

Upper Uwchlan Township (UUT) Emergency Management Planning Commission (EMPC)

Meeting Minutes Thursday, September 24, 2020 6:30 PM

I Call to Order

Byron Nickerson called the EMPC meeting to order at 6:32 PM. The following members were in attendance via “Zoom” telephone conferencing: Byron Nickerson, Richard Ruth, Julie Hearn-Nicely, Tom Kelly, Cathy Tomlinson, John DeMarco, Kevin Cook and Jamie Goncharoff. Also, in attendance were Kathi McGrath and Tony Przychodzien from Chester County Emergency Services.

II Approval of Previous Minutes

Julie Hearn-Nicely made a motion for the Draft Meeting Minutes to be approved. Richard Ruth seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

III Fire Services Report

- Richard Ruth reported there was a fire on State Park property, appeared bales of hay were on fire, took over four hours to distinguish.
- Byron asked Richard if he was aware of negotiations between Ludwig’s and Lionville regarding the Feters property development fire coverage. Richard was informed that Lionville will respond first and if additional resources are required, Ludwig’s would assist.
- Cathy Tomlinson questioned if the Lionville Fire Company has a specific number of call-outs required to have a substation located in UUT. Richard was not aware of that number off hand.

IV Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Report

Cathy Tomlinson reported on June’s Uwchlan Ambulance report.

V County Report

- Tony Przychodzien said the Emergency Operations Plan has been updated and mentioned that approximately 40% of municipalities still owe the county their updates.
- He said there is a fire study taskforce developed to evaluate improving and possibly consolidating services.
- There was a tanker truck accident on Rt. 202 that shut down the highly traveled roadway for multiple hours. A local senior center was locked down due to the highly flammable liquids spill.
- The County is continuing to monitor the pandemic. They are using/assessing a software package to keep inventory of stockpiled items.

VI Training Officer Report

Byron brought up the possibility of conducting First Aid/AED refresher training/recertification. There was significant interest, but the training will be put on hold until the COVID 19 pandemic is resolved, and groups are able to gather again.

VII Pipeline Officer Report

- Tom Kelly spoke with Tony Scheivert regarding the recent pollution event. The drilling mud (bentonite) settled onto the bottom of the Marsh Creek Lake. ET is trying to figure out how to get the mud out, which has impacted approximately five acres.
- Tom mentioned that if residents have questions, they are to contact the people of Energy Transfer.
- Byron is a member of the ChesCo Pipeline Safety Advisory Board and has questioned what historical and geophysical data were available to ET, and, whether proper precautions were taken given the location-specific historical and geophysical data that were available. No response to his written question has been received.

VIII Chairman/Coordinator Report

- Byron discussed face to face monthly meetings vs. continuing with Zoom meetings. It was decided to continue to have Zoom meetings until further notice due to COVID 19 pandemic concerns.
- Byron mentioned this is an off year for Limerick drills.
- Tony Przychodzien commented that the plume exercise with plant in Peach Bottom is scheduled for December 8th and could be done virtually.

IX Old Business

No old business to discuss.

X New Business

- Byron urged the Commission members to propose any goals or projects they may have for consideration (individual or group) in 2021.
- The contents of the temporary EOC closet from the Public Works building need to be moved to the EMPC/EOC closet in the new Township Building.
- Byron discussed the 2020 and 2021 budgets. He will be adding a printer for the EOC to the 2020 budget, as well as police-grade rechargeable flashlights.
- Byron mentioned getting a smart white board. Tony Przychodzien said to put the request in writing and the County would supply it through ACT 147.
- Byron wants to digitize all UUT emergency management documents. If electronic files are not available from ChesCo or elsewhere, the documents will need to be scanned.
- Byron asked Kathi to order long sleeve polos with EMPC logos for the commission members.
- Kevin Cook mentioned PEMA training eight of the 12 certifications can be done virtually. Tony Przychodzien asked Kevin to call him next week for further details on that training.

XI Round Table

Nothing to discuss by the Commission members.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 6:30 PM via Zoom.