

Darke County LEPC Minutes June 18, 2024

This meeting of the Board Members of the Darke County LEPC was called to order at the Darke County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management at 10:02 am by Chair Matt Aultman. The minutes of March 19, 2024 meeting were presented for review Jim Schaar made a motion to accept the minutes, Jordan Francis 2nd the motion, all in favor, motion passed, minutes accepted.

Treasurer's report:

- Reviewed the detailed expense and income information. A copy was provided to all. Jordan Francis made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Jim Schaar 2nd, all in favor, report accepted.

Old Business

- The annual HazMat exercise was held on May 28, 2024 testing the County Emergency Operations Center and partnering with Continental Carbonic and the Anderson's Ethanol. The full exercise report was emailed out to all members for review. Sam Reed facilitated the training and recommended to SERC to concur with the exercise.
- Work has begun with JH Consulting to complete a Commodity Flow Study.
- Lithium Battery/Alternative Fuels training is scheduled for 9/14/24 at the Birchwood Facility.

New Business

- A Federal Disaster Declaration was issued on the March 14th tornado which gives those affected the option to apply for Federal Assistance. FEMA was hosted at the EMA office for a week to assist residents and businesses in the application process. The application deadline is July 1, 2024.
- Clean-up continues from the May 7, 2024 tornado. We have collected information from local governments on their expenses and we will be pursuing reimbursements from the State Disaster Recovery Program.
- Following both tornadoes, we have begun to look at the formation of a COAD – Community Organizations Active in Disasters. There were several groups actively participating in assisting in the recovery process and the goal is to link these groups together and to more efficiently utilize resources and track progress.

LEPC Planner Report

- Kevin Subler was unable to attend. Mindy stated that he was following up with facilities that had not submitted their Tier II reports.

Members Comments:

- Jordan Francis: The Health Dept lost power from the May tornado and they learned a lot about vaccine storage.
- Eric Cook: Updating Emergency Plans and expanding training.
- Sam Reed: At the September meeting the HazMat Plan will need to be accepted for the October deadline.

- ODOT: Several projects including 121, 185, 118 North of Hunter Rd., 726 will be paved in the fall. There have been several issues at the round-about on 121 with super loads that are taking 15-20 minutes to get through and knocking down signs and damaging the curbs. They also noted that when a railroad closes a crossing for repair they are not officially notified.
- Keith Wise: The SW Region of Ohio EPA is down to 2 responders.
- Mike Colamarino, The Park District collected woody debris from both tornadoes. He floated the Greenville Creek and there are a lot of log jams. Bash at Bish is Saturday June 22nd and Gathering at Garst is in July.
- John Wright: The American Red Cross assisted 5 families following the tornadoes.
- Matt Aultman: The Miami Conservancy District will begin a 3-year water study. Commissioners are working on sewer projects for the final 4 Villages – Gordan, Ithaca, Castine and Ft Jefferson. Wayne Lakes continues to work on their sewer project. County-wide wireless internet project continues and the Castine tower should be active in July with the others to follow toward the end of 2024. GTI is adding wind and solar power to their site that will generate 7.8 megawatts of renewable energy, making it one of the largest on-site projects in the U.S.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mindy Saylor

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