

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

Meeting Minutes Thursday, January 28, 2021 6:30 PM DRAFT

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, Tony Przychodzien from Chester County Emergency Services and Steve Hirsh, Resident.

Cathy Tomlinson made a motion to elect Byron Nickerson as Chairperson and Jamie Goncharoff seconded the motion. Byron Nickerson made a motion to elect Jamie Goncharoff as Vice Chairperson for 2021, John DeMarco seconded the motion. The motion so passed unanimously.

II Approval of Previous Minutes

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

III Fire Services Report

- Richard reported training was done in house for two persons.
- He reported there were four fires at Eagle Topsoil associated with the mulch pile, four days in a row. The owner, Fritz Senn, had been previously advised that the mulch piles were getting too high and to knock it down, but that activity was not performed. Byron noted that he had been called out to the scene on Sunday. He asked Richard how the fire company would get compensated. John DeMarco said the township has an ordinance for this type of situation and that the landowner will be billed by the fire company that assisted (Ludwig's Corner Fire Company).
- The commission reviewed the current updated fire territory map and the EMS territory map to include the new developments. Kevin mentioned there is an ambulance staged at Glenmoore Fire Company.

IV Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Report

- Nothing to report.

- Richard Ruth noted that John Applegate is no longer at the Uwchlan Ambulance Corps and that Kathi Cozzone has taken John's place.

Byron suggested that Cathy and Richard ask the various Fire and EMS organizations that support the township to attend and speak at our future virtual meetings. Various members supported the suggestion.

V

County Report

- Tony Przychodzien noted that the Peach Bottom Drill will take place in March 17, 2021.
- The Limerick drill is expected to be conducted in November 2021 and that all 15 municipalities will be evaluated this year. He will be meeting with the various organizations monthly starting this February to prepare for the drill.
- The topic of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) was brought up relative to Limerick. Tony did a quick review and noted that UUT formerly had five SARA sites. When asked, he noted that the Chester Springs WAWA facility is not a SARA site.
- There was a hazmat situation at W. Sadsbury Township.
- The county acquired software for cell phones and tablets that the Chief DeMarco and his officers can access that provides information pertaining to hazmat sites.
- Personal protective equipment acquisitions made for the pandemic are now stored at the Bacton Hill Road facility. Everything is labeled with expiration dates, etc. and generally very well organized.

VI

Training Officer Report

- Training for the new Smart Board is scheduled for February 21st.
- Byron Nickerson (Training Officer) commented that facilitated incident response discussions will be held in future meetings. The Township manager and the pertinent department heads should be in attendance. An example of an incident would be: what to do if an envelope was received that contained a white substance. Ideally, Tony and, perhaps, Frank Sullivan (County Hazmat Officer) could participate in the awareness training.

VII

Pipeline Officer Report

- Tom Kelly noted that the Meadow Creek Drive work is going well. They had to cross the Enbridge line along roughly 20' of the road; there is deep/wide trench, so the road is closed.
- There is no update on the Marsh Creek drilling fluid release.

VIII

Chairman/Coordinator Report

- The Chester County Strategic Plan was published in September 2020. Let Byron know if you want a copy of that plan.
- If anyone has emergency preparedness/response or safety-related information from reputable sources, please send it to Shanna and or Byron for possible publication on the Township's social media sites or in the township newsletter.
- Byron introduced Steven Hirsh on the call. He is interested in joining the EMPC. He lives in the township and is recently retired from the EPA (30 years). He also spent 17 years in the PA National Guard. He has emergency response experience with hurricanes, pipelines, etc. He is available to assist the EMPC in any required capacity. Jamie encouraged him to continue attending our meetings.

IX Old Business

None.

X New Business

None.

XI Round Table

- Kathi mentioned that the deadline for submissions to the spring newsletter is February 19th.
- There will be fireworks again on November 27, 2021. Kevin Cook commented that the feedback for the fireworks last year was a nice night and well received by the residents.
- The Block Party has been put on hold due to the pandemic.
- Cathy Tomlinson mentioned that Parks and Recreation somehow want to marry the tree lighting with the fireworks, and have everyone down by the Eagle Tavern and Carmines; perhaps at an outside market or something. They are working to come up with other activities.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 25, 2020 at 6:30 PM via Zoom.