



MINUTES OF LEPC MEETING – May 14th, 2019

LOCATION:

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

ATTENDANCE:

LEPC Members:

Steve Wittmer, Jim Fry, Tom Garrity, Scott Lynch, Mike Jones, Greg Janiec, Jim Weller, Mike Italia, George Dula

OEP Staff:

Bev Stemple, Brandon Pursell

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Wittmer called the meeting to order at 12:59 hrs. The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance.

A motion was made by Scott Lynch and seconded by Mike Italia to accept the meeting minutes for November 13th, 2018 meeting as submitted/amended. The question was called for, asked, and approved.

GUESTS:

Eric Helders, John Schel, Scott Bean, Bob Bailey, John Bera, Sean Ryan, Chris Wilcox, Kathleen McVeigh, Jeff Bickel, Andrew Shields, Erin McDermott

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business to be reported

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The following committees have nothing to report:

Transportation, Public Works, Law Enforcement, Media, Local Government, Administration and Finance, First Aid,

Hazardous Materials

Mr. Pursell reported on behalf of Mr. Waters. Mr. Pursell reported that in January of 2019, the HMRT responded to Lower Moreland to assist their Fire Marshal with an Analytical Lab in a basement. HazMat Officers evaluated the containers to ensure they were intact and determined if any materials had degraded and became shock sensitive. The homeowner was provided a list of contractors able to properly dispose of the materials. In February Chief 81 responded to Conshohocken for a trash truck with elevated radiation readings. The radioactive source was located inside of a trash bag, specifically in infant diapers. The isotope was Iodine 131 which is a medical isotope that has a half-life of 8 days. Conshohocken was advised to isolate the materials for two weeks and could then dispose of the waste in the regular trash. Mr. Pursell added that the most recent HazMat response took place in Upper Gwynedd for a mercury spill in a residence. Upon arrival it was determined that a resident broke a mercury thermometer in the kitchen and cleaned up most of the product. The next day the resident had called for the fire company to clear the house. Assistant Chief 80 requested a HazMat officer which was then upgraded to a Level II in order to bring a Jerome meter and mercury vacuum to the scene. The mercury vacuum was used to clean up residual mercury in the kitchen and the Jerome Meter was used to ensure the residence was safe. Mr. Pursell reported that the HMRT conducted a chemistry review in January. In February the HMRT reviewed new decon procedures and policies as well as review identification and detection equipment. In March Mike Mennella, a guest speaker from Nassau County, ran a two-day class on capabilities, applications, and limitations of all detection and identification equipment. Mr. Pursell noted that in April 12 members of the Foam TaskForce were sent to Pueblo, CO for flammable liquids fire training. Chlorine response training was also conducted in house in the month of April. Lastly, Mr. Pursell reported that for the month of May the HMRT will be grounding and bonding.

Ms. Stemple reported that for Report Year there were 518 active sites, of which 272 Offsite Emergency Response Plans were reviewed. Ms. Stemple added the EHS chemicals had increased from RY 2016 to RY 2017 by 4,439 pounds. Ms. Stemple noted that the total quantity of EHS chemicals is 58,246 pounds. Ms. Stemple reported that for Report Year 2018, 30 percent of

plans have been reviewed so far. Ms. Stemple added that one site had not yet filed a 302, 303, 311, or 312. Pennsafe has alerted the facility of the possibility of fines if there were an incident or release.

Mr. Pursell reported that for Report Year 2017 there was a total income of \$124,250 in SARA revenue. Mr. Pursell reported that there was an additional \$4,405.95 in HazMat reimbursement. For Report Year 2017 there were a total of 486 overall reporting facilities of which 239 were planning facilities. Mr. Pursell reported that as of May 14th, there was a total income of \$114,600 in SARA revenue. Mr. Pursell added that there is a total of 480 reporting facilities that have submitted their Tier II so far. Mr. Pursell reported that the Department of Public Safety has implemented Hazconnect, the new reporting and invoicing system for SARA facilities. Mr. Pursell added that the transition to the new system went very well and the new system can now accept online payments. Mr. Pursell ended his report by informing the committee that the HMRF application was completed and submitted to PEMA and new LEPC members appointed by the commissioners were added to the report.

Emergency Management

Mr. Pursell reported on behalf of Mr. Wilson. Mr. Pursell reported that completed COOP plans have been received by County departments. Emergency Management is currently in the process of evaluating if any departments have responded. Taylor Hawkins will be creating a spreadsheet to map critical equipment, relocation areas, etc. to assist in determining unmet needs and overlaps. Mr. Pursell added that the information will be used for future and continued planning with each department. Mr. Pursell also reported that Taylor Hawkins is also in the process of creating COOP binders for all MCDPS Deputy Directors that will contain COOP plans for all MCDPS Divisions. Mr. Pursell reported WebEOC is up and running region wide. Emergency Management staff is in the process of training municipal partners and liaisons. Emergency Communication's Supervisors have received training and entering incidents. Mr. Pursell added that the PEMA / PIERS reporting connection is nearly complete and there will be scheduled municipal training in the future. Mr. Pursell reported that the Basic Plan of Montgomery County's EOP was submitted to the Commissioner's for approval. Annex reviews are currently underway and anticipated to be completed by the end of July. Lastly, Mr. Pursell reported that Emergency Fueling MOUs have been approved and will be supported by the Township Association via Upper Dublin Township. Vice Chairman Fry asked if KC SARA has also been discontinued along with KC IC. Mr. Pursell informed him that KC SARA was done as of April. Chairman Wittmer asked for there to be an open item to report a list of trained municipalities and approvals.

Fire and Rescue Services

Mr. Garrity reported that there were two entry level fire training classes running with the Summer Essentials program scheduled to start May 15th. Class 1805 graduates May 15th, Class 1901 graduates May 29th, and Class 1902 and Summer Essentials graduates July 10th. Mr. Garrity

reported that there have been five new classes offered that include Vent Enter Isolate Search, Truck II, Water Rescue Operations Review, Water Rescue Technician Review, and Scenario based Decision Making. Mr. Garrity noted that there have been 51 hazmat courses offered with a total of 1,188 enrollments totaling 8,555 hours. Lastly Mr. Garrity reported that to date there have been a total of 152 Fire, Rescue, and HazMat class offered totaling 27,167 hours. Mr. Italia added that with the level required trainings for career positions, more volunteers are taking classes to meet those requirements.

Public Health

Ms. McDermott introduced herself and stated that in the future she will be filling in on behalf of Ms. Young to report out on Health Department activities.

Fire Chiefs Association

Mr. Jones reported that resource lists were a topic of the last Fire Chiefs Association meeting and expanded on Mr. Wilsons report about the creation of resource lists. Mr. Jones also noted that a chemical facility in his local is receiving daily chemicals which means an increase of chemicals traveling over the road. Mr. Ryan from Ursinus college noted that this is a common occurrence for chemical facilities to receive daily shipments in order to keep stored quantities at a minimum.

ADDITIONAL REPORTS:

No Additional Reports

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Pursell began by giving a brief report on the implementation of the HazMat study which is being conducted by Mr. Waters and the HMRT. Mr. Pursell reported that Mr. Waters and the implementation committee have been identifying and establishing second and third due HazMat teams by municipality. The implementation committee has also been working on a long-range equipment replacement plan including apparatus, instrumentation, and PPE. Mr. Pursell noted that the implementation committee is working on a standard of cover by measuring the HMRT against staffing and arrival times. Lastly, the HMRT is working on preplanning for hazardous facilities located in the County.

Mr. Pursell asked for a motion to approve new LEPC member George Dula. Mr. Pursell noted that Mr. Dula will serve as the Environmental Health and Safety representative. A motion was made by Scott Lynch and seconded by Mike Italia to approve Mr. Dula as the new Environmental Health and Safety representative.

Chairman Wittmer recognized Kathleen McVeigh for her service on the LEPC. Ms. McVeigh recently retired from her job and her position on the LEPC in August of 2018. For her service to the committee and the residents of Montgomery County, Chairman Wittmer and Vice Chairman Fry presented Ms. McVeigh with a certificate of recognition.

Mr. Pursell asked for a motion to accept a make-up date for the canceled February 2019 meeting. The new proposed date in December 10, 2019 at 1 p.m. at the Public Safety Training Campus. A motion was made by Mike Italia and seconded by Jim Weller.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

No Visitor Comments

PRESENTATION:

Agency: Department of Homeland Security

Presenter: Richard Turzanski – Protective Security Advisor

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Tuesday August 13th, 2019 at 1300hr

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Scott Lynch and Seconded by Bev Stemple to adjourn the Montgomery County LEPC meeting for May 14th, 2019. The meeting was adjourned at 1345hrs.