

**TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH WHITEHALL
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MEETING

PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

September 14, 2023

A Public Meeting of the South Whitehall Township Emergency Management was held on the above date in the Joint Operations Center located at 4300 Broadway, Allentown, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

Members attending were:

Jeff Kelly, Coordinator
Ricardo Diaz, Chief, Cetronia Fire Company
Tom Petrucci, Township Manager
Herb Bender, Public Works Deputy
Patrick Eisenhard, Deputy Coordinator
John Frantz, Fire Marshal & Deputy Coordinator
Sandi Herman, Planning Deputy
Diane Kelly, Disaster Recovery & Long Rang Planning
Max Paine, Deputy Communications Officer
Barry Search, Chief, Woodlawn Fire Department

Others attending were:

Jason Carita, Assistant Director of Operations, Cetronia Ambulance Corps
Monica Hodges, Township Commissioner
Joseph Light, Lehigh County Operations & Training Coordinator
Shawn Peischl, Greenawalds Fire Company
Steve Snyder, Battalion chief, Greenawalds Fire Company

AGENDA ITEM #1 – SWT FAMILY SAFETY DAY WRAP-UP

The family safety day event that was scheduled for September 9, 2023 was cancelled due to a forecast of inclement weather. Next years event will be held at Fernwood Park.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – PARKLAND SCHOOL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Dr. Naradko was not able to be present at the meeting, no updates were provided.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – TRAINING DRILL WRAP-UP

The after-action report was emailed to the participants. A cold-wash of the drill will be scheduled in the future.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – HURRICANE SEASON 2023

The forecast calls for two or three major hurricanes for the remainder of the season.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – WINTER WEATHER 2023-2024 OUTLOOK

The forecast calls for more snow this winter as compared to last winter.

Director Bender indicated that the township is no longer using the Weather Pros for forecasting. We had previously received an insurance discount for using the service, but that discount is no longer in effect. The township has 1200 tons of salt available through State contract and 1000 tons through inter-municipal contract.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – BUDGET ITEMS 2023

Any ideas for budget items should be directed to Coordinator Kelly, Director Bender, or Manager Petrucci.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – OPEN DISCUSSION, LC EMA CONFERENCE APRIL 24

Coordinator Light reported that the EMA conference will be held April 5 – 7, 2024 at DeSales University. There are twenty individuals registered as of now. Additional sponsors are being sought. The keynote speaker will be Philadelphia Fire Commissioner Adam Thiel. This conference can be used for EMS and EMA continuing education.

Lehigh County is evaluating the use of apps and software to use for transmitting information during severe storm events.

Assistant Director Carita reported that Cetronia has responded to 1763 ALS and 1002 BLS calls in South Whitehall Township year-to-date. Fifty-seven calls have been given to mutual aid providers.

The update of the Hazard Mitigation plan for the township is currently being performed.

AGENDA ITEM #9 – ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.