

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

Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 25, 2019 6:30 PM

I Call to Order

Byron Nickerson called the EMPC meeting to order at 6:35 PM. The following members were also in attendance: Richard Ruth, Kevin Cook, Bernie Carroll, Julie Hearn-Nicely, Tom Kelly, John DeMarco, Cathy Tomlinson, and Jamie Goncharoff (late). Tony Przychodzien (Chester County Department of Emergency Services (DES)) and Scott Piersol (East Brandywine Township and Western Chester County Regional Emergency Management Group) were also in attendance.

II Approval of Previous Minutes

Richard Ruth suggested one minor change to the March 28, 2019 Draft Meeting Minutes followed by a motion from Tom Kelly to approve the revised Draft Meeting Minutes. Kevin Cook seconded the motion. The motion to accept the meeting minutes was passed unanimously.

III Fire Services Report

Richard Ruth reported on training activities conducted by the Lionville Fire Company. He noted that Stu Solomon received the Firefighter of the Year Award for Lionville.

IV Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Report

No report.

V County Report

Tony Przychodzien noted that it was a particularly busy month for the Chester County Department of Emergency Services. His full report is provided as an attachment to these meeting minutes.

VI Training Officer Report

- Byron encouraged EMPC members to suggest any ideas they have for emergency management training.
- Kevin Cook and Byron noted that plans to provide an emergency management workshop for the community had evolved significantly and was proceeding slowly.
- Byron provided an overview of the well-attended Pipeline Emergency Workshop that he attended at the Chester County DES on April 23, 2019. A key topic was the influence of

social media during an incident. A recent incident associated with subsidence in the vicinity of a pipeline on Lisa Drive in West Whiteland Township was discussed.

- Another significant discussion topic during the DES workshop was the current state of knowledge regarding the safe use of cell phones during a pipeline incident.
- A third significant workshop discussion topic was the Downingtown Area School District's default position to shelter in place should a pipeline incident occur in the vicinity of a school.

VII Chairman/Coordinator Report

- Byron provided a status report regarding establishing Upper UUT's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to the Public Works Building. All EMPC files have been moved to the second-floor office space. The facility's first floor could function as an ADA-compliant EOC because it has sufficient accessibility, seating and desk space, internet access, landline phones, a computer monitor, and a whiteboard.
- Tony Przychodzien mentioned the possibility of using the County's Mobile Incident Command Center Trailer, if necessary, until UUT's new Township Building has been completed.

VIII Old Business

IX New Business

- Scott Piersol is East Brandywine Township Manager, Emergency Management Coordinator, and is a key member of the Western Chester County Regional Emergency Management (WCCREM) Group. Scott contributed to our discussions during the EMPC meeting and also provided insights regarding the goals and activities of the WCCREM. Of particular relevance to UUT's EMPC are: 1) the personal/professional relationships that are developed between WCCREM's EMCs before a regional incident occurs, and 2) the sharing critical emergency resource contact information that takes place between townships prior to an incident. Each township's EMC is required to routinely update their Notification and Resource Manual (NARM), which is a key component of each Township's Emergency Operations Plan. NARM sharing between adjacent townships saves significant time and could provide critically important resource sourcing information during an emergency situation.

X Round Table

Jamie Goncharoff made a motion to adjourn and Richard Ruth seconded the motion.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathi McGrath
EMPC Secretary