a whole. He added that although the Task Force's decision to spend this sum in this way is firm, it cannot do so without authorization from EDA and that this authorization has not yet been received.

b. Proposed Contracts with Wilbur Smith and Associates and Direction Associates

Hardwick reported that Task Force plans to contract with Direction Associates for an action program designed to produce solutions to the region's pressing housing problems, and with Wilbur Smith and Associates for action programs on Area Appearance and Image and Local Government are in their final stages. He said that EDA authorization of the projects is expected to follow delivery this week of documentation of the process of selecting the two consultants from the six who submitted proposals.

Hardwick pointed out that a great deal of care and thought had gone into development of these three projects and he pointed out that when implemented, each is likely to be of continuing benefit to the Valley.

4. Future Role of the Task Force

Opening a discussion of the Task Force's future, Sordoni said that present plans call for phasing out of Task Force operations on their present scale at the end of this month, and their continuation from a base at Wilkes College and with a smaller staff during the coming year. He said that these plans envision a continuing Task Force responsiveness to community needs and careful monitoring of the work programs the organization has contracted for.

Rosenn said he thinks that instead of winding down the Task Force should rewind. Reminding those present that large sums of money will be coming into the community to fund flood recovery and redevelopment projects, he said that there will be a continuing need for citizen action to monitor and prod local governments much as Common Cause watches and prods government on the national level. He raised the possibility that the Task Force might become either a chapter of Common Cause or an independent Citizens Concerned organization. In support of the ideas he had put forward, Rosenn said that there is a pressing need in Pennsylvania for legislative reform and that because of this there is also a great need for a citizens group that would be prepared to enter into litigation whenever the need for it was indicated.

Discussion of Rosenn's suggestion led to speculation by Hardwick and Sordoni about how an organization working towards the goals Rosenn had outlined could be funded. Sordoni recommended that this matter be referred to the Task Force Steering Committee for further discussion.

Questioning the region's need of a Common Cause kind of organization, Lashford said he thought the actions it would take could be taken equally well by the Chamber of Commerce, and he warned of the danger that creation of a new action organization might weaken existing ones.

Answering Lashford, Rosenn said that the group he had in mind would be able to confront all kinds of situations, even controversial ones. He added that it might be possible for a group such as the one he envisioned to work side by side with the Chamber and to take the spotlight only in the event a matter involving controversy arises. It was decided that the Task Force Steering Committee would discuss these possibilities with a committee of the Chamber.

FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.

HOTEL STERLING

WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18701

717 - 829-1981

REVISED BUDGET

JULY 20, 1973

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>	<u>Increase or Decrease</u>
1. Personnel	72,500	65,000	7,500
2. Consultant and Contract			
a. Consultants	150,000	161,000	
b. Contract Services	0	0	
Total C&C	150,000	161,000	(11,000)
3. Travel			
a. Transportation	3,500	1,500	
b. Per Diem	1,500	500	
Total Travel	5,000	2,000	3,000
4. Space Costs and Rentals			
a. Rent	6,000	3,500	
b. Equipment	2,600	2,600	
c. Office Furniture	2,000	1,000	
Total S&R	10,600	7,100	3,500
5. Other Costs			
a. Consumable Supplies	1,500	1,500	
b. Postage	500	1,500	
c. Printing	2,500	2,500	
d. Telephone&Telegraph	2,400	2,400	
e. Utilities	0	0	
f. Personnel Burden	12,000	14,000	
g. Miscellaneous	2,000	2,000	
Total Other Costs	20,900	23,900	(3,000)
6. Costs Not Listed Above			
a. Conference Space Rental	2,000	2,000	
TOTALS	261,000	261,000	0,000

EXPLANATION

1. Personnel - Expenditures to September 30 , 1973 on basis of existing staff will be \$36,000(rounded off). It is supposed that cost for another year's operation would total \$22,000:

Executive Director	12,500	
Asst. to Executive Director	5,500	
Secretary	1,500	(\$3/hour - 10 hours/week)
Auditor	600	
Public Relations	1,800	
	<u>21,900</u>	(22,000, rounded off)

2. Consultants - Budget of \$161,000 includes:

Wilbur Smith & Ass.	64,900
Direction Associates	59,500
Cost Share - Wyo.Valley	
Sketch Plan	25,000
Health&Hospital Plann.Council	2,000
	<u>151,400</u>

FRTF

Minutes of Meeting of Flood Recovery Task Force Board of Directors and
Executive Committee, Hotel Sterling, 12:15 p.m.

Present: Anderson, Aston, Burnside, Conyngham, DeCosmo, Hardwick, Hourigan,
Jones, Kenny, Kilburn, Kiley, Lashford, Montz, Morgan, Quinn,
Rose, Rosenn, Rubinstein, Sailus, Schechter, Smith, Sordoni,
Turner; Shaw, B. Schechter

Rosenn opened the meeting with an expression of regret at having to resign the chairmanship of the Task Force, a tribute to the effective, dependable response with which members of the Task Force met the flood recovery challenge, and an expression of gratitude for the support each of its members gave him.

A discussion of Task Force by-laws, led by Aston, followed. A motion was made and accepted that the by-laws be accepted as presented with an amendment to the effect that determination of qualifications for membership in the Task Force be referred to a committee to be appointed by the chairman.

Speaking for the Task Force as a whole, first vice-chairman Kiley traced the organization's beginnings, expressed its members' deep appreciation of Rosenn's selfless leadership of the recovery effort, and accepted his resignation with regret, together with anticipation of his continuing participation in the Task Force's work. A motion to accept Rosenn's resignation with regret was made and passed.

Rose reported that the nominating committee had recommended the unanimous appointment of Andrew J. Sordoni, III, as chairman. A motion to that effect was made and passed.

Sordoni expressed gratitude for the opportunity given him to serve as chairman. He said that, although, in one sense, the major work of the Task Force has been completed, in another, it still faces an important challenge to work for progress of the community. He added that it may be necessary to restructure its committees to reflect its long-term objectives. Looking ahead to the June 23rd anniversary of the flood, he recommended that the Task Force sponsor an inter-denominational service of thanksgiving on that day, and suggested that it might be fitting to hold such a service at one of the places where the river broke through the dikes.

Shaw raised the question of whether or not Task Force grant monies should be used to provide financial assistance to Project Area Committees formed as vehicles for citizen participation in the various municipalities' redevelopment planning. Rubinstein warned the group of the possibility that a particular PAC group might not be representative of the interests of its total community.

A discussion of possible uses of Task Force grant monies followed. Schechter expressed the opinion that it will be impossible to make intelligent decisions on this until a determination of the organization's specific goals is made. Quinn emphasized the importance of the Task Force's determining how effective a particular group is before supporting it. Hourigan requested that the Board of Directors and Executive Committee be supplied with detailed

Minutes of Meeting of Flood Recovery Task Force Board of Directors and Executive Committee, Hotel Sterling, 12:15 p.m., Page #2

information on the organization's financial situation. Support was expressed for the points Schechter and Quinn had made and for Hourigan's request. A motion was made and passed that Task Force financial information be sent to Board members and to members of the Executive Committee.

Sordoni appointed Hardwick, Rubinstein, and Turner to serve as a Committee on Membership.

Speaking for the Task Force staff, Shaw expressed its appreciation of Rosern's wise guidance. He added that one of Hurricane Agnes' few benefits to the Valley was the emergence of a unified community leadership in the form of the Flood Recovery Task Force.

After noting that he would make a full report on his committee's work at the next meeting, Rose announced a decision by SBA that it would stretch its January 15 deadline for applications for loans in the cases of applicants who have "good reasons" for failing to make the deadline.

Sordoni appointed Michelini, Morgan, and Rose as a nominating committee for election of Task Force officers.

FRTF

WILKES COLLEGE

OCT 1 1973

President's Office

MEMO TO: Alice Rader
FROM: Mr. Shaw
DATE: September 28, 1973

Please bill the Flood Recovery Task Force on a monthly basis for the following items:

Desk
Chair
Typewriter
2 File Cabinets

Rent	\$ 100.00 per month
Secretarial Help	120.00 per month
Equipment	75.00 per month
Furniture	75.00 per month

The payments should commence September 4, 1973.

AS:djs

Copy - Dr. Michelini ✓

FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.

HOTEL STERLING
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18701
717 - 829-1981

FRTF

September 25, 1973

M E M O

WILKES COLLEGE

SEP 26 1973

President's Office

To: Members of the Flood Recovery Task Force

From: FRTF Staff

The Task Force has relocated its headquarters from the Hotel Sterling to 165 South Franklin Street (Wilkes College Institute of Regional Affairs). Its phone number remains the same: 717-829-1981.

Because the organization will not be carrying as heavy a workload during the coming year as it carried in the past, Mrs. Alice Ellman will no longer be a member of the staff, and Mrs. Betty Schechter will be working half-time.

In line with its overall objective of helping the Wyoming Valley achieve full recovery from the effects of the Agnes flood, the Task Force has contracted for the services of two consulting firms. Wilbur Smith and Associates will 1) develop a work program to improve the area's appearance and image; and 2) conduct a public opinion survey to determine the attitudes of Valley residents towards their local governments, and, to a limited degree, towards the local housing situation. Direction Associates will design an action program to produce solutions to the serious housing problems besetting the Valley.

Contractors meeting - June 18, 1973

abate, Buckingham, Don Andes, (Turner)
 Frank Cronauer (Pliscott), C.T. Horner, Obubochi
 E. Davis (Chum)

Purpose - 1) Discussion of resurvey -

2) Feasibility of continuing labor force on project.

Report - All buildings are up-to-date on line-item analysis for presentation.

Turner - 5-6 buildings done

break down by general category

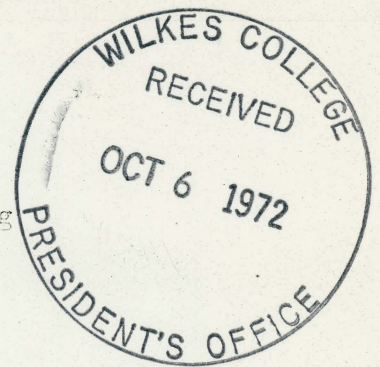
a) large items, boilers etc, itemize
 Use DSR items

General	Lordoni	58		
Mech & sheet	Turner	6	Zimmerman	4
electrical	{	Baldwin	7-8	
		Pliscott	3-4	
Painting	W.W. Davis	4		

14

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FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.

~~P.O. Box No. 1367~~ Hotel Sterling
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18701



6 October 1972

MEMO TO: Executive Committee

FROM: Alice E. Ellman

Enclosed is a copy of the revised list of the Executive Committee for our new stationery and comments on the other changes that are being made. If you have any comments or corrections, please let me know before Tuesday, October 10th.

Thank you.

are

Executive Committee ← all caps

Hon. Max Rosenn
Chairman

Thomas H. Kiley
1st Vice Chairman

A.J. Sordoni, III
2nd Vice Chairman

Harold Rose
Treasurer

Charles Hardwick
Secretary

James Kenny
Assistant Treasurer

Mrs. George W. Bierly
Assistant Secretary

Mrs. Frank W. Anderson

Edward J. Boltz

David DeCosmo

Andrew Hourigan, Jr., Esq.

Rev. Lane D. Kilburn

Dr. Francis Michelini

Roy E. Morgan

Joseph A. Quinn, Jr., Esq.

Edward Schechter

Andrew Shaw, Jr.
Executive Director

Notes

① HOTEL STERLING
instead of
Sterling Hotel

② make old ~~per~~ stationery
into memo pads.

FRTF

FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.

~~XXXXXX~~ 165 South Franklin Street
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18701
717 - 829-1981

MINUTES

WILKES COLLEGE

FRTF Executive Committee Meeting

JAN 9 1974

Tuesday, December 11, 1973, 12:15, Hotel Sterling

President's Office

Present: Steve Carter, Jim Fagelson, Dick Miller (Wilbur Smith and Associates); Andrew Hourigan, James Kenny, Lane Kilburn, Tom Kiley, Edgar Lashford, Roy Morgan, Max Rosenn, Betty Schechter, Edward Schechter, Andrew Shaw, A. J. Sordoni.

At Rosenn's suggestion, Lashford opened the meeting with a report on the visit he, Joseph Williams, Robert Masoner, and Robert Parker had made recently to Mississippi. The delegation from Wyoming Valley presented a Christmas Tree to their hosts as an expression of the continuing friendship that flood victims here feel for the people of Biloxi and Gulfport, and of gratitude for the Christmas visit that a group of Mississippians made to the Valley last year. Lashford reported that he, Williams, Masoner, and Parker were surprised to find that though the hurricane that laid waste to the Biloxi-Gulfport region occurred in 1969 the region's recovery from its disastrous effects is not as far advanced as Wyoming Valley's recovery from the effects of Hurricane Agnes.

Miller introduced Fagelson and Carter to the group and explained that Carter will be in charge of Area Appearance and Image work program that Wilbur Smith and Associates is preparing for the Task Force. Carter reviewed the progress that has been made on this program: he said that he and his associates are currently charting visual elements prevalent throughout the Valley, and will shortly begin mapping visual factors peculiar to particular areas.

Next, Miller made several observations on the survey of local attitudes toward local government, housing, and area appearance and image that his firm recently completed for the Task Force. He said that it was a scientific random sampling of Valley opinion, and he characterized the responses to the questionnaire used as "mixed". He added that the responses contain some surprises. To questions about the methodology that was used in making the survey, Miller replied that it will be explained in detail in the final report on the survey which will be presented to the Task Force in approximately two weeks from the date of the meeting.

A discussion of how the results of the survey should be made known to the public led to agreement that release of the results would be delayed until the Task Force receives the Consultant's written final report.

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FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.

~~XXXXXX~~ 165 South Franklin St.
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18701
717 - 829-1981

June 14, 1974

M E M O

To: The Flood Recovery Task Force Executive and Steering Committees
From: Andrew Shaw

July 1

Please reserve lunch time on ~~Thursday, June 20th!~~

On that day, the Task Force will hold its final formal meeting
in the Adams Room, Hotel Sterling, at 12:15.

Please let Betty Schechter (phone number above) know by Wednesday,
June 19th whether or not you will be able to attend.

*said OK
to Betty
Schechter
for July 1*

WILKES COLLEGE

JUN 17 1974

President's Office

*OK
→ Jim
OK
will do
20*

*~~Not enough could
attend June 20~~*

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors and Executive Committee, Friday,
April 6, 1973, 12:15 p.m., Hotel Sterling

Present: Anderson, Bierly, Boltz, Burnside, Conyngham, Hardwick, Jones, Kenny, Kilburn, Kiley, Masoner, Michelini, Moran, Morgan, O'Malley, Roth, Schechter, Sordoni, Turner; Ellman, Schechter, Shaw

The first order of business was a motion that the FRTF send letters to the Chambers of Commerce and Mayors of the cities and towns that have suffered the most damage as a result of the recent Mississippi River floods. It was agreed that these letters should not only express sympathy for losses but also suggest a visit by representatives of the flooded areas to Wyoming Valley for the purpose of benefiting from the Valley's flood recovery experience. The motion passed.

Speaking for the Nominating Committee, Michelini proposed that Sailus be elected 2nd Vice Chairman and that Schechter be named Secretary. A motion to that effect was made and passed.

Shaw and Betty Schechter reported on recent Task Force activities.

1. Charter Study at County Level

Shaw reviewed the Task Force's cooperation with the Flood Victims Action Council and the League of Women Voters in a petition campaign to have the question of a county charter study commission of eleven placed on the May primary ballot. He said that after the County Commissioners issued an ordinance placing the question of a seven-person county study commission on the ballot, the Task Force diverted its efforts to encouraging qualified voters to become candidates for the commission.

2. Local Government Study

Shaw reported that, as a result of a request from the FRTF, the EDC, the FVAC, and the Chambers of Commerce of Hazleton, Nanticoke, Pittston, and Wilkes-Barre to Secretary Wilcox for funding of a study of local government, the DCA contracted with the Pennsylvania Economy League for an in depth study of the services local governments provide. He added that a committee to advise PEL during the course of its study will be made up of representatives of the seven groups who had requested it and a number of other interested citizens. Shaw said that the results of the study are expected to be a valuable tool for use by any study commission elected in May.

3. Wilkes-Barre Steam Heat Company

Shaw reported that although efforts the Task Force made to solve the problems created by the Wilkes-Barre Steam Heat Company's financial difficulties proved unsuccessful, there is reason to hope that negotiations with private interests currently in progress will resolve the situation satisfactorily.

4. Susquehanna River Basin Association

Shaw informed the group that the Susquehanna River Basin Association has been revitalized, and that Robert Slaff is serving as its President, Roy Morgan as one of its Vice Presidents, and Shaw as its Secretary. He added that residents of Maryland, New York, and Pennsylvania have agreed to serve either as an officer or a director of the Association, and that the FRTF has applied to EDA for a grant to the Association in the sum of \$75,000.

5. Local Government Flood Administrators

Shaw reported that he attends biweekly meetings with flood administrators who have been employed by local governments using EDA grant monies. He said that, for the most part, these administrators had little or no training for their jobs. He added, however, that IRA, PEL, and FRTF have all made a point of working with them and that, as a result, a number of them have developed very well. He noted that, since the EDA grants under which these administrators were hired are due to expire shortly, direction of the various flood recovery efforts will soon revert to municipal officials.

6. Rainbow Recovery Fair

Betty Schechter reported that the Fair, an amalgamation and expansion of the Valley's traditional Cherry Blossom Festival, Fine Arts Fiesta, and Parade of Progress springtime activities, will run from May 11th to June 3rd and will conclude with a special event on June 23rd commemorating the anniversary of the flood. She added that the Department of Community Affairs, recognizing the Fair's potential for aiding in the recovery effort, has allocated \$16,500 of the State's flood relief funds to help defray the Fair's expenses.

7. Housing - HUD Moratorium

Betty Schechter reported that Dr. James Costantino of the Federal Regional Council had informed the FRTF that the letter it had written to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development James Lynn requesting an exemption for the Valley to the Moratorium, and documenting the Valley's need for it, represents the direct approach most likely to produce the desired results. She said that Dr. Costantino had assured the Task Force that should the moratorium be relaxed, disaster areas will have the highest priority for federal assistance in housing.

Kiley reported that at a meeting of persons concerned about the local housing situation held the previous week, Secretary Wilcox had suggested that a delegation from the Valley go to Washington and meet with Secretary Lynn. He added that plans are being made to follow this suggestion, and that efforts are being made to secure accurate housing need statistics.

8. National Catastrophic Disaster Insurance

Betty Schechter reported that the FRTF staff is currently engaged in writing letters asking for support for bills proposing this insurance to the Chambers of Commerce representing the home districts of the legislators who make up the House and Senate Banking and Currency Committees charged with reporting on the bills.

Shaw submitted the financial report. The Task Force has spent \$36,087 of its \$261,000 grant, leaving \$224,913 unexpended. The projected expenditure to 9/30/73 of normal operating costs is \$40,000, leaving \$184,913 in uncommitted funds.

Sordoni announced that the Steering Committee had made plans for the Task Force to remain active until September 1973 and to use its unexpended funds in areas most likely to benefit the flood-affected areas. He added that Hardwick would report on these plans.

Hardwick reported that the Steering Committee had earmarked \$25,000 to be used in support of the County Home Rule Charter Study. This money, he said, would be used for such purposes as employing qualified consultants and financing visits by study commissioners to areas where reorganizations of local governments have been undertaken successfully. He added that for the Task Force to support the charter study financially would be to help ensure that the job will be done well. To supplement the study commission's work, he said, the Steering Committee proposed to contract for a survey of attitudes towards the services local governments provide which would cost, at the most, \$40,000.

Turning to the area of housing, Hardwick said that the Steering Committee was recommending expenditure of \$36,000 for a study of local housing needs and housing market feasibility.

On the subject of Area Appearance and Image, Hardwick said that the Committee proposed employing consultants to develop a program leading to improvement of the Valley's physical environment and image in the eyes of both its residents and the outside world. He added that the Committee envisioned getting such a program started and then turning it over to established local agencies. The Committee has earmarked \$45,000 for this purpose.

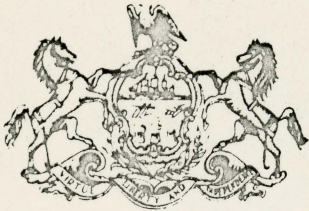
Hardwick reported that the Steering Committee hoped to spend an additional \$25,000 on helping EDC defray the cost of the Wyoming Valley Sketch Plan prepared by Wilbur Smith and Associates. He said that this expenditure could be made either directly to the consultants, or through the Luzerne County Planning Commission. Hardwick noted that the EDA had indicated that such use of Task Force funds is not permissible under the terms of its grant, but he added that the Task Force will explore this further with EDA.

Hardwick also noted that should all the expenditures recommended by the Steering Committee be made, the Task Force would still have a contingency fund of \$38,000.

A motion was made to accept the Steering Committee's proposals, including the one regarding sharing the cost of the Sketch Plan if that should prove possible. The motion was passed.

Schechter reported that highway construction in Pennsylvania is at a virtual standstill because of 1) the President's inflation control and impoundment of funds 2) failure on the part of Congress to deal with the Highway Trust Fund issue, and 3) the State legislature's failure to pass a '72-'73 capital budget.

Schechter also reported that the increasing financial difficulties of Eastern railroads are likely to lead to elimination of some railroad lines. He added that efforts must be made to guard against loss of rail service to Wyoming Valley lest local businesses be so crippled that thousands of jobs are lost.



MILTON J. SHAPP
GOVERNOR

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HARRISBURG

NEWS RELEASE

EMBARGO UNTIL IMMEDIATE

Friday, March 23, 1973

Governor Milton J. Shapp today issued the latest bi-weekly report of flood relief expenditures showing the Commonwealth has now spent or committed more than \$55 million of the \$150 million appropriated by the General Assembly.

So far, the Governor has allocated \$119.1 million of the appropriated funds to the various departments and agencies of state government with \$30.9 million being held in reserve for future allocation.

Since the last reporting period the Governor has allocated an additional \$2.3 million to the Department of Public Welfare to be used for special services for the aging.

The \$55 million in commitments and expenditures, minus the receipt of \$10.5 million leaves the Commonwealth with an unobligated balance of \$74.5 million in allocated funds available.

The emergency short-term loan program in the Department of Commerce remains the largest single expenditure in the flood recovery program. To this point the state has distributed nearly \$29 million through this program to businesses affected by the flood.

The Commonwealth has now had repayment of more than \$10 million and the program maintains an available balance of \$11.2 million.

The Department of Community Affairs has now spent or committed \$10.4 million with the majority of this money, some \$10.5 million, going to housing and housing redevelopment.

Environmental Resources has now spent or committed more than \$7 million with the largest share going to local governments for their use in environmental clean-up and recovery.

The Department of Public Welfare has now spent or committed more than \$2.3 million on such programs as public assistance, services for the aging, and care and assistance to the United Services Agency.

A separate breakdown of the expenditures and commitments is included.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATUS OF FLOOD RELIEF RECOVERY PROGRAMS
(STATE FUNDS ONLY)
AS OF MARCH 16, 1973

DEPARTMENTS PROGRAMS	ALLOCATIONS	AUGMENTATIONS	ENCUMBRANCES	EXPENDITURES	AVAILABLE BALANCE
<u>Governor's Office</u>					
Human Relations Commission					
Insure Compliance with Equal Opportunity Laws	\$ 374,000.00	\$ -	\$ 9,786.90	\$ 142,754.84	\$ 221,458.26
Office of State Planning and Development					
Short and Long Range Disaster Recovery Planning	210,000.00	-	-	-	210,000.00
Total	584,000.00	-	9,786.90	142,754.84	431,458.26
<u>Treasury</u>					
Refunding Corporation Taxes	2,000,000.00	-	-	1,063,654.01	936,345.99
<u>Agriculture</u>					
Agriculture Community Recovery Effort	1,000,000.00	-	442.70	429,208.34	570,348.96
Transfers to State Farm Products Show	500,000.00	-	-	500,000.00	-
Total	1,500,000.00	-	442.70	929,208.34	570,348.96
<u>Civil Defense</u>					
General Clean-up and Relief	1,000,000.00	-	556.59	403,371.15	596,072.26
<u>Commerce</u>					
Emergency Short-term Commercial Loans	30,000,000.00	10,032,673.34	-	28,802,110.00	11,230,563.34
Advertising	100,000.00	-	25,000.00	-	75,000.00
Industrial Development Assistance	500,000.00	-	-	-	500,000.00
Site Development	1,000,000.00	-	-	99,975.00	900,025.00
Coordination Unit	200,000.00	-	14,860.64	75,737.43	109,401.93
Total	31,800,000.00	10,032,673.34	39,860.64	28,977,822.43	12,814,990.27
<u>Community Affairs</u>					
General Government	500,000.00	-	19,978.82	114,641.40	365,379.78
Housing and Redevelopment	11,500,000.00	-	3,579,995.00	6,910,816.85	1,009,188.15

DEPARTMENTS PROGRAMS	ALLOCATIONS	AUGMENTATIONS	ENCUMBRANCES	EXPENDITURES	AVAILABLE BALANCE
<u>Community Affairs (Continued)</u>					
Housing Assistance	3,690,000.00	-	333,791.93	408,328.82	2,947,879.25
Recreation	867,000.00	-	294,987.17	258,566.83	313,446.00
Planning Assistance	500,000.00	-	113,510.00	-	386,490.00
Grants to Volunteer Fire Companies and Ambulance Services	1,700,000.00	-	6,904.48	203,158.19	1,489,937.33
Site Development - Mobile Homes	1,165,000.00	-	-	244,077.27	920,922.73
Total	19,922,000.00	-	4,349,167.40	8,139,589.36	7,433,243.24
<u>Education</u>					
Aid to Public Schools	750,000.00	-	-	-	750,000.00
Higher Education Refugee Accommodation	33,000.00	-	-	-	33,000.00
Public Library Flood Relief	1,040,000.00	-	35,320.00	89,280.00	915,400.00
Manpower Development Training	300,000.00	-	31,348.00	-	268,652.00
Total	2,123,000.00	-	66,668.00	89,280.00	1,967,052.00
<u>Environmental Resources</u>					
General Government Operations	2,000,000.00	365,000.00	454,139.67	839,849.13	1,071,011.20
Restoration and Improvements to Local Flood Protection Projects	50,000.00	-	-	4,898.10	45,101.90
Restoration and Flood Control Dams	75,000.00	-	264.00	3,257.54	71,478.46
Stream Improvements	1,285,000.00	52,443.00	356,705.79	70,268.03	910,469.18
Restore and Rehabilitate Damaged Recreation Areas	3,300,000.00	-	148,541.86	19,033.18	3,132,424.96
Solid Waste Management-Region II North	90,000.00	-	50,666.08	17,056.24	22,277.68
Control of Mine Pool Elevation and Mine Subsidence	2,128,000.00	-	125,000.00	-	2,003,000.00
Convert Frances Slocum State Park into a Temporary Site for Mobile Homes for Flood Victims	100,000.00	-	4,515.41	23,844.27	71,640.32
Total	9,028,000.00	417,443.00	1,139,832.81	978,206.49	7,327,403.10
<u>Health</u>					
Restoration of Health Delivery System	2,300,000.00	-	470,891.74	133,140.39	1,695,967.87
Support for Comprehensive Health Planning	150,000.00	-	119,775.00	15,225.00	15,000.00
Non-Specified	7,550,000.00	-	-	-	7,550,000.00
Total	10,000,000.00	-	590,666.74	148,365.39	9,260,967.87

DEPARTMENTS PROGRAMS	ALLOCATIONS	AUGMENTATIONS	ENCUMBRANCES	EXPENDITURES	AVAILABLE BALANCE
<u>Historical and Museum Commission</u>					
Restoration of Historical Sites	315,000.00	-	-	-	315,000.00
<u>Justice</u>					
Legal Aid	25,000.00	-	-	-	25,000.00
Consumer Protection	150,000.00	-	2,744.59	39,133.71	108,121.70
Total	175,000.00	-	2,744.59	39,133.71	133,121.70
<u>Military Affairs</u>					
National Guard Expenses	4,000,000.00	-	511,414.97	571,425.92	2,917,159.11
<u>Pennsylvania Higher Education</u>					
<u>Assistance Agency</u>					
Emergency Scholarship Assistance	3,384,000.00	-	-	3,112,466.00	271,534.00
<u>Public Welfare</u>					
Public Assistance	25,000,000.00	-	99,536.60	409,814.61	24,490,648.79
Mobile Service Unit	265,000.00	-	-	-	265,000.00
Aging Programs	800,000.00	-	-	283,979.12	516,020.88
Special Services for the Aging	3,276,000.00	-	431,654.00	3,665.54	2,840,680.46
Day Care	1,500,000.00	-	439,831.61	200,307.86	859,860.53
United Services Agency	1,000,000.00	-	13,588.12	618,273.94	368,137.94
Mental Health Service	150,000.00	-	98,065.69	22,883.50	29,050.81
Total	31,991,000.00	-	1,082,676.02	1,538,924.57	29,369,399.41
<u>State</u>					
Voters' Re-registration	250,000.00	-	-	244,963.61	5,036.39
<u>State Police</u>					
State Police Expenses	400,000.00	-	-	397,474.54	2,525.46

DEPARTMENTS PROGRAMS	ALLOCATIONS	AUGMENTATIONS	ENCUMBRANCES	EXPENDITURES	AVAILABLE BALANCE
<u>Transportation</u>					
Transit Service Assistance	<u>600,000.00</u>	-	402,218.69	197,781.31	-
Allocated Total	119,072,000.00	10,450,116.34	8,196,036.05	46,974,421.67	74,351,658.62
Governor's Office - Unallocated Balance	<u>30,928,000.00*</u>	-	-	-	30,928,000.00
GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$150,000,000.00</u>	<u>\$10,450,116.34</u>	<u>\$8,196,036.05</u>	<u>\$46,974,421.67</u>	<u>\$105,279,658.62</u>

* The unallocated balance includes \$20,000,000 that has been reserved by the Governor for the Department of Commerce for Emergency Short-term Commercial Loans.

Prepared by:
Governor's Office of Administration
March 23, 1973

FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.
MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Friday, April 6, 1973, Hotel Sterling, 12:15

AGENDA

Ed. Schecter *George Salinas*

1. Nomination and Election of Secretary and 2nd Vice President

2. Activity Report

- a. Charter Study at County Level
- b. Local Government Study
- c. Steam Heat Company
- d. Susquehanna River Basin Association *26,500,000 3,000,000 page*
- e. Local Government Flood Administrators
- f. Rainbow Recovery Fair
- g. National Catastrophic Disaster Insurance Bills
- h. Housing - HUD Moratorium

3. Financial Report

Total Grant Authorization	\$261,000
Total Expenditures to Date	36,087
Balance	<u>\$224,913</u>

Projected Expenditures to September 30, 1973

Normal Operating Costs	40,000
Uncommitted Funds	<u>\$184,913</u>

4. EDA Guidelines

5. Proposed Programs

- 3 a. Public Opinion Survey *re govt.* \$ 40,000 ✓
- 1 b. Housing Survey 36,000 ✓
- 4 c. Area Appearance and Image 45,000 ✓
- 2 d. County Home Rule Charter Study 25,000 ✓

5. *EDC study supplement*

\$146,000

25,000

171,000

Wilkes-Barre Steam Heat Company

At the end of 1972, when it became known that the Wilkes-Barre Steam Heat Company was in serious financial difficulties, the FRTF undertook to seek a way of ensuring that the company's customers would continue to receive steam heat service. It did this, but to no avail. Accordingly, plans were made to notify the public that the Task Force could see no further role for itself in the steam heat situation. Upon request from the company's receivers, however, it was decided not to do this: the receivers feared that such an announcement might jeopardize negotiations concerning the WB Steam Heat Company currently in progress with private interests. Instead, a letter was sent to City Manager Bernard Gallagher, Secretary of Community Affairs William Wilcox, and Edgar Lashford, Executive Director of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, informing them that the Task Force, having explored all apparent approaches to resolving the steam heat situation, no longer believed it could be useful in this regard.

HUD Moratorium on new housing construction

Available statistics relating to the flood-affected regions' critical need for new, low, and moderate income housing were compiled and used to document a letter from FRTF to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development James Lynn urging that an exception to the moratorium be made for Wyoming Valley because of its status as a disaster area.

Susquehanna River Basin Association

The FRTF assumed responsibility for applying to EDA for a grant to be used for the purpose of revitalizing the Susquehanna River Basin Association. Agreements to serve either as an officer or a director of the Association were secured from residents of Maryland, New York, and Pennsylvania, and application for a grant of \$75,000 was made to EDA.

County Government Study Commission

The FRTF, the League of Women Voters, and the Flood Victims Action Council cooperated to initiate a petition campaign aimed at placing the question of an eleven-person commission to study the county form of government on the May 15th primary ballot. After the County Commissioners issued an ordinance placing the question of a seven-person county government study commission on the ballot, the FRTF, LWV, and FVAC worked together to encourage qualified county voters to run for the position of study commissioner.

Catastrophic Disaster Insurance

The Task Force earmarked \$5,000 of its funds for support of the bill proposing creation of a Catastrophic Disaster Insurance Program that has been introduced into the Senate by Senators Schweiker, Scott, and Humphrey, and into the House by Representative Dan Flood (H.R. 4772; S. 1144).

A letter campaign in support of the bill has been initiated by the Task Force staff.

- a. to the home district Chamber of Commerce of each member of the House Banking and Currency Committee
- b. to the home state Chambers of Commerce of each member of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee
- c. to each Congressman and Senator from FRTF, EDC, and FVAC

Rainbow Recovery Fair

The Task Force continued to plan for a springtime fair celebrating the Valley's progress towards recovery from the flood, and demonstrating its cultural, educational, and recreational assets and its potential for industrial growth. The Fair is scheduled to open on May 11th and to continue through June 3rd. A final event is planned for June 23rd to mark the anniversary of the flood.

Secretary of Community Affairs William Wilcox announced that the State will contribute \$16,500 of its flood-relief funds to help defray the Fair's expenses. A portion of the State's grant will be used to employ staff and provide necessary office supplies and the remainder will be divided among the participating organizations.

Wilbur Smith and Associates

The FRTF solicited and received from Wilbur Smith and Associates proposals for action programs relating to Wyoming Valley redevelopment, local government, and area appearance and image. A review of these proposals led to a decision to ask the consultants to rephrase their proposals so as to omit those having to do with redevelopment or calling for further analyses or studies, and to emphasize and refine action programs holding promise of early benefits to the flood-affected regions. New proposals, including a section relating to the Valley's housing needs, have been received from the consultants and these are presently under consideration.

Department of Community Affairs - Pennsylvania Economy League Study

The Task Force met with representatives of EDC, FVAC, and the Chambers of Commerce of Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton, Nanticoke, and Pittston to form a committee to advise the Pennsylvania Economy League during the course of the study of local government it will be making for the Department of Community Affairs.

Police and Ambulance Services

The Task Force has taken part in discussions with agencies concerned with police services about the desirability of instituting training for police personnel on a regional basis.

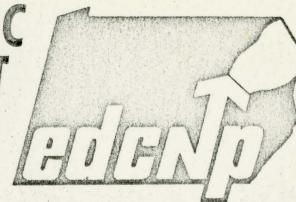
The establishment of a comprehensive police communications network has led to efforts by the Task Force and other local agencies to develop a similar comprehensive communications network for ambulance service. As presently envisioned, this network will coordinate the services of 47 ambulance associations and the six Luzerne County Hospitals that provide emergency service.

Service to Individual Flood Victims and Cooperation with Government Flood-Relief Agencies

The Task Force staff has responded to a number of requests from individual flood victims for assistance in dealing with government agencies. In several instances the particular problem was solved quickly; in the cases of some of these, it is possible to think that prompt resolution of the problem could be traced to Task Force assistance.

JOHN B. HIBBARD, President
ASA L. DAY, JR., Vice President
THOMAS P. SHELBURNE, Vice President
STUART F. PIPHER, Secretary
FRANK L. WILLIS, Treasurer and
Vice President of Fiscal Affairs

**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL
OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA**



HOWARD J. GROSSMAN, Executive Director

P.O. BOX 777 • AVOCA, PA. 18641 • TEL. 717/457-7456

TO: EDCNP Board Members from Luzerne County; Flood Recovery Task Force
Planning and Development Committee; Luzerne County Planning Commission
Board Members, Board of Luzerne County Commissioners

FROM: John B. Hibbard, EDCNP President

SUBJECT: Special Meeting on Flood Related Urban Renewal Projects in the
Wyoming Valley.

DATE: April 5, 1973

A special meeting has been arranged for Thursday, April 19, 1973, at 3:00 p.m., in the Board Room of the Luzerne County Commissioners, Courthouse, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, for the purpose of hearing a presentation by the Redevelopment Authorities of Luzerne County, Wilkes-Barre, and Nanticoke and their consultants. Now that the urban renewal plans have been completed for the flood related urban renewal projects, the review of these plans by interested agencies is an important step toward meeting the June 30th deadline set by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

As many of you know, a review process was established several months ago when the survey and planning applications of the Redevelopment Authorities for the various flood related urban renewal projects were studied by EDCNP and other agencies. The purpose of the April 19th meeting is to bring together the agencies involved in the review process in one meeting to hear a single presentation of all urban renewal project plans in the Wyoming Valley at one time. Hopefully, this will eliminate several meetings which would ordinarily have been the case.

I look forward to seeing you at this special meeting and your participation in the review process of the urban renewal

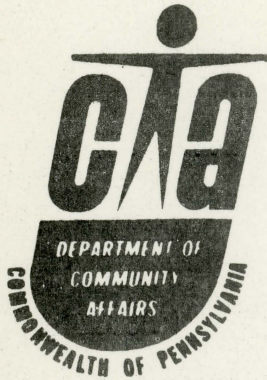
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
Post Office Box 777
Avoca, Pennsylvania 18641

I will _____ will not _____ attend the special meeting on Flood Related Urban Renewal Projects in the Wyoming Valley to be held on Thursday, April 19, at 3:00 p.m., in the Board Room of the Luzerne County Commissioners, Courthouse, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

(Name) _____

(Organization) _____

Serving Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Schuylkill and Wayne Counties



MILTON J. SHAPP, Governor
 WILLIAM H. WILCOX, Secretary
 EDWIN A. SITES, Regional Director

YOUR INVITATION

to attend our

FIFTH ANNUAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE

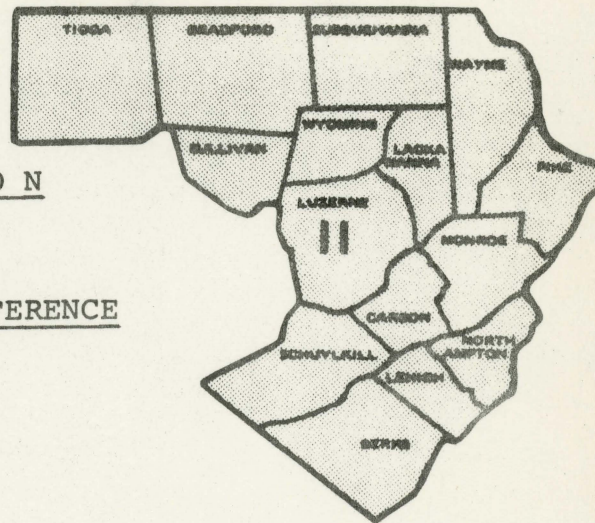
to be held

Saturday, April 28, 1973

at

KING'S COLLEGE GYMNASIUM

N. Main & Jackson Streets, Wilkes Barre



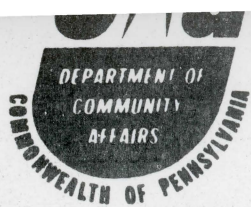
9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

In keeping with our previous policy, another conference is being sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs, in cooperation with the cooperation of the Board of Community Development, Flood Recovery Force, Inc., and Flood Victims Action Council.

Because of the recent flood disaster caused by tropical storm "Agnes" within a number of areas in Region II, it is our feeling that several subjects will be discussed relative to flood recovery and other natural disasters. We are inviting several prominent national and state speakers to discuss the following subjects:

- ADDRESS: 1. National Catastrophe Insurance
 NAME: 2. National Flood Insurance Program
 3. Natural Disaster Preparedness

Additional conferences scheduled to discuss flood recovery and other natural disasters. The first of these conferences will be held on Friday, April 27, 1973, at 8:30 A.M. at the King's College Gymnasium. The second conference will be held on Saturday, April 28, 1973, at 9:00 A.M. at the same location. The third conference will be held on Sunday, April 29, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The fourth conference will be held on Monday, May 1, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The fifth conference will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The sixth conference will be held on Wednesday, May 3, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The seventh conference will be held on Thursday, May 4, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The eighth conference will be held on Friday, May 5, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The ninth conference will be held on Saturday, May 6, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The tenth conference will be held on Sunday, May 7, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The eleventh conference will be held on Monday, May 8, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The twelfth conference will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The thirteenth conference will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The fourteenth conference will be held on Thursday, May 11, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The fifteenth conference will be held on Friday, May 12, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The sixteenth conference will be held on Saturday, May 13, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The seventeenth conference will be held on Sunday, May 14, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The eighteenth conference will be held on Monday, May 15, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The nineteenth conference will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The twentieth conference will be held on Wednesday, May 17, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The twenty-first conference will be held on Thursday, May 18, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The twenty-second conference will be held on Friday, May 19, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The twenty-third conference will be held on Saturday, May 20, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The twenty-fourth conference will be held on Sunday, May 21, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The twenty-fifth conference will be held on Monday, May 22, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The twenty-sixth conference will be held on Tuesday, May 23, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The twenty-seventh conference will be held on Wednesday, May 24, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The twenty-eighth conference will be held on Thursday, May 25, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The twenty-ninth conference will be held on Friday, May 26, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The thirtieth conference will be held on Saturday, May 27, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The thirty-first conference will be held on Sunday, May 28, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The thirty-second conference will be held on Monday, May 29, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The thirty-third conference will be held on Tuesday, May 30, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The thirty-fourth conference will be held on Wednesday, May 31, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The thirty-fifth conference will be held on Thursday, June 1, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The thirty-sixth conference will be held on Friday, June 2, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. The thirty-seventh conference will be held on Saturday, June 3, 1973, at 10:00 A.M. at the same location. 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to attend our
FIFTH ANNUAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE

to be held

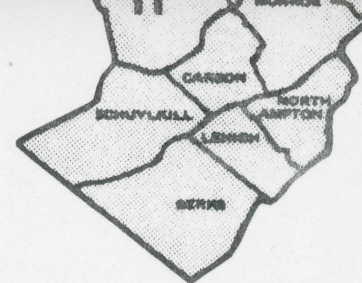
Saturday, April 28, 1973

at

KING'S COLLEGE GYMNASIUM

N. Main & Jackson Streets, Wilkes Barre

9 A.M. to 4 P.M.



MILTON J. SHAPP, Governor
WILLIAM H. WILCOX, Secretary
EDWIN A. SITES, Regional Director

In keeping with our previous policy, another conference is being sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs - Region II, with the cooperation of the Economic Development Council of N. E. Pennsylvania, Flood Recovery Task Force, Inc. and Flood Victims Action Council.

Because of the recent flood disaster caused by tropical storm "Agnes" within a number of areas in Region II, it is our feeling that several subjects should be discussed relative to flood recovery and other natural disasters. We are inviting several prominent national and state speakers to discuss the following subjects:

1. National Catastrophe Insurance
2. National Flood Insurance Program
3. Natural Disaster Preparedness
4. Premier Showing of Flood-Related Film Produced by D.C.A.
5. Exhibits and Information Booths
6. Other Related Subjects

Congressman Daniel J. Flood will be the Luncheon Speaker.

The fee for the entire conference is \$8.00 per person. This will cover the cost of registration, luncheon, cocktail, Coffee and pastry will be served commencing at 8:30 A.M. COME EARLY.

Please complete this form below and return to the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs, 320 Chamber of Commerce Building, Scranton, Pennsylvania, 18503. Kindly make checks payable to the Department of Community Affairs Regional Conference. Payment in advance would be appreciated.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

CHECK ENCLOSED: _____

PAYMENT TO BE MADE
ON ARRIVAL

TOTAL NUMBER
ATTENDING

Minutes - Executive Committee Meeting. FRTF - 9/14/72

Present: Judge Max Rosenn, Attorney Joseph Quinn, Attorney Andrew Hourigan, Mr. Edward Schechter, Dr. Francis Michelini, Mr. Edward J. Boltz, Mr. Harold Rose, Mr. Charles Hardwicke, Mr. Thomas Kiley, Mrs. Betty Kanarr Bierley, Mr. Roy Morgan, Mrs. Carol Kregan, Mr. Andrew Shaw, Mr. James Tarity, and Mrs. Betty Schechter

1. Extension of deadline for filing of applications for SBA Loans

Announcement has been made of an extension of the deadline to October 31st. According to Mr. Carlucci, the administration will support legislation on flood insurance, which may have sharp teeth in it. Mr. Carlucci would welcome comments on this legislation.

2. Trip to Biloxi

Those going to Biloxi will leave Sunday morning, October 1st and return either Monday night or early Tuesday morning. The trip down and back will probably be made in an Air Corps plane. Mr. Lashford will make the arrangements for the trip.

3. Meeting between representatives of the FRTF and representatives of the Flood Victims Action Committee

This meeting produced the following results: The Flood Victims Action Committee found that it has objectives in common with the FRTF; in response to a request from the FVAC for FRTF support on further efforts to secure co-insurance, Judge Rosenn suggested that they contact Representative Flood in this regard, as he is best equipped to help them in Washington; Judge Rosenn told the FVAC that at present the FRTF believes that emphasis should be placed on obtaining help from Harrisburg for efforts to secure more financial support for flood victims.

A motion was made and passed to the effect that a joint committee made up of a subcommittee of the FRTF and another of the FVAC be formed to work on expediting the repairs of homes of flood victims.

4. State Legislation

Attorney Hourigan reported that he and Mr. Shaw will meet with Senator Murray to map out an approach to Lt. Governor Kline. The following suggestions on topics to be considered in Harrisburg were made:

- 1) getting highway projects on the capitol budget
- 2) relief for flood victims with respect to income tax
- 3) grants in aid for particularly hard hit flood victims
- 4) reinstatement of previously endorsed tax relief: percentage of loss with deduction of amount received from the federal government

5. Legal Staff

Judge Rosenn reported that seven attorneys have indicated their willingness to serve the FRTF as a legal staff. He added that requests from members of the Task Force for legal assistance will be channelled through a still to be designated chairman of the legal staff.

6. SBA Loans on property owned by the Chamber of Commerce and under mortgage to PIDA

It was agreed that Mr. Morgan would follow up reports that applications for SBA Loans from people leasing Chamber of Commerce owned property under mortgage to PIDA are being turned down.

7. Housing for Displaced Persons

Mr. Shaw reported that difficulties of contractor-HUD relationships are under control.

8. FRTF Staff

A motion was made and passed to ratify the hiring of:

Andrew Shaw (\$12,000) ... as of September 5th
Betty Schechter (\$9,000) ... as of September 5th
James Tarity (\$7,000-7,500)... as of September 7th
Alice Ellman (\$5,980-6,500)... as of September 19th

9. Reception to honor Mr. Carlucci

It was agreed that the Task Force host a reception at the Treadway Inn to honor Mr. Frank Carlucci some time in October. Spouses of Task Force members will be invited and the reception will be financed by tickets sold to Task Force couples. Attorney Quinn suggested that invitations be sent to the county commissioners, city officials, Senators Schweiker and Scott, and other appropriate people. A motion was made and passed that a committee be formed to set a date for the reception and make the necessary arrangements.

10. FRTF relations with EDC

Judge Rosenn reported that Mr. Theodore Robb is interested in knowing the exact nature of the FRTF-EDC relationship. It was agreed that action be taken at once on formalizing this relationship.

11. Sanitary Authority

Mr. Kiley reported that Attorney Quinn will appoint an ad hoc committee to look into this subject in depth. Mr. Morgan reported that it is his impression that Mr. Goddard considers the drainage of mine acid a serious problem and thinks the FRTF should press for a solution. Mr. Schechter and Mr. Kiley indicated that they believe it is not desirable for the FRTF to get involved in this controversy because the question of primary versus secondary treatment is not directly related to the flood.

12. Recovery Fair

Judge Rosenn reported that Secretary of Pennsylvania Community Affairs Wilcox suggested a summer celebration of the area's recovery from the flood. Agreement was reached to notify Secretary Wilcox that his suggestion is being considered and to explore the possibility of a joint FRTF-Fine Arts Fiesta

Recovery Fair (continued)

project if, after what is expected to be a very difficult winter, it is agreed that there is cause to celebrate.

13. Discussion of whether a new slogan for the recovery effort is needed

Suggestions were made that the slogan now in use be replaced by "Better Than Ever" and that a lapel pin bearing a heart be devised. No agreement was reached.

14. Discussion of action needed to guard against widespread hardship in the event of "blizzard crises" this coming winter

Mr. Kiley suggested that a list be compiled of people who are willing to take into their homes temporarily those people whose heating systems fail. Judge Rosenn asked Mr. Shaw to talk to Mr. Roysten and Mr. Carlucci about devising such "blizzard" contingencies as a supply of extra mobile homes. It was agreed that the FRTF will work on this project jointly with the Flood Victims Action Committee. Attorney Hourigan suggested that Mr. Shaw ask federal government officials to guard against a possible winter failure of heating contractors' inventories.

15. Susquehanna River Basin Association

Mr. Morgan suggested that the FRTF be ready to react to the plotting of "flood-plain guidelines."

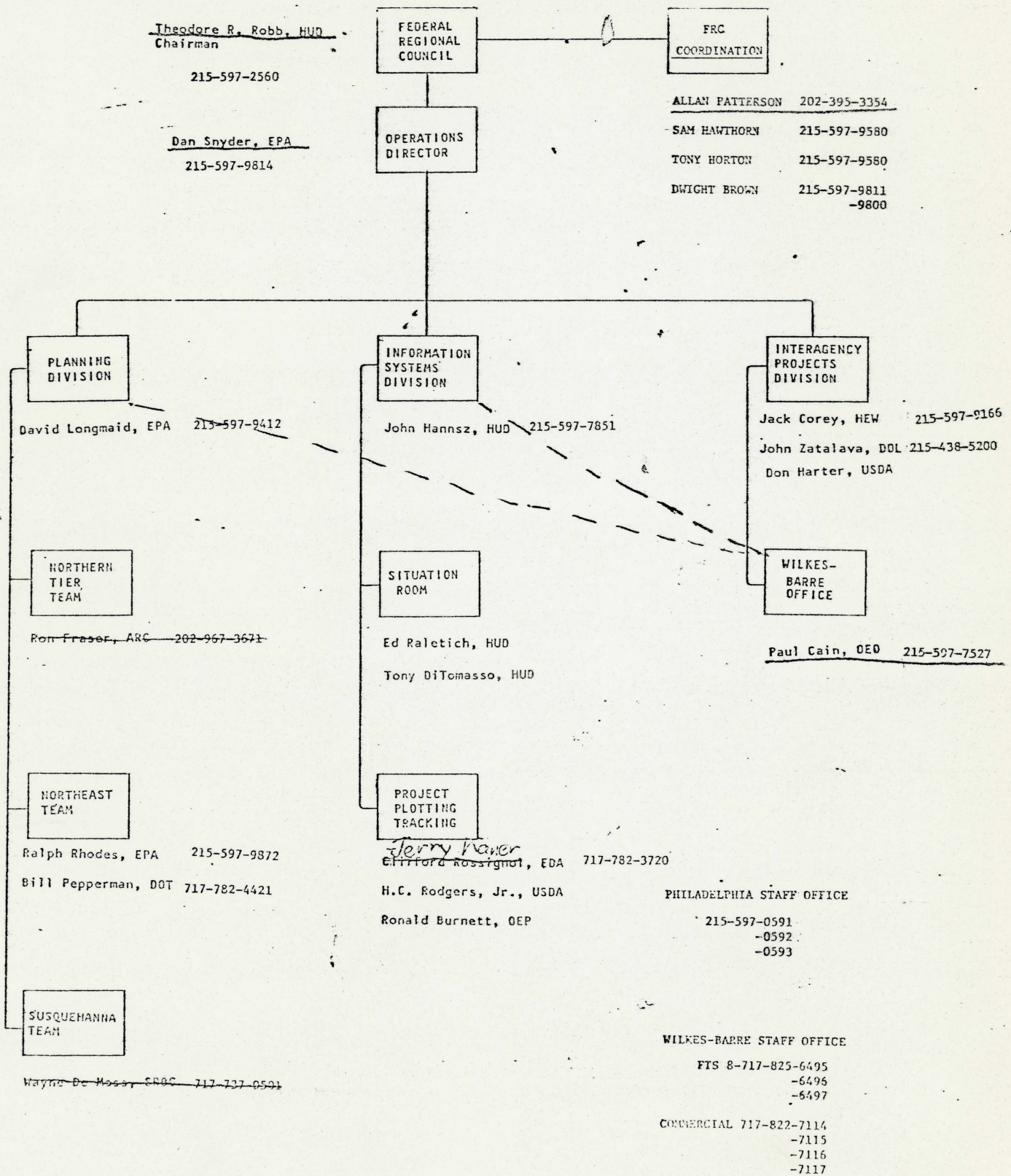


AGENDA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1972
WECKESSER HALL, 7:30 P.M.

- X 1. September 30th deadline on SBA loans
- X 2. Letter from Attorney Lou Feldman concerning modular homes
- X 3. Problems with contractors in Mini-Repair Program
- X 4. Ratification for hiring of staff *7 lawyers to serve on legal staff contacted, 3 to go.*
Shaw, Schechter, Jim Terry
- X 5. Meeting to honor Mr. Frank Carlucci
- X 6. Recovery Fair
- X 7. Trip to Mississippi *Oct. 1 Sun a.m. return Mon. 4:30 or Tue. a.m.*
- X 8. Report of meeting with Flood Victims Action Committee
- X 9. State Legislation
- X 10. Meeting in Harrisburg
- X 11. SBA loans on property owned by the Chamber of Commerce and under mortgage to PIDA
- X 12. Sanitary Authority - Secondary treatment
- X 13. Status of housing for displaced people
- X 14. *Legal staff*
Harrisburg
 - a) *Income tax relief re flood loss - state*
 - b) *Grants from 600,000,000 revenue sharing.*

FRC PENNSYLVANIA TASK FORCE

*Paul Royston
Oliver Taylor*



I. Sanitary Water Board

Pennsylvania Environmental Protection Agency ordered a study on conversion from primary to secondary treatment. The firm employed for this proved unsatisfactory, so contract was voided.

The Corps of Engineers has repaired sewage plant to 95% efficiency. Mr. Heiselberg thinks only thing holding plant up now is unreasonable attitude of "Authority". The "Authority" says secondary treatment would not be helpful because of mine acids in the river.

The redevelopment plans of four communities are held up by Environmental Agency which insists on secondary treatment.

Mr. Schechter suggests: Task Force investigate whether primary or secondary treatment more desirable, and then convince appropriate officials and people to go along with decision. He says "if secondary treatment will take a year, let's get relaxation of the requirements"...also, "question of primary versus secondary treatment is not a matter of good guys versus bad guys".

Judge Rosenn suggests: get following together: Water Board, EDA, Environmental Protection, Ed Heiselberg, Task Force.

Action: motion made and passed to refer matter to Planning and Development Committee for appropriate action.

II. Contractors and Unions

Some of the problems involved in local contractors' refusal to participate in Mini-Repair Program resolved when Judge Rosenn, Mr. Grace, Mr. Sordoni, and the Army Engineers met. But contractors still balked at working in Wilkes-Barre because of red tape obstacles. When those mentioned above met with Bernard Gallagher and representatives of the Presidential Staff, Mr. Gallagher said only City Council could make necessary changes. A meeting with City Council, the City Inspector, the Army Engineers and federal representatives produced agreement by Council to waive applications for licenses and permits and to require only payment of \$50 license fee by each unlicensed contractor.

III. Total Living Environment

Question: Who should pay for such services as garbage collection, fire and police protection, ambulance service, provision of laundry and shopping facilities at the 37 mobile home sites?

- a) the federal government thinks this a local obligation and that if help is needed, the state should provide it.

Minutes- Exec. Committee, FRTF (continued) 9/7/72

Total Living Environment (continued)

- b) State thinks it's a federal responsibility and wants Task Force to say so.

Mr. Sordoni thinks residents of sites should pay for these services and that if any government help is needed it should come from local government or the State. Mr. Kiley agrees: points out that mobile home site residents' lives basically unchanged except for where they're living. Mr. Sordoni says there are plenty of jobs and unemployment insurance available.

Judge Rosenn says issue is collective services such as fire and police protection that are usually provided by community. Dr. Michelini says that Mr. Royston is responsible for coordinating state and federal services and has been gathering information on required community services, which agencies had been providing them, and these agencies' plans for providing them in relocated communities. He will brief Judge Rosenn, Mr. Knauer and Mr. Carlucci on this on 9/8

Mr. Schechter points out that federal-state tug of war pervades recovery effort; he thinks it's largely a political matter. He suggests it is ^afunction of the FRTF to cool the heat between them. Mr. Schechter also suggested that the FRTF broaden its base..

IV. Problem presented by Flood Action Committee(Min Mattheison, Thelma Bosch and Michael Solomon among its members)

General agreement on need to convince Flood Action Committee that Flood Recovery Task Force has its interests at heart. Agreement reached to arrange meeting between Michael Solomon (who had requested meeting with Judge Rosenn), others he may want to bring along, and Judge Rosenn and a few members of the FRTF Executive Committee.

V. State Aid

Not much state aid has materialized to date. Municipalities are losing tax money as a result of the flood. Senator Schweiker will introduce an amendment to the Internal Revenue Code in regard to the \$5000 forgiveness.

VI. Visit by Representatives of the FRTF to Biloxi

Agreement was reached to get a group together for this purpose.

VII. Next Meeting : arranged for Thursday evening, September 14th, at 7:30
at Weckesser Hall, Wilkes College