



MINUTES OF LEPC MEETING –August 10th, 2021

LOCATION:

Virtual

ATTENDANCE:

LEPC Members:

Jim Fry, Armand Alessi, Thomas Garrity, George Dula, Mary Newsom

OEP Staff:

Jason Wilson, Billy Messerschmidt, Matt Maillie, Bev Stemple

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chairman Fry called the meeting to order at 1302 hrs. The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance. Motion by Bev Stemple to accept 5/11 meeting minutes, seconded by William Messerschmidt.

GUESTS:

Todd Stieritz, Erin McDermott, Dave Brown, Mike Italia

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The following committees have nothing to report:

Transportation, Law Enforcement, Local Government, Administration, and Finance

Hazardous Materials

There have been **19** calls since the May 11th LEPC Meeting. Most notable calls are the following:

- May 22 – Pennsburg Borough – Stand by to assist Upper Perk Police and Pennsylvania State Police with a potential drug Lab.
- June 12 – Horsham Township – 1000-gallon underground propane tank leaking at a residential property. MCHMRT flared the product in the tank to assist the propane company with offloading.
- June 12 – Upper Providence Township – While on scene in Horsham Township MCHMRT was dispatched to assist Upper Providence Department of Fire and Emergency Service with a spill involving muriatic acid in a vehicle

- June 15 – Upper Merion – 3500 of raw sewage had been released on Schuylkill Expressway after a septic truck overturned.
- June 23 – Plymouth Township – Assisted Plymouth Township Fire Marshal and PECO with a methane odor from an unknown source.
- June 29 – Lower Merion Township – On-call MCHMRT officer assisted Gladwyne and Ardmore Fire Company with a vehicle fire involving a Tesla electric vehicle.
- July 14 – Upper Merion Township – MCHMRT and Foam Task Force were dispatched to Coopers Creek Chemical to assist with a fire in a storage tank.

There have been 5 Training since the May 11th:

- May 22 - Backup Teams and RIT Exercise
- June 1 - Team Recertification Review
- June 6 - Detection Equipment Review
- July 17 - Truck and Station Maintenance
- August 3 - Chemistry Review

Other Notes:

- Our State evaluated recertification exercise was postponed to September 18th
- We recently received 2 (two) FLIR Thermal Monoculars to assist with long range thermal detection.
- We recently purchased and received 2 Blowhard fans to assisted with dry decontamination.

SARA Report

There is a Total of \$95,075.00 in SARA revenue. Of that revenue a total of \$7,525.00 was brought in through credit card payments. As of July 30th, there is a total balance of \$1,898,920.56 in the HazMat fund. There are currently 408 facilities that have reported in Montgomery County. There are 125 facilities with payments pending.

Emergency Management

Jason Wilson reports municipal EOP reviews still underway. UAVs were out of service, but 3 replacements have been received. Multi-camera ability, thermal and zoom imaging. Awaiting a 4th drone arrival. All drones have approximately a 30-minute flight time. Old UAVs have been decommissioned.

COVID-19 related - AAR for second EOC activation is nearly complete. Draft should be coming from contractor next week. Covers DPS and OPH operations throughout the activation.

EM will be hiring for Community Resilience Coordinator, and Community Resilience Planning Specialist. They'll predominantly do disaster recovery functions and emergency messaging, public assistance, and similar functions.

Fire and Rescue Services

Tom Garrity reports fire academy has completed 2nd pilot program for confined space. Awaiting report from state fire academy for the outcome. 45 FF graduated last month; 83 FF completed entry level training so far this year. Training schedule is available online. Bucks offering fire inspector 1 in September. Bids are in for proposals to upgrade the gas training equipment, along with a contract to put a new roof on a new building. Hazmat tech will be offered next semester. 150 classes so far for over 25,000 hours of training.

Emergency Medical Services:

Dave Brown reports (in park in his vehicle) EMT classes being offered virtual and in person. Restarting paramedic training next spring. Brian Pasquale is executive director of EMS training institute again (Still Chief Science Officer too).

Final phase of licensing new ambulance. Serves LEPC, HazMat, USAR, as a standby and force protection. Hired a health and safety specialist. Purchased many portable fit testing kits.

Public Health

Erin McDermott reports that vaccination sites continue to operate. 4 within the county, each operates 2 days per week. No clinics on Friday. Each testing site is open every day for approximately 3 hours.

Media

Todd Stieritz reports Community outreach program providing tours to EOC/911 center. Attending public events again over past few weeks. Closely monitoring the COVID-19 case surge to dictate decisions moving forward with community events. Discontinued daily covid media briefings, but still releases statistics mostly relating to vaccination. Numbers are trending upwards again, indicating a resurgence. Vaccination rate is 57% 1 dose, 50% fully vaccinated within Montgomery County. County has released guidance supporting indoor masking.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

VISITOR COMMENTS:

None

NEXT MEETING DATE:

November 9th, 1300.

Good of the Order:

Don Sirianni reports he's retiring from Springfield next week. Willard Troxel is upper Gwynedd's Public works director, and he will be joining the LEPC.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by William Messerschmidt. Seconded by George Dula. Meeting Adjourned at 1327.

