



MINUTES OF LEPC MEETING – November 13th, 2018

LOCATION:

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

ATTENDANCE:

LEPC Members:

Steve Wittmer, Jim Fry, Tom Garrity, John Corcoran, Greg Janiec, Don Sirianni, Jim Weller, Armand Alessi,

OEP Staff:

Bev Stemple, Brandon Pursell, Jason Wilson, John Waters, II

CALL TO ORDER:

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

A motion was made by Greg Janiec and seconded by Jim Weller to accept the meeting minutes for August 14th, 2018 meeting as submitted/amended. The question was called for, asked, and approved.

GUESTS:

George Dula, Linda Kardos

Scott Aharonian introduced himself as the new representative from the Interstate Energy Company. Mr. Aharonian will be replacing Kathleen McVeigh as the representative for transportation. Chairman Wittmer asked Mr. Pursell and the executive committee if Ms. McVeigh could be recognized at an upcoming LEPC meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business to be reported

**** Due to time restraints Mr. Garrity reported first****

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The following committees have nothing to report:

Transportation, Public Works, Law Enforcement, Media, Local Government, Administration and Finance, First Aid, Fire Chiefs' Association

Fire and Rescue Services

Mr. Garrity reported that to date, the Fire Academy has run 328 classes, totaling over 56,000 hours of training for over 2660 individuals. Fifty fire companies have used the facility for company drill evenings or weekends. Mr. Garrity added that this semester the MCFA ran a Hazardous Materials Technician class with 9 students successfully completing the course. Additionally, the MCFA ran a Structural Burn class and an Aerial Practice class. Mr. Garrity pointed out that the mentioned classes have not been run in several years. Mr. Garrity reported that the MCFA is currently finishing an eight-day program for Upper Merion's new firefighters. Mr. Garrity reported the MCFA received the final lighting and construction plans for the Confined Space prop in the Drill Tower from Manns Woodward Studios. Bergmann Architects, Engineers and Planners did the engineering study and electrical plans for the new lighting. Mr. Garrity added that Traffic Planning and Design, Incorporated completed the survey of MCFA's property and granted permission to proceed with plans for a Vehicle Rescue Pad and Trench Rescue prop on the opposite side of Academy Drive. An initial Feasibility report from Manns Woodward Studios is positive the site will accommodate the design. Mr. Garrity reported that a new floor was installed in the cafeteria, new stair treads were put on the stairs to the cafeteria, and LED bulbs were installed in the light towers around the Burn Building. Mr. Garrity noted other new additions to the Fire Academy include a new storage shed at the drill tower, a new air compressor for SCBAs and there is now sounds in the Smoke Building to simulate conditions in a residential fire. Lastly, Mr. Garrity noted that Class 1804 graduates November 28th and Dr. Deborah Fairheller will be the commencement speaker.

Hazardous Materials

Mr. Waters reported that there has been progress with implementations suggested in the study. Mr. Waters noted that job descriptions have been drafted for members and officers on the HMRT. Mr. Waters added that the HMRT has consolidated metering equipment to a single piece of apparatus while also rotating apparatus to different stations. The implementation committee has also drafted an emergency evacuation procedure for the team. Mr. Waters reported the most recent HMRT responses including a call to hydrocarbons in a house in Upper Frederick, a house explosion in Gladwyne, and a suspicious package at the Correctional Facility in Eagleville. Mr. Waters reported that the HMRT completed physicals and fit testing in September. The team had also completed a drugs IQ class in October and a Propane IQ class earlier in November. Mr. Waters showed a presentation including pictures from the recent classes, a Five-Minute Drill video, and the recently completed HazMat Ops outreach video. Chairman Wittmer asked if the outreach video could be uploaded to the County Website. Mr. Waters explained that this video will be presented at HazMat Operations Refresher classes to help fire companies get the resources they need. Mr. Waters added that next year the HRMT will be looking to create another video to address decontamination support. Mr. Janiec asked if there is a list of all the recommended changes in the study. Mr. Waters explained that all suggested changes are listed on page 107 of the report.

Ms. Stemple reported that 98 percent of all facilities are compliant with Section 303. Mrs. Stemple noted that chemicals have been escalating towards the end of the year.

Mr. Pursell reported that as of November 13th, there is a total income of \$123,600 in SARA facility revenue with an additional \$4,405.95 in HazMat reimbursement. Mr. Pursell added that there is an overall total of 486 reporting facilities in Montgomery County. Mr. Pursell noted that out of the 486 facilities, 239 are planning facilities. Mr. Pursell finished his report by noting that there are 1,564 different chemicals reported by facilities across the County.

Emergency Management

Mr. Wilson reported that Emergency Management is Working on its Mass Care and Debris Management Plan. Currently, they are waiting on feedback and guidance from FEMA. Mr. Wilson noted that Planning for active shooter threats have been taking place and there is a planning meeting scheduled for November. Lastly Mr. Wilson reported that there have been 3 personnel changes in the Division of Emergency Management. Heather Stem has resigned as the Training and Exercise Coordinator to begin her new job at Weston Solutions. Todd Stieritz has moved from the Municipal Planner position to Public Affairs Coordinator. Mike Rubin has resigned as the Radiological Planner to start his new career with Abington Township.

Public Health

Mr. Pursell reported on behalf of Ms. Young. Mr. Pursell reported that Public Health Conducted two open point of dispensing (POD) exercises on October 6th at the Lowes in Willow Grove and October 20th at the Lowes in Oaks. Volunteers practiced activating an open POD as was as tested the drive through distribution/dispensing model that they county would use in response to a public health event or other emergency requiring the mass distribution of medications or commodities. Each site distributed 150 preparedness bags that had been filled to practice the County's warehousing process. The bags were filled with items such as flu clinic flyers, hand sanitizer, band aid dispensers, and fire prevention materials donated by the respective townships participating in the exercise. Bags were also filled with smoke and/or carbon monoxide detectors which were graciously donated by Lowes. The county also conducted tow closed POD exercises within Long Term Care Facilities. The Abramson Center in Horsham practiced their dispensing model by providing seasonal influenza vaccines and ManorCare-Pottstown practiced their dispensing model by providing preparedness bags for their staff and residents. All of these exercise opportunities were valuable learning experiences for all involved and are helping us to prepare for the large multi-state exercise that will take place in October 2019.

ADDITONAL REPORTS:

Civil Defense

Mr. Weller reported that PEMA got a request for damage assessments for the 13 tornado tracks in Pennsylvania. Mr. Weller noted that the Civil Air Patrol provided fly over observation and added that the CAP provides theses services through Air Force funding. Mr. Weller stated that for future reference, the CAP is available for damage assessments. Chairman Wittmer asked for more information on the service. Mr. Wilson added that PEMA holds quarterly meeitns and topic sometimes include the information on resources such as the CAP. Mr. Wilson added that they have a speaker present at the Monthly Emergency Management Coordinators Meeting. Mr. Wilson stated that the County's UAV has been deployed for several such as the Gladwyne House Explosion and Plymouth Chevrolet Dealership Fire.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Waters added his hazmat study report into his committee report.

Mr. Pursell explained that several changes have been made to position titles to be universal throughout all LEPC documents. The First Aid Position has been changed to Emergency Medical Services. The Position of Environmental Health and Safety has been added to the LEPC membership. The Local Environmental position has been changed to Environmental Protection. Lastly, the position of Health has been changed to Public Health. Mr. Pursell asked Chairman Wittmer that a motion be made to adopt

these amendments to the by-laws. A motion was made by Greg Janiec and seconded by Jim Fry to adopt the amendments. The question was called for, asked, and approved.

Mr. Pursell Asked for a motion to accept the 2019 meeting dates listed. The proposed meeting dates are Tuesday February 12th, Tuesday May 14th, Tuesday August 14th, and Tuesday November 12th. A motion was made by Jim Weller and seconded by Jim Fry to Accept the 2019 meeting dates. The question was called for, asked, and approved.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Linda Kardos from PECO reported that Montgomery County now has a direct interface with PECO's operations center for outage calls.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Tuesday February 12th, 2019 at 1300hr

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Jason Wilson and Seconded by Jim Weller to adjourn the Montgomery County LEPC meeting for November 13th, 2018. The meeting was adjourned at 1350hrs.