



MINUTES OF LEPC MEETING – February 14TH, 2017

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, Scott Lynch, Michael Moonblatt, Greg Jeniec

OEP Staff:

Bev Stemple, Jason Wilson, Brandon Pursell

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Wittmer called the meeting to order at 1304 hrs. The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance.

A motion was made by Mike Moonblatt and seconded by Scott Lynch to accept the meeting minutes for December 13th, 2016 meeting as submitted/amended. The question was called for, asked, and approved.

GUESTS:

Kevin Bosch, Jules DiRocco, James Weller

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Pursell reported that himself along with Mr. Waters had reviewed LEPC positions to identify any gaps within the committee. Upon their review they identified that there was a vacancy for the Hospital Liaison position and that it would need to be filled. Mr. Wilson informed Chairman Wittmer and the committee that Commissioner Arkoosh may have a candidate for the position.

Actionable Item: Select Candidate for Hospital Liaison Position.

Chairman Wittmer also asked Mr. Wilson and Mr. Pursell to look into the quorum for representative needed in the committee. It was recommended to ask surrounding counties what quorums they have set.

Actionable Item: Determine quorum for LEPC representatives

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The following committees have nothing to report:

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

Fire and Rescue Services

Mr. Jones reported that the "Who Do You Call" segment presented by USAR and HMRT at the Chief Officers Seminar was well received by the fire chiefs. Mr. Jones also reported that Bucks County had an overturned tanker several nights before and that the Montgomery County Foam task force was prepared for response if it would have been necessary but was not needed.

Mr. Garrity gave a brief presentation via PowerPoint to summarize the statistics for the Fire Academy in 2016. Mr. Garrity reported that there were a total of 7,009 students enrolled in the 376 classes that were enrolled in 2016. Out of those calluses run, there was 86% completion and Mr. Garrity pointed out that the number of certifications has shown an increase in the past several years. Mr. Garrity also noted that the academy will be offering additional 16 hour certification classes at no extra charge so that students can obtain certifications. Mr. Garrity also noted that the Fire Academy has invested in a new Scantron machine which will help identify trends in testing to help instructors prepare students on the material.

Emergency Management

Mr. Wilson reported Director Sullivan has directed John Waters to begin designing a new Hazardous Materials study for Montgomery County. The last study was created around 2007 and it is time to get a more updated study to better serve the County. Mr. Wilson noted that Emergency Services Consulting International has been the vendor selected to complete this study, and it will be sent to purchasing within the next week. Mr. Wilson reported that the Office of Emergency Management has started the EMAP accreditation process. The goal is to have the accreditation within the next 2 years. Mr. Wilson had also informed the committee that Office of Emergency Management is also starting an Emergency Fuel Assessment to determine fuel service providers and facilities that have their own backup power so that they are able to stay operational in emergencies and provide fuel. Mr. Leary informed Mr. Wilson that police and fire accreditation parallels the emergency management accreditation and it would be of assistance to reach out to departments that have gone through the process to obtain information that would be of assistance. Mr. Garrity noted that the academy is up for reaccreditation and would be able to provide assistance if needed. Mr. Wilson asked Mr. Leary if he would be able to provide him contact information for the departments that have completed their accreditation process.

Hazardous Materials

Ms. Stemple reported that amounts of EHS chemicals are on a decline. In the Reporting Year of 2015, there were 288 off site plans of the 507 active facilities in Montgomery County. Ms. Stemple reported that currently for the Reporting Year of 2017, 160 facilities are compliant by 80% and the other 20% would be compliant if they made payment by March 1st. Ms. Stemple also reported that 10% of all plans have been review so far.

Mr. Pursell reported that for a summary of Reporting Year 2015, there was 100% compliance and a total income of \$132,500.00 from all facilities invoiced. Mr. Pursell noted that as of February 14th, 2017 there is a total income of \$9,325.00 for all facilities invoiced.

Mr. Pursell was also reporting on behalf of Mr. Waters. Mr. Pursell made note that as for a recap of 2016 D4H was brought online and was able to log over 1,000 man hours of training with hopes to get better data next year on calls using D4H. For Mr. Waters current 2017 report, Mr. Pursell reviewed the recent calls that the HMRT was on including a fuel oil spill in Conshohocken back in December and a spill into Gulph Creek in West Conshohocken. Mr. Pursell reported that a PEMA recertification is coming up and that the current certification expires in July. The application is being worked on now and Mr. Waters will be scheduling and onsite assessment with an evaluated exercise in the future. Mr. Pursell reported that PEAC is currently working on limiting access by municipal borders so that municipalities are able to view just their SARA facilities. Mr. Waters is currently working on designing and purchasing a new vehicle to replace the current Ford Escape he drives to better fit his needs. Mr. Pursell informed the committee

that Mr. Waters was also working on implementing a procedure for automatic dispatch of hazmat officers. Mr. Pursell added that outside training opportunities are being researched and budgeted so that they can be brought in for training the team in 2018.

Additional Reports

Mr. DiRocco reported that Delaware County is pursuing an initiative to respond to pipeline leaks for pipelines that run throughout the county carrying both gasses and liquids. Mr. DiRocco informed the committee that a similar initiative had taken place to deal with oil by rail. Mr. DiRocco assured the committee that he will keep them informed with updates as they come. Mr. DiRocco also informed the committee that Delaware County is working on improving their GIS to identify pipelines in the county and that they were in the process of working on a Table Top Exercise in Delaware County. Mr. Leary asked Mr. DiRocco if they could be invited to observe the exercise.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Wittmer noted that the committee is in need of a Vice Chairperson. Mr. Wittmer asked the committee if anyone would be interested in being nominated for the position. Chairman Wittmer acknowledged that Jim Fry had been suggested as a candidate of interest for the position. Mr. Fry was unable to attend the meeting due to prior training commitments, however, Mr. Wilson took a moment to inform the committee of Mr. Fry's experience and credentials that made him a suitable candidate for the position. Chairman Wittmer asked for a motion to nominate Jim Fry as Vice Chairman of the committee, a motion was made by Mike Moonblatt and seconded by Scott Lynch. The question was called for, asked and approved to nominate Jim Fry as Vice Chairman of the Montgomery County LEPC.

Chairman Wittmer brought it to the committee's attention that the LEPC By-Laws are in need of review and should be updated. Chairman Wittmer asked that Mr. Wilson and Mr. Pursell propose a new set of By-Laws by the May 9th meeting. Mr. Jeniec proposed a crosswalk between the old and new By-Laws.

Actionable Item: Propose new LEPC By-Laws for May 9th Meeting.

Chairman Wittmer asked for a motion to appoint Kenneth E. Lawrence, Jr. for County Commissioner Position on Montgomery County LEPC. Motion was made by Scott Lynch and Seconded by Tom Garrity. The question was called for, asked and approved to appoint Kenneth E. Lawrence, Jr. for County Commissioner Position on Montgomery County LEPC

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Kevin Bosch took a moment to inform the committee of his position and how it ties in with working with Hazardous Material Teams and the JTTF to handle threats. He noted the importance of facilities reporting suspicious purchases of dangerous chemicals by foreign companies or individuals residing in foreign countries. Mr. Bosch also shared that there is a Chemical Outreach Course taking place at Ursinus College on April 3rd, 2017. The course is free and Mr. Bosch would forward the information to Ms. Stemple for Distribution.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Tuesday May 9th, 2017 at 1300hr

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Greg Jeniec and Seconded by Tom Garrity to adjourn the Montgomery County LEPC meeting for February 14th, 2017. The meeting was adjourned at 1345hrs.