

LEPC Meeting

January 20, 2022, 0900 hrs

NEXT MEETING: April 21, 2022

Attending:

- Lisa Burton, Chair University of Maine Systems Emergency Coordinator
- Faith Staples MEMA Technical Hazards Coordinator
- Lynn Dwelley Penobscot County Emergency Management Agency
- Paul Smith Holden Fire/LT
- Eric Tourillotte Brewer Fire/DC
- Thanex Louis Consolidated Communications, Environmental Health & Safety
- Kathy Knight Director, Northern Light Health Center for Emergency Preparedness
- Gary Whittingdon Penobscot Job Corp Safety Officer
- Robert Gross Dorothea Dix, Emergency Response Training Coordinator
- Lara Bailey Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline, Land & Right of Way Advisor
- Ron Troyer TDS Telecom
- David Michaud Maine Water Company, Superintendent of Millinocket/Bucksport
- Mike Watkins GE, Senior EHS Site Leader
- Logan MacDonald

Introductions

Lisa welcomed everyone with an opening statement. She advised the committee of Scott Luciano's resignation as the LEPC Planner. Scott's work with the LEPC has been appreciated and he will remain a member on the LEPC committee.

New Membership

1. Mike Watkins – Application presented for Mike Watkins, EHS Site Leader for General Electric in Bangor. His application will be forwarded to next SERC meeting for approval.
2. Kevin Jenssen- Approved by SERC - Northern Light EHS Officer and former Maine DEP.
Jason Seavey – Approved by SERC – Northern Light Emergency Preparedness Coordinator and a Lieutenant with Newport Fire Department.

Updates:

1. Penobscot County EMA/Lynn Dwelley, Deputy Director
 - a) We are sad to lose Scott Luciano as our LEPC planner. Scott is going to remain on the LEPC committee and participate whenever he can.
 - b) We have a position open for Geospatial Database Manager (GIS) here in the EMA office. It's currently being advertised and we hope for a good group of candidates.
 - c) We acquired 15 pallets of PPE with the assistance of MEMA and the Maine Forest Service for distribution. We had "pick up" day last week and were able to give PPE to approximately forty agencies.
 - d) LEPC has funded 8 hazmat trainings so far this year. We have a training balance of approximately \$11,000 for the remainder of this fiscal year thru June.
 - e) Reminder to the group to request hazmat training funding 20-45 days prior to the date of training.

- f) If any facilities get a call from CFATS (Chemical Facility Anti-terrorism Standards) please respond to their email or call. They are a legitimate agency.
 - g) We are going to participate with Len Wallace of EPA and Professor Thomas Mueller of California University in Pennsylvania in an LEPC project. It involves mapping routes of hazardous chemicals to Tier II facilities in Penobscot County. Our new GIS person will be very involved with this project so there will be more information at a later date.
 - h) Tier II reports have started coming in. I have approximately 20 so far. There are 3 more Tier II reporting workshops available in February. They are in your reporting package and listed on the website.
2. Holden Fire/Lt. Paul Smith
They have been working through COVID protocols while responding to emergencies. Lt. Smith recently returned from a FEMA deployment in Kentucky. His time was split between COVID vaccination efforts and working on the restoration efforts from the recent tornado. Currently they are good on test kits and PPE. For future meetings or exercises – how will we communicate critical information and respond to emergencies when cell phones and towers are down?
 3. Brewer Fire Department, Deputy Chief Eric Tourtillotte
D/C Tourtillotte echoed the same information as Holden – working on COVID protocols and working through staffing issues with people out sick. Concerned about having enough ambulances to cover the calls. Otherwise, doing okay.
 4. Penobscot Job Corp, Gary Whittingdon Safety Officer
We are dealing with COVID as everyone else. We are also dealing with the aftermath of the ice storm from the other day. We are waiting on the Supreme Court decision about the Department of Labor and if it will affect us here at Job Corp.
 5. Dorothea Dix, Robert Gross, Emergency Response Training Coordinator
Primarily dealing with COVID issues and is stocked up on PPE supplies.
 6. Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline, Lara Bailey
Lara advised they are doing good with supplies and PPE. Have been primarily dealing with COVID issues.
 7. MEMA, Faith Staples, Technical Hazards Coordinator
The Tier II fee amendment went through this year. The \$50 registration hasn't changed but the inventory fees have gone up slightly. This will allow us to provide more training and planning funds to the LEPC's. It will also help the HazMat teams be more self-sustaining. The updated forms went out in the reporting packages and are on the website.
 8. Maine Water Company, David Michaud Superintendent of Millinocket and Bucksport divisions.
David reports that they are good on PPE supplies and managing to move employees around locations to cover staffing due to COVID issues.

In final discussion the committee was very interested in continuing the discussion about a communications exercise.

Next Meeting

April 21, 2022 at 0900. We will send out a calendar invitation to everyone. There is a possibility of having the next meeting at the Research Center at the "old" Old Town Mill, depending on COVID restrictions.

Adjourned 0930 hrs.