



MINUTES OF LEPC MEETING – OCTOBER 11TH, 2016

LOCATION:

Montgomery County Public Safety Training Center
1175 Conshohocken Road
Conshohocken, PA 19428

ATTENDANCE:

LEPC Members:

Steve Wittmer, John Corcoran, Jim Fry, Mike Jones, Tom Garrity, Jim Leary,
Kathleen McVeigh, Scott Lynch

OEP Staff:

Bev Stemple, Bill Messerschmidt, Brandon Pursell, John Waters, II

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Wittmer called the meeting to order at 1307hrs.
The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.
Members were introduced.

A motion was made by Kathleen McVeigh, and seconded by Jim Fry to accept the meeting minutes for August 9th, 2016 meeting as submitted/amended. The question was called for, asked, and approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Chairman Wittmer asked that the LEPC By-Laws be reviewed within the next 12 months and update the quorum for meeting attendance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following committees had nothing to report:

Transportation, Communications, Public Works, SEPA Regional Taskforce, Energy, Human Services, Recovery, Administration and Finance, Logistics, External Affairs

Fire and Rescue Services

Mr. Jones noted the potential need to exercise caution when using foam and training foam in particular. He referenced the contamination issues at Horsham Air Base linked to foam used on base.

Mr. Garrity noted that Fire Ground Support and Exterior Firefighter were currently in session. The students in the Exterior Firefighter course recently completed Hazardous Materials Operations training. An Interior Firefighter class will be starting October 18th. Class 1604 Graduation ceremony is scheduled for November 20th. Classes offered are down slightly compared to last year, but enrollments (individuals who attend class or drill at the academy) are up compared to last year. Day-time and weekday fire classes have been offered this semester to accommodate second and third shift firefighters, however, enrollment is weak. Summer day time programs as well as weekday fire and rescue programs went well. Mr. Garrity reported that they are in the process of hiring a Rescue Program Coordinator. Mr. Garrity noted that they are working to resolve a few operational/safety issues with the new propane props. Chairman Wittmer proposed the procurement of propane props with Mr. Garrity and noted that it would assist with training for potential propane related hazardous material calls. Chairman Wittmer asked Mr. Waters to look into amending budget for propane props. Mr. Garrity informed the committee that they are looking at the Learning Management System to assist with training with EMS taking the lead.

Emergency Management

Mr. Messerschmidt announced that he would be giving the report of behalf of Mr. Wilson. Mr. Messerschmidt noted that a risk assessment was conducted for Montgomery County where a workshop was held to review facilities and mark the vulnerability of sites including SARA facilities. This project was taskforce funded and the product should be available within the next couple of months. Chairman Wittmer asked Mr. Messerschmidt if there were any procedures in place to ensure that there were no duplications of any previous assessments. Mr. Messerschmidt confirmed that this assessment was not a duplication.

Hazardous Materials

Ms. Stemple reported that 84% of plans had been completed in the month of October. Chairman Wittmer explained the abbreviation of statistics at LEPC meetings and asked Ms. Stemple if there were any issues to report. Ms. Stemple stated that there were no issues to report.

Mr. Pursell reported that as of 10-11-2016 97% of all reporting facilities had paid their invoices and as of 10-11-2016 the total income was \$126,525.00. Chairman Wittmer asked if there would be 100% compliance again as there was in 2015. Mr. Pursell assured that he was following up with all facilities and has been issuing new invoices to those facilities that have not paid.

Mr. Waters gave an update on the PEAC WMD package. Mr. Waters explained that an intern had gone through the latitudes and longitudes of the facilities and made the proper corrections and as of 10-11-2016 PEAC had just gone live the week prior. Chairman Wittmer asked if there could be a demo presented at the next meeting and Mr. Waters agreed. Mr. Waters reported on the use of D4H for the use of analytics and tracking to help the Hazardous Materials Response Team and noted that he would also give a demonstration of this product at the next meeting. Mr. Waters informed the committee that the mission statement of the HazMat Team would be completed by the next meeting. Lastly, Mr. Water reviewed two responses by the Hazardous Materials Response Team; a fuel spill at a landscaping company in Willow Grove and a standby in Norristown for a drug lab investigation conducted by the Pennsylvania State Police Drug Lab Team.

Police Chiefs Association

Mr. Leary introduced himself as the Police Chief of Souderton Borough. Mr. Leary explained that he is new to the position and is in the learning process and understanding his role in the LEPC. Mr. Leary offered his services of contacting police chiefs and is able to convey messages back and forth to the Police Chiefs Association.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Jones had noted a full scale exercise that would be taking place December 2nd and 3rd.

Chairman Wittmer proposed changing the 2017 meeting schedule to quarterly meetings. The committee as a whole agreed

Mr. Lynch suggested that by starting mid-way through February, this allows unfinished business to be taken care of by the end of the quarter.

Mr. Leary agreed to the idea and noted that there would only be one meeting in the summer and this would be beneficial due to lack of attendance because of vacations.

Meeting dates were decided to be second Tuesday of February, May, August, and November at 1300hrs.

Mr. Corcoran made the motion, and the motion was seconded by Ms. McVeigh. The motion passed by a majority vote.

NEXT MEETING DATES

Next meeting was proposed for Tuesday December 13th and 1300hrs.

Mr. Lynch motioned to set the December meeting date and the motion was seconded by Mike Jones. The motion passed by majority vote.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Chairman Wittmer asked Mr. Lynch to elaborate on a response to a propane explosion that had occurred in Whitemarsh Township earlier in the year.

Mr. Lynch recounted the response efforts and what had occurred that led to the incident occurring.

Mr. Waters had recounted the response efforts taken by the Haz Mat Team during the response to the incident

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Ms. McVeigh and seconded by John Corcoran to adjourn the Montgomery County LEPC meeting for October 11th, 2016. The meeting was adjourned at 1358hrs.