

MINUTES OF THE LAKE COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE, August 22, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 9:19

Members in attendance:

Kevin Nowaczyk, Peggy Grant, Richard Taylor, Robert Walker, Paul Petrie, Rose Ristovski, John Huppert, David Weisz, Nicholas Cash

Guests in attendance:

Kenneth Henline, Brent Smart

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moment of reflection for Chief Bill Timmer

Minutes -

Minutes from the July meeting will be presented next month.

Treasurer's Report –

No expenditures were incurred, fund balance remains at \$70,231.65. David Weisz made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Robert Walker, with no discussion, the vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.

Correspondence –

None

HEPC – No Report

HazMat – No Report

HEALTH – The new COVID Variant, EG 5, is seeing an uptick in COVID-19, there are not many hospitalizations at this time. The new vaccine should be effective at preventing hospitalizations and death

CORONER – No Report

ARC – Completed 91 disaster assistance responses year to date; installed 10 smoke alarms with help from Staff and their partners. Attended the touch-a-truck event in Schererville; The ARC is deployed in California and responders from Indiana are in Hawaii, they have served 60,000 Meals in Hawaii and will be there until March. ARC will be hosting an Open House on September 9th, information to follow.

INDOT – No Report

Old Business – Funding for HazMat equipment. There is a possibility that Explorer Pipeline may be able to assist with the purchase of the identifier. All SCBAs have been flow-tested and are OK. There are 12 usable tanks, four tanks are out of compliance. It was mentioned the identifier should be the top priority because of the possibility of losing some of the funding if the purchase is not made soon. Funding for the identifier is short \$25,000. A motion was made by David Weisz to provide funding not to exceed \$27,000 to complete the purchase of the identifier; the motion was seconded by Nicholas Cash, with no discussion, the vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.

LEPC Workshops will be looking for subject matter experts to advise moving forward.

Our joint tabletop exercise with Newton Cty needs to be done before the End of October the team will send out dates.

It was brought up that the LEPC should address mental health issues the health department and LEPC need to get a conversation going about mental health and how to address it. A discussion followed.

Bob Walker made a motion to remove Bruce Curry from the LEPC membership due to his retirement, the motion was seconded by Peggy Grant, with no discussion, the vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Peggy Grant to appoint Richard Taylor as a member of the LEPC instead of his proxy status; the motion was seconded by David Weisz, with no discussion, the vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.

FEMA training in September has been increased to 50

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Davis Weisz; the motion was seconded by Peggy Grant, with no discussion, the vote was unanimous, and the motion passed; the meeting adjourned at 9:59

Kevin Nowaczyk, Chair

Paul Petrie, Secretary