



# COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON

## Local Emergency Planning Committee

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER  
 100 GRACEDALE AVENUE  
 NAZARETH, PENNSYLVANIA 18064-8430  
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**Thomas E. Guth Jr.**  
 Secretary

Date: June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Location: Emergency Operations Center, 100 Gracedale Avenue, Nazareth, PA

### Meeting Minutes

#### I. Call to Order

- JPS called the meeting to order at 1001 hours.

#### II. Attendance

DH	Donn Hirschmann	Air Liquide	RW	Rick Weaver	N.C.F.S.
DK	Deven Knoll	Bethlehem City F.D.	SA	Scott Aharonian	IEC Energy
DM	Dave Malloy	DEP	TBH	Tracey Barnes Hunsinger	UGIES
JB	John Bast	Easton Fire Department	TG	Thomas E. Guth, Jr.	NCEM
JF	Joe Fittos	Rapid Response/EWMI	TV	Ted Veresink	City of Easton
JK	John Kalynych	Lehigh County	TW	Todd Weaver	NCEM
JPS	Jeff P. Steiert	NCEM			
JS	Joe Sipel	Wilson Borough F.D.			
LH	Len Hoben	OSHA			
LP	Larry Palmer	Palmer Township Police			
MAR	Mike Rampulla	NCEM			
MR	Mike Rinker	NCEM			
NB	Nicole Burton	Lehigh County			
RD	Ricardo Diaz	U.S. Cold Storage			
RH	Ron Hulsizer	NCEM			

#### III. Public Comment

- JPS polled the room requesting any public comment. None heard, moved onto next agenda item.

IV. New Members

- JPS discussed adding the following persons into the LEPC committee. Motion to Approve: 1<sup>st</sup> by J.B., 2<sup>nd</sup> by R.W., all in favor. Newest members are:
  - Michael Rinker – NCEM Planning Manager
  - Tracey Barnes Hunsinger – UGI Energy Services
- JPS stated that these names will be submitted to Northampton County Executive Lamont McClure’s Office and then to PEMA for final approval.

V. Elections

- JPS discussed electing Michael Rinker (NCEM) to the position of Chairperson. Motion to Approve: 1<sup>st</sup> by J.K., 2<sup>nd</sup> by J.B., all in favor.

VI. Approval of prior Meeting Minutes (April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018)

- JPS requested a Motion to Approve: 1<sup>st</sup> by T.V., 2<sup>nd</sup> by D.M., all in favor.

VII. Financial Report (MAR provided the following recorded information)

- Beginning balance: \$113,808.00  
Revenue: + \$52,042.00  
\$165,850.00  
Expenditures: - \$40,989.92  
Encumbrance: - \$63,408.53 (replacement vehicle/BLEVE simulator/CO Meters)  
Ending balance: **\$61,451.55**
- JPS reminded that committee that some items in the expenditures/encumbrance were the monies for the 2018 International Hazmat Conference, telephone upgrades and other items.
  - Sara Title III Collections (MR provided the following recorded information)
    - Tier II billing & payments: Billed: **\$51,325.00**  
Payments Received: -\$45,325.00  
Balance Outstanding: **\$6,100.00**
- JPS requested a Motion to Approve: 1<sup>st</sup> by L.P., 2<sup>nd</sup> by J.F., all in favor.

VIII. Plans

- Emergency Response Plans
  - Per MR, nothing new received.
- Preparedness, Prevention, Contingency Plans
  - Per MR, nothing new received.

IX. Response

- MAR stated that since April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting, there have been five (5) new responses from NCEM to hazardous/suspicious events.

X. Training

- Northampton County (NCEM / report provided by MAR)
  - Per MAR HazMat Awareness training has been completed at our EOC on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018.
  - Per MAR HazMat Operations Refresher training has been completed at the NCFS on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
  - Per MAR MERTT class will be held via NCEMS on November 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018. MAR will be sending out an email with pertinent information and registration information in the near future.

- Northampton County Fire School (NCFS / report provided by RW)
  - RW provided report for the NCFS, also provided all those in attendance with copy of upcoming scheduled classes.
  - RW thanked UGI for the grant issued for the N.C.F.S. to purchase the BLEVE simulator.
- Lehigh County Special Operations (LC / report provided by JK)
  - JK stated that their agency participated in the Tabletop Exercise at USPS in Bethlehem Township on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. (NCEM left early due to storm/EOC).
  - JK stated his agency will participate in the First Energy boom deployment exercise and the Lehigh Valley International Airport exercise.
  - JK stated that the upcoming Transcaer Exercise will involve both HazMat team members from Lehigh and Northampton Counties. Per JK the exercise is tentatively scheduled to be held on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018. JK will attempt to have the exercise held at railroad yard in Eastern Allentown, close to Bethlehem City.
  - JK stated that at the request of NCEM he will be holding a DECON Engine Training at Northampton Borough Fire Department on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
  - JK is hoping to hold a Hazmat Technician class at their location sometime in 2019. Will advise of date once finalized and guaranteed.

#### XI. Lehigh County Special Operations Report

- JK gave brief explanation of the following calls that his agency has responded to since the April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting.
  - Fuel leak, investigated and found company that leaked the material.
  - Chlorine situation in northern Lehigh County.
  - False alarm incident at BioSpectra in Washington Township (NC).
  - Powder incident in Upper Nazareth Township.
- JK stressed the importance of investigating the incident prior to activating the proper response.

#### XII. City of Bethlehem Hazmat Report

- DK stated that their agency is trying to get the IAFF to sponsor/hold a Hazmat Technician class at their department this year. Will advise once confirmed.

#### XIII. Old Business

- CO Meter Project
  - Per JPS, purchased the approved seventy-five (75) meters, received them and numbered them all. Providing no more than four (4) meters to any EMS station. NCEM still has three (3) in their possession and will utilize these as replacements if any meters provided are broken or have mechanical issues.
- Northampton County Fire School (NCFS) Equipment Request
  - JPS stated that the BLEVE simulator ordered was delivered to N.C.F.S. and is set up for use.
  - JPS also thanked UGI for the grant provided to cover the costs for the BLEVE simulator.
  - Per JPS the BLEVE simulator also has an active leak feature that can be utilized during trainings and classes. Is a helpful tool to have from Bullex.
  - TW advised those in attendance that the NCEM staff will be at the N.C.F.S. on Friday June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to test the new BLEVE simulator and its capabilities. TW invited those in attendance to come along and see the new BLEVE simulator.
  - JPS spoke again about the nozzle that RW requested at a prior meeting. Per RW the nozzle would be used with the new BLEVE simulator purchased and set-up. Specs for the nozzle requested is as follows:
    - A two and a half inch (2.5”) nozzle – an akron high-range turbojet two hundred and fifty (250) gallons per minute (gpm) for one thousand, forty-eight dollars and ninety-five cents (\$1,048.95). JPS requested a Motion to Approve the purchase of the nozzle: 1<sup>st</sup> by J.k., 2<sup>nd</sup> by T.B.H., all in favor.

- Radiological Replacement Kits
  - JPS stated that the total cost for the new RAD kit that was approved and ordered at prior LEPC meeting was three thousand six hundred twenty-six dollars (\$3,626) not the original quoted amount of three thousand one hundred and seven dollars (\$3,107). Per JPS this was due to a six hundred dollar (\$600) delivery charge that was not included in the quote.
- 2017-2018 HMRF Grant
  - TW stated that the grant was received in December, 2017 and used to make payment to the Lehigh County HazMat crews for their responses within Northampton County.
- 2017-2018 HMEP Grant
  - TW had nothing new to report.
    - Hazmat Conference. JPS advised that there are a total of five (5) persons heading to the HazMat Conference in Baltimore, MD. Two (2) members from NCEM and three (3) members from City of Bethlehem Fire Department and EMS.
- Vehicle
  - JPS stated that NCEM has taken possession of the new response vehicle.
  - Per JPS working on receiving three (3) quotes for installation of radio systems, emergency lighting and all other interior/exterior needs.

#### XIV. New Business

- Per JPS East Allen Township Fire Company is no longer interested in being a DECON engine company for any hazmat responses. They turned in all issued equipment to NCEM.
- JPS spoke to Northampton Borough Fire Chief Keith Knoblach whom expressed interest in filling the void in the Western portion of the county at this time. JPS discussed the July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 DECON training that will be held at Northampton Borough Fire Company to help complete their agencies set up. Per JPS once Northampton Borough Fire Company has the training and all necessary DECON items, they will then be added to responses if needed.
- DK had questions regarding what items are on a county DECON engine and how they are set-up during response. JK responded to DK by stating that the engines are all set-up as they should be, no known issues.
- DK also questioned the nozzles used during DECON assignments. Per JK nozzles used are based on user preference. Per JK when speaking about privacy concerns the current DECON set-ups are adequate and fulfill privacy concerns.
- JK also stated that it usually only takes a few minutes to set-up a working DECON station or corridor if and when needed.
- JK will work with MAR to set-up a daytime exercise with all DECON companies to go over DECON set-up. TW suggested using LEPC monies to fund the exercise and purchase food items and whatever may be needed during the exercise.
- JPS brought up the possibility of NCEM switching cellular service from Verizon to AT&T. Per JPS NCEM may switch over one or two devices just to examine coverage area, data speeds, etc..
- JPS discussed the requested by-law change they spoke about during the last LEPC meeting on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Regarding Section 1.02, it currently states that the LEPC shall have a minimum of nine (9) and maximum of fifteen (15) members. Discussions during the April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meetings were about raising the maximum member number to thirty (30) members. JPS requested a Motion to Approve the change: 1<sup>st</sup> by N.B., 2<sup>nd</sup> by D.K., all in favor.
- JB inquired if other wording or sections within the LEPC by-laws could be altered if it was warranted. TW responded and stated the PEMA had set forth the language and it should stay the same.

- JPS advised the committee of the need to purchase two (2) sets of firefighting turnout gear for two (2) NCEM employees that are now (or will be) Hazmat Operations certified. The NCEM members are Chad Marsh and Michael Rinker. JPS requested a Motion to Approve the purchase: 1<sup>st</sup> by J.K., 2<sup>nd</sup> by J.F., all in favor.

XV. Upcoming Meetings

- September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 @ 1000hrs.
- December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 @ 1000hrs.

XVI. Good of the Order

- Nothing reported.

XVII. Adjournment

- JPS requested a Motion to Approve: 1<sup>st</sup> by L.P., 2<sup>nd</sup> by N.B., all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1036hrs.