

New Hanover County LEPC Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2006

The following persons were in attendance:

Accattato, George	UNCW
Adair, Glen	NHRMC-Safety Services
Chapman, Vicki	American Red Cross
Cox, Heidi	NCDENR – PWS
Floresca, Sue	NHHN Safety
Hesketh, Clayton	US Coast Guard (MSU)
Hollinger, Bob	Elementis Chromium
Kling, Victoria	American Red Cross
Lazzari, Donna	Invista
Lee, Warren	NHC EM
Mann, Todd	US Coast Guard (MSU)
Mattison, Laura	NHHN Safety
McMenimen, Lee	Corning
Morgan, Rodney	Corning
Nelson, Chris	Wilmington Fire Dept
Newland, Brad	NCDENR-DAQ
Pearce, Wayne	NHC EM
Strickland, Sally	AAIPharma
White, Lisa	Fortron
Wingenroth, Kristen	NHC Emergency Management

Welcome and Introductions:

The meeting, held at the NHC Emergency Operations Center, was called to order at 1220 hours by Lisa White. The June and August were presented, reviewed and approved at this meeting.

Membership Announcements:

October 14th – Household Waste Disposal will be held on Saturday, October, 14th from 9:00 am to 4:00pm. If you can assist, please call Lisa White at 341.3152.

October 25th - MS1 will conduct a decontamination exercise at the battleship on October 25th. Two “victims” will be used in this exercise with both New Hanover and Brunswick Counties taking part in this exercise.

November 9th - American Red Cross will be having their annual meeting at the Scottish Rite Temple on November 9th. The public is welcome to attend. Time of the meeting has not been set.

New Business:

NC Area Committee/Area Contingency Plan

Todd Mann of the US Coast Guard (MSU) discussed the NC Area Contingency Plan and its need to be revisited and revised as it has some gaps and is outdated. On November 29th, a committee of stakeholders will meet to provide input to NC Coast Guard. Notification will be made to the public sector of its intentions for this project. If you would like to view to “Area Contingency Plan”, please go to www.homeport.uscg.mil >> port directory>> Wilmington>> Area Contingency Plan. If you have questions, call Todd Mann at 910.772. 2216. Note: Lisa suggested a member of the LEPC Committee be included as a stakeholder.

800 MHz Communications System Overview

Warren Lee gave a comprehensive overview of the new \$8.5 million Motorola 800 MHz Communication System that is being installed in efforts to be fully interoperable with other systems and processes. The original conventional system was supported by one tower with limited connectivity areas. Additionally, the original system could not support the mass usage it was often faced with. The new digital trunked system will add three additional towers and digital fourteen channels to assist in the load of use and usage areas requiring coverage. The new towers are located at Progress Energy, Market Place, and Carolina Beach. There are several local businesses that having been using the 800MHz system for some time. (i.e., Corning, GE and NHRMC) The required handheld radios are expensive but seem to be worth it as more transmissions are received quickly and clarity of the transmissions is better. Motorola will be performing “drive-around” testing beginning November 6th. See Warren Lee with questions.

Open Forum:

Piedmont Natural Gas Leak – Post news discussion: Discussed the lack of mercaptan in the gas lines downtown and then the over addition of the same substance to correct the issue.

***The next LEPC meeting is scheduled for
Wednesday, November 8, 2006 at the New Hanover County EOC.***