

LEPC Quarterly Meeting Minutes  
East Longmeadow Fire Department  
150 Somers Road, East Longmeadow, MA 01028  
December 21, 2022 at 10:00 AM

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Present: Chris Beecher, Matt Cauchon, Tom Christensen, Scott Flebotte, Rene Houde, Pamela Hill, Darrell Keane, Erin Koebler, Ashley LeBeau, Melinda Mandeville, Michael Marafuga, Paul Morrissette, Ryan Quimby, Gordon Smith, Tammy Spencer, Mark Williams, Kerry Kervick

Chief Paul Morrissette called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

- Updates from disciplines
  - Police: Chief Williams said that he met with the Rotary Club about next year's 4<sup>th</sup> of July events. He is looking to get formal incident action plans, attended a demo at MEMA offices of a software program and service available to all of us through Homeland Security programs, way to look at facility, map out & vulnerability. Scott Flebotte elaborated about the MEMA software and offering an IAP: Instant Action Plan for while it is happening. MEMA will assist you with source. EAP: Event Action Plan with Homeland Security. Placing cameras 360 in building put into a database into an interactive map. Live camera assessments: First, basic format, empty. Second is a game day/in session. The assessments are then put in software program. Emergency Action plan will be created that is not shared/private. Available on laptops, cruisers, tablets. Free to all private, profit, non-profit sectors.  
Chief Williams announced that the PD just promoted Steve Manning to the first ever Lieutenant in the department history.
  - EMS: Chief Morrissette stated the EMS met with EL facilities at the end of August to share how each operate to be partners. Ashley LeBeau from EL Skilled shared that the DPH does not allow them to restrict visitation based on vaccination status but they have all private rooms and easier to contain.
  - Council on Aging: Erin Koebler shared that Captain Beecher talked to staff about what to do in emergencies. Chief Morrissette attended the COA's Dementia Friendly workshop and said that it was very interesting and informative. There will be a second workshop 1/12/23.
  - Public Health: Tammy Spencer stated that there is a Covid 11% uptick in EL, higher than the county, hard to get a grip on it due to testing at home and seeing a lot of flu in their database, with 34 cases (26 children between the ages of 4-8). State of MA is only 38% vaccinated for flu and still low for Covid boosting: 46% - 1<sup>st</sup>, 20% - 2<sup>nd</sup>. Test kits for Covid available, there is an order in for new ones not expiring until after June. CERT/MRC: Looking for January training centers, County received a \$75,000 training grant.
  - Dr. Matt Cauchon shared that Mercy Medical Center is seeing a lot of Flu A and RSV with pneumonia in elderly.
  - Public Schools: Gordon Smith stated that this year started a little more traditionally and got back into emergency planning, working on a new MOA with Police, a plan with IT, quickest access to floor plans. Grants outdated. Would like to coordinate with MEMA. Hoping to have a building project at the high school and have all these security elements.

- Public Works: Darrell Keane discussed the sidewalk project on Parker Street, new crosswalk and crossing signs at Rollins. Chestnut Street intersection issues with accidents: DPW updated signage, painted all new lines at intersection. ADA sidewalk project is coming to a completion; handicap ramps hold the door, added RFBs for pedestrian crosswalk at Ochoa. DPW is ready for snow, plowing, the dept. is new and he is impressed with how they did last storm. Fuel pumps will be out of service January 3-5. Pride cards available. Planning on more installation of RFBs. The State School Zone Beacon solar power speed limit application filled out; state will give one for each town.
  - IT: Ryan Quimby states that they are pushing fiber network out to 5 additional sites Somers Road, Orchard Road & Woodbridge pump stations, the water building behind Brownstone and 382 N. Main. IT will have network presence in each of those buildings. IT has funding for a fiber to the home visibility study & if successful, we can put fiber everywhere.
  - Fire/EMD: Chief Morrissette shared that interviews were conducted with the finalists for the position of the first Deputy Chief. A decision will be made shortly.
- LEPC Certification: Chief Morrissette said that with the help of MEMA and Kerry, we received our LEP and our recertified. The process was a ton of work and information keeps changing.
- MEMA: Scott Flebotte shared that MEMA recognizes the recertification process issues. There is going to be a grant coming out for local CERT teams. Will get all leaders together looking at funding, CERT rodeo with free training, regional training, meet and come up with plans for the different facets of CERT for search & rescue trying to formalize state level to help assist. Under the new guidelines to try to negotiate what funds can be spent on. EAPs/IEPs vulnerability assessment for Hampden County as a whole, probably a 3-year project, looking for the vulnerabilities of each town put in a regional grant. CERT starting Emergency Management Directors Academy, 150-160 hours of training for key leaders, get a certification. Pushing out mobile EOC for events, free of charge.
- Grants: Chief Morrissette shared information on awarded grants
  - EMPG - \$4,600, purchased 5 active shooter kits for Fire to work with PD.
  - Firefighter Safety Grant - \$19,000, 19 additional active shooter kits. Just about all of EMS staff will be outfitted with protective gear.
  - HMEP - \$5,000, waiting, to send Hazmat techs to a conference.
- Old Business: No report
- New Business: Active shooter drill training discussion. The state is working toward a model to train Police & Fire. EMI institute offers program courses, training and resources for public & private

**Meeting Minutes:** Ryan Quimby made a motion to approve the December 15, 2021 LEPC Quarterly Meeting minutes. Gordon Smith seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the vote was taken and was unanimously affirmative.

Motion: Chief Morrissette made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ryan Quimby seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM

The next scheduled meeting of the LEPC Date and Location: TBD

*Local Emergency Planning Committees have four basic functions by law:*

- 1. To develop a community emergency plan (CEMP) for the community and keep the plan up-to-date;*
- 2. To receive information about accidental releases;*
- 3. To collect, manage, and provide public access to information on hazardous chemicals in the community;*
- 4. To educate the public about risks from accidental and routine releases of chemicals and work with facilities to minimize the risks.*