

**SUSSEX COUNTY
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR
MARCH 13TH AND JUNE 19TH 2008**

Note: Where information is similar, it has been summarized.

March 13th meeting was held at the Biden Center, Cape Henlopen State Park.

June 19th meeting was held at the new Sussex EOC, Georgetown.

Status LEPC Chair and Update- The SERC Finance Committee recommended approval of the requested \$62,965 (no carryover from previous year). It was further recommended "these funds remain in the SERC account and be transferred to the Sussex County LEPC (pro rata) once the LEPC position is filled." Budget recommendations were accepted by the SERC. Joe Thomas developed a job description based on input from the LEPC Working Group. Some revisions were needed to ensure the JD met the necessary performance requirements set forth by the SERC for funding. Notice for the position is to be posted this summer.

Delaware South TTX After Action Report- Joe will report on this in July, if the report is finished.

Tier II Manager- Shannon reported approximately 100 outstanding reports in a total of 1700 facilities; 94% reported online. Tier II Manager has a few "bugs", and they are working on patches for those. Training has been done for all the counties, including for planners and responders. Some DEMA funding is being used to support the EPCRA program.

Incident Reports- Tim Cooper and Jay Shine reported

DECON- At the SERC, the DECON Trailer User's Group reported:

Response to three emergency incidents

Conducted five training classes/drills

Completed two public appearance/community outreach events

The State has ten FDUs. The State is committing to \$5,000 worth of new equipment for each unit.

Delaware HAZMAT Conference/HMEP Funds- Art reported the first conference was very successful with a lot of positive feedback. Joe Leonetti will do a short power point at the July meeting.

HMEP funding for planning and training has been increased by approximately 70%, but there will also be additional reporting on activities. The new money

requires a 25% "soft match" (such as salaries). Art is dividing the money based on past performance. The majority of it will be in sub grants to the LEPCs. Sussex should receive ~\$20k (~\$15k Training/\$5k Planning). Sussex will have to "soft match" 25% of this. Tim's group, the Sussex EMS, has been very active in using HMEP funds in the past, and I've asked Tim to take the lead on putting together some ideas for the funds. If you have some suggestions, please bring them to the next meeting.

Last SERC Meeting- The last meeting was June 11th. Director James Werner of DNREC reported 345 responses in 2007, but no SERT level responses. Transportation related responses were 26% of the total number. For the first quarter of 2008, there had been 70 responses by DNREC. Primary releases were from motor vehicle accidents, with the second highest being residential heating fuel spills. DNREC had their Emergency Response Team members both at Dover Downs for NASCAR and the National High School Mock Trial Championship.

DNREC "responded to 960 gallon transformer oil release at Merchants Square Shopping Center in Wilmington after vandals removed the plugs from four transformers that were staged in the parking lot. They had been removed from a building prior to demolition and were awaiting off-site disposal". The spill was contained on the paved parking. Initial field testing showed >50 ppm PCB, however lab analyses showed <10 ppm.

The revised SERT Plan is at the printers.

Dust explosions were discussed and are being considered for further discussion concerning situational awareness, jurisdiction and what SERC can do.

US EPA Conference October 26th-29th in Richmond, Virginia.

DENS- RFPs were sent, proposals received, in review

March 13th @ Cape Henlopen- Keith Hines, Assistant Supervisor for the US Coast Guard Marine Safety Detachment in Lewes, did an excellent presentation on the Coast Guard's various duties involving maritime safety, security and protection of the environment. Keith gave background history on the beginnings of the Coast Guard as the Lighthouse Service for lifesaving when it started in 1876. He reviewed the variety of equipment operated by the Coast Guard from base locations in Lewes, Atlantic City and Philadelphia. Keith reviewed his job duties past and present and told some very interesting stories of his experiences.

Lt. Marc Evans and staff from the National Guard 31st Civil Support Team brought an assortment of vehicles with special capabilities that can be used for a multiple types of emergency response, including dealing with WMDs. LEPC

members got to view and tour the vehicles and were given informative details on their abilities.

June 19th @ Sussex EOC- John Peirce, a member of the Seaford Mutual Assistance Group (SMAG), Sussex LEPC and the SERC, was recognized for his many years of service. John was a founding member of SMAG in 1975. He received recognition from Steve Owens, another Charter Member, State Representative Danny Short (presented by Blades Mayor David Ruff), Peninsula Oil Company from John Evans, CATO Gas & Oil from Tim Emge and Governor Minner and Lt. Governor Carney from Art Paul. Thank you, John, for all your many contributions.

Some discussion items- 1) status of DHS's Top Screen, 2) problem propane tanks during flood conditions (Kent County has a new building code/ordinance addressing this), 3) Citizen Corps needs volunteers, and 4) USCG exercise in Delaware Bay August 4th.

Chip Stevenson of the Sussex EOC gave an excellent tour of the new facility. All enjoyed it.