

JANUARY 21, 2020 LEPC MEETING MINUTES

Meeting opened at 9:03 a.m. by Chair Vollrath.

Motion by Jerry Sirk; second by Mike Davidson to approve *November 12, 2019* minutes as presented. Passed by unanimous vote.

Introductions

Public Comment: None

Brandon Vallee:

Brandon introduced himself to the committee. He is the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Health Department. He started his position on 12/9/19, coming to us from Virginia. He previously worked for Howard County Office of Emergency Management as their Mitigation Program Manager. He was also the PIO for Jefferson County in West Virginia for 4.5 years. During this time, two major events occurred – a Presidential Inauguration and a snow storm dumping 44" of snow in 12 hours. Brandon's email is bvallee@bchdmi.org. His office number is 926-7121, x5621.

Membership Report:

Gayle gave a brief update on the status of the new membership. The Executive Committee met on Nov. 20 for a final review and Chair Vollrath signed the roster with his approval.

33 participating members were submitted to MSP/EMHSD, Brenna Roos, who is the Sara Title III Planner and HMEP Coordinator. She will submit our roster to MCCERCC on February 10 at their next meeting. This will become our official record for LEPC.

Welcome letters were sent to all members on Nov. 22. Gayle reminded the membership to email her if you won't be able to attend an LEPC meeting. Letting her know makes an excused absence versus an unexcused. Three or more unexcused absences can lead to a review of your participating membership status and possible removal.

Sgt. Ron Bush:

Sgt. talked about communications and the importance of having the same capabilities inside a building as you do outside. The Michigan Public Safety Communications Interoperability Board (MPSCIB) issued a letter to all Fire Chiefs & building inspectors to remind them of the public safety communications requirements in both the International Fire Codes and building codes (see attachment #1) that address this issue.

He then talked about the issue of encryption on 700/800 MHz radios. There are a lot of agencies coming onto the State radio system. Some agencies encrypt everything so citizens with the apps or scanners at home can't hear the radio traffic. Unfortunately this also creates communication problems between agencies when they need to work together.

So, again MPSCIB was tasked with putting together some recommendations and best practices for programming and encryption which they have adopted (see attachment #2).

Next, Sgt. Bush spoke on Cybersecurity. He introduced us to a new department within the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security – Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency, or CISA.

CISA has four areas of focus. 1) Emergency Communications; 2) Federal Network Protection; 3) Proactive Cyber Protection; and 4) Infrastructure Resilience & Field Ops. They work with 16 critical infrastructure sectors and their correlating agencies. (see attachment #3).

A virus protection program on your computer is good, but you should also make sure to install some type of malware detection program.

Carmen shared an investigation the FBI is working on that happened to a large company in Lansing. This unnamed company received an email requesting everyone's W-2's. One person didn't think anything of it and started sending employee W-2's to this email.

Sara Title III Tier II reports are starting to come in. Tier II's are due by March 1st. Helena on M-140 in Bainbridge Township let us know they no longer have reportable quantities of chemicals on site and are inactive on EGLE's Tier II reporting site.

Back in the 1980's, an aircraft component company that was located in Benton Township closed. It is now part of Harbor Shores golf course. The USEPA continues to monitor this location, looking for chlorinated contaminants, screening for gamma radiation and evaluating soil gas for methane. They will be out beginning today through the end of January. Once completed, they will send a report back letting us know what they found.

The water testing for PFAS conducted in Berrien County did not result in any areas needing bottled water. However, PFAS is used in the fire service in some Class B foam. It is limited to their Class B AFFF foam used for flammable liquids, and Class B AFFF AR foam which is alcohol resistant. EGLE is in charge of collecting and disposing of all Class B foam from all fire departments in Michigan (see attachment #4).

Capt. Adams and Deputy Albers are part of the State HazMat WG. They meet every quarter and are currently working on regional updates. Updates include getting NIMS resources standardized; standardized training recommendations; and NIMS credentialing. Our HazMat team has been reviewing the Standard Operating Guidelines, updating training logs, and working with our regional board on grant dollars. It is Lt. Burks' (HazMat Commander) hope that by the end of 2020, we will be a Type II HazMat team.

TRAINING/CONFERENCES:

This year is the first Michigan HazMat Responders Conference, being held April 16-18 at Crystal Mountain. Lt. Burks noted that it is not just for HazMat members. It's a great training for police, fire and ems (see attachment #5).

Our office is hosting a Hazard Mitigation/Comprehensive Plan Interface training, March 12 & 13. This will be held here at the conference center. Handouts were available at the sign in table and registration is through MiTrain (see attachment #6).

On February 10, the area pipelines are hosting their annual Pipeline Safety Training dinner and tabletop exercise at the LMC Mendel Center. You can register on-line or they will register you at the door (see attachment #7).


There is also a Pipeline Security for Rural Communities training on Feb. 1 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. being held at the Van Buren County ISD Conference Center. Registration for this is through MiTrain (see attachment #8).


Carmen shared information on the North American Active Assailant Conference coming up in May. The flyer is attached, but please note this is not open to the general public. This training is very limited to first responders (see attachment #9).

Closing Comments:

Motion to adjourn at 10:08 a.m. by Mike Hansen; 2nd by Bill Martindale. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


~~Gayle Bassett~~ Ashley Geutner
Secretary


David Vollrath
ACTING Chair

Member Attendance:

Dave Vollrath, Gayle Bassett, Ron Bush, Vince DesJardins, Jerry Sirk, Sara Orpurt, Julius Grau, Jack Fisher, Marc Bilka, Bob Harrison, Todd Taylor, Fabio Cesar, Frank DeLaTorre, Bill Martindale, Jim Curran, Darrell Ezell II, Mike Davidson, Mike Hansen, Robert Wilson, Ralph Williams, Pete Murphy, Shawn Martin, Ed Kretchman, Carmen Kucinich, and Mike Phelps.

Guest Attendance:

Paul Bailey, Ken High, Ray Porter, Mike Mattix, Rick Winters, Breeze Ettl, Brandon Vallee, Donovan Thomas, Jessica Clark, Ken Priest, Robert Jabkowski, and Aurdrey Mason.