



MINUTES OF MONROE COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Meeting of February 4, 2025

MEETING HELD IN-PERSON AND VIRTUALLY

Meetings now open for in person attendance and also presented virtually via Microsoft TEAMS for those who wish to attend virtually.

Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at 12:00

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Black, Edinger, Ferro, Fittos, Hepner, Keegan, Miller, Parker, Pinho, Sherer, Wallen, Ulanoski

Virtual: Barzev, Belvin, Dickinson, Murray, Staples

Excused: Zipp

Absent: Crosson, Fetterly, , Harrison, Meaders, Murphy, Ringheiser, Roberts, Sargent,

Guests: Erik Campos, Nic Goebeler, Ian Macleod, Tanya Hook, Timothy C, Robert Moore, George Gas, Travis Toth

The minutes of the February 5th meeting were distributed.

Motion to accept minutes as distributed – Parker/Edinger – Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- None

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

- Balance sheet accepted as written.

Public Education

- Maryellen Keegan was interviewed for LEPC activity. It was suggested that LEPC have a setup at various supported community events. The materials to hand out are aging but still relevant such as “ Chemicals at Home” program.

Compliance/Regulatory

- Hazconnect implemented – replacing WebEOC which had many challenges. Now invoices are sent 1-2 days after receipt of Tier2 report from the facility.
- \$8500 invoiced
- \$825 paid
- 29/87 facilities have submitted report to date

Emergency Response Preparedness

Five (5) hazmat responses since last meeting

- 11/13 Trailer load of PVC pellets caught fire when truck brakes caught fire. Datum consulted only.
- 11/27 Stolen diesel spill of 2000gal. Container leaked in back of truck, Datum responded; LEPC paid the fees and a donor covered supply replenishment.
- 11/30 Propane leak in Jackson township- e-stop failure (case study to be discussed at May meeting)
- 1/3 Fuel leak from saddle tank – from mile marker 309 to the NJ state line
- Bomb threat at ESU – no action taken by LEPC, multiple universities received similar calls throughout the country

OEM DIRECTOR COMMENTS

- Hazard mitigation plan almost finished
- On 2/26 there will be a meeting at 6pm to discuss the hazard mitigation plan. Prior public meeting was not well attended
- Avion flu is back. A backyard flock was infected in late January. Please contact game commission or Dept of Agriculture if you see a suspicious bird. There is a 5-day quarantine from flock/pet if erratic behavior is seen.
- On 12/18, Datum notified LEPC that they were not renewing their state certification for Emergency Response. Their current certificate is valid until May 31, 2025. This affects seven (7) counties in PA.
 - LEPC contacted Rapid Response, Lehigh County Hazmat, and Eagle Response Services to determine who to switch contract to for county responses. Act 165 requires the responding team to be certified by the State of PA. Currently 2-hr response is required but PEMA is suggesting up to 3-hr is acceptable but it was agreed that this is not a positive update.
 - Eagle presented their capabilities; 24/7/365 response availability. Mon -Fri normal business hours there will be a team immediately available, however off hours is an on-call availability. Level A response may be further delayed. Eagle does not require a retainer fee but would cap fees that LEPC is responsible for at \$10,000. Eagle would respond as multi -team, if needed, but would not bill as a multi-team response. Miller commented that technician response is not often but there is a risk of not having a team on contract, mostly it is transportation related responses.
 - Mehmet commented that if there is a county agency available, then we should use them.
 - Keegan stated if Lehigh County would be used, they requested that Monroe County offer manpower trained to technician level.
 - Tanya Cook commented that LC has concerns about response timing and needs further information especially regarding billing. Monroe county would be the third county that Lehigh would be responsible for.
 - Recertification requires changes such as 'buddy response' is now 3 people in and 3 people on standby for Level A responses
 - LEPC funding needs to cover responses, training, and community events.
 - Miller commented that we should wait on Eagle contract review by the State before further discussion occurs.

INPUT FROM LEPC MEMBERS

- None

PUBLIC INPUT

- None

LEPC CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

- None

LEPC Chair Elections

- Motion by Edinger to keep LEPC board intact (Chairman Miller, Co-Chairman Zipp, Secretary- Pinho). Seconded by Parker.

NEXT MEETING

- Tuesday, August 5th at noon.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

- Edinger/Heppner at 1300.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Pinho
LEPC Secretary