



COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON

Local Emergency Planning Committee

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
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Thomas E. Guth Jr.
 Secretary

Date: January 27th, 2021
 Location: Virtual – Go To Meeting

Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order
- MR called the meeting to order at 1000 hours.

II. Attendance

DM	Dave Malloy	PA DEP	MRA	Michael Rampulla	NCEM
DV	Dominic Ventura	US EPA	RH	Ron Hulsizer	NCEM
KT	Kevin Thomas	Bethlehem City Fire Dept.	SA	Scott Aharonian	IEC Energy
JA	Jon Al-Khal	Lehigh County EMA/Spec. Ops	SP	Stephanie Pinho	BioSpectra
JB	John Bast	Community / Public	TV	Ted Veresink	Municipal Health Official
JPS	Jeff Steiert	NCEM	TW	Todd Weaver	NCEM
JS	Joe Sipel	Wilson Borough Fire Dept.	WA	Warren Achey	Bethlehem City Fire Dept.

* - Not on LEPC Membership list.

** - Added to LEPC Membership list.

III. Public Comment

- MR polled the room requesting any public comment, none heard.

IV. Approval of prior Meeting Minutes (September 2nd, 2020)

- MR requested a Motion to Approve the March 2020 Meeting Minutes: 1st by JB, 2nd by WA, all in favor.

V. Financial Report (provided by MRA)

- Beginning balance: \$ 45,000.00
- Revenue: +\$ 103,079.76
- \$ 148,079.76**
- Expenditures: -\$ 82,426.11
- Encumbrance: -\$ 0.00
- Ending balance: **\$ 65,653.65**

- MR made a Motion to Approve the December 2020 Financial Report: 1st by JB, 2nd by TV, all in favor.

- Sara Title III Collections – As of January 12th, 2021 (provided by MR)
 - Tier II billing & payments - Total Facilities Billed: **16**
 - Billed / Assessed: **\$ 3,625.00**
 - Fees Collected: **- \$ 1,025.00**
 - Fees Outstanding: **\$ 2,600.00**
- Sara Title III Collection – Total of 2019 (provided by MR)
 - Tier II billing & payments – Total Facilities Billed: 180
 - Billed / Assessed: **\$ 52,150.00**
 - Fees Collected: **- \$ 51,150.00**
 - Fees Outstanding: **\$ 1,000.00** (*rolled into 2020 billing*)

VI. Plans

- Emergency Response Plans (provided by MR)
 - Updated Plans:
 - Victaulic, 4901 Kessler'sville Road, Easton, PA 18042 (Forks Township)
 - New Plans:
 - Nothing new to report.
- Preparedness, Prevention, Contingency Plans (provided by MR)
 - Updated Plans:
 - Waste Management, 1963 Pen Argyl Road, Pen Argyl, PA 18072 (Plainfield Township)
 - New Plans:
 - Nothing new to report

VII. Site Visits (presented by MR)

- None – due to COVID restrictions and mitigation efforts.

VIII. Responses

- Northampton County Emergency Management (provided by MRa)
 - Nine (9) responses since prior meeting in September 2020.
 - Thirty-three (33) responses total in 2020.
- Lehigh County Special Operations (provided by JA)
 - Per JA, their agency has kept busy during the latter part of 2020. Responded to a few responses within Northampton County some of them were:
 - Spills into the Lehigh River in Easton area.
 - Oil delivery truck rollover in front of Nestle water fill site.
 - August – Wind Gap for industrial fire at a business that worked with mass quantities of used cooking oil. Used cooking oil spilled into a pond on site.
- Bethlehem City Fire Department (provided by KT)
 - Per KT, they had ten (10) to eleven (11) responses within the city.
 - Responded with Lehigh County Special Operations to an incident that started in Bethlehem Township, Northampton County.
 - Some form of a detergent got into the storm drains, which dumped into the Nancy Run Creek, causing concerns.
 - Responded in the city for a release of sulfur dioxide, which occurred when the city's public works crushed an old refrigerator. No major issues experienced.

- IX. Training
- Northampton County Emergency Management (provided by MRa)
 - Working on creating/providing a “virtual” Modular Emergency Response radiological Transportation Training (MERRTT) course in the near future.
 - Will keep membership updated on the progress.
 - Northampton County Fire School (provided by TW)
 - Per TW, many classes scheduled during 2020 were cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions / mitigation efforts.
 - Fire School has begun running / hosting classes again at their site. Classes held at the fire school / on its grounds must adhere to a maximum of sixteen (16) attendees at a time. The state fire academy has set the maximum capacity to adhere to COVID-19 mitigation efforts.
 - Capacity limits may increase or decrease depending on what site the class / course is being held in.
 - RW provided the quarterly and annual (2020) report for the NCFS. (These documents were sent electronically to the membership for review).
- X. Lehigh County Special Operations Report & Training (provided by JA)
- Per JA, they are looking to create and hold the first ever Lehigh County Hazardous Materials Academy. This class would be run similar to the Rescue Academy they held last year. Their newest members whom need certifications would attend the class and their certified instructor members will complete all instruction in house.
 - Hoping to hold a Hazmat Tech course in spring or fall of 2021.
- XI. City of Bethlehem Hazmat Report & Training (provided by KT)
- Members have been completing some on-line trainings this year due to COVID-19 restrictions and mitigation efforts.
 - Hope to get back to live, hands-on, in person trainings in the near future.
- XII. Old Business
- CO Meter project to expand or not
 - TW: Questioned what was covered the last time(s) disposable CO meters were purchased.
 - MRa responded that during the first round of purchases of CO meters only EMS agencies and fire department with certified quick response capabilities (QRS/QRV) received the meters. During the last round of CO meters the EMS agencies and Blue Valley Rescue Squad were the only ones to receive the meters.
 - JB requested that someone bring this question (to possibly purchase more CO meters) to the fire chiefs at the next Fire Chiefs Association meeting. Let that body decide on if they want or do not want more.
 - KT stated that Bethlehem City response agencies would like to see the project to continue another round. Per KT, having the meters on EMS units and fire apparatus has been mutual benefit to all.
 - WA echoed KT’s statement of purchasing and dispensing more CO meters for response agencies. Also stated that there was not enough provided to Bethlehem City to place one on every apparatus the last time however, having them on EMS and fire apparatus is definitely a benefit.
 - JB inquired on what type of meters were purchased in the past.
 - TW responded to JB and advised that the meters are single gas CO meters that will alarm at high levels and shows the readings.

- During chatter about the next move, JPS restated and supported JB's request to propose this to the fire chiefs association for input. If input is positive then we can gather cost estimates and bring this back up for discussion at the next LEPC quarterly meeting for further action.

XIII. New Business (reported by MR)

- Year 1 of the HMEP Grant - \$16,824.00 was received.
- 2020-2021 HMRF Grant will be submitted by February 15th.
- PHMSA Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)
 - JS advised those in attendance about the TAG grant and the ability to receive up to \$100,000 in funding for pipeline safety, awareness or response items. Grant is open now until March 15th.
 - TW: advised those in attendance that we (our agency) applied for, received funding via this grant in 2020, and purchased enough suppression foam to fill the second foam tote trailer, supply training foam, purchase one (1) new PID meter device and purchase one (1) RamFan exhaust fan unit. TW also advised that all the foam purchases (suppression and training) is bio-friendly.
 - JS advised those in attendance that we (our agency) would get the information for this grant emailed to them.
 - TW also stated that the TAG Grant might be used to replace some end of life items if they are permissible under the grant.
- *(Addition)* WA inquired if anyone in attendance has ever heard of an absorbent material that was bio-friendly as well.
 - No one in attendance had heard of such a product.
 - DV advised WA that if anyone has a spill in or near a waterway, that could affect a water source that they shall contact the National Fund Center to file a claim to assist with clean up.
 - DV then offered to discuss this further in one of our future quarterly LEPC Meetings. Being those in attendance supported this offer – it was decided that during the next LEPC meeting currently scheduled for March 3rd, 2021 that DV would speak to attendees about the National Fund Center, filing a claim and related items. DV will send information about the National Fund Center to MRa who will then disperse it to the membership.

XIV. Upcoming Meetings

- March 3rd, 2021 – location to be determined – dependent of COVID-19 restrictions.

XV. Good of the Order

- MR polled the room, nothing heard.

XVI. Adjournment

- MR made a Motion to Approve adjournment of the LEPC meeting: 1st by TW, 2nd by JPS, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 1027hrs.