

York Township Emergency Management Agency
December Monthly Meeting
December 18, 2008

Attendees:

Kathleen Dellinger, EMA Coordinator
Robert Gage, Resource Support Branch Director
Jim Shaffer, Public Works and Engineering Branch Director
Ray Shaffer, Long Term Community Recovery and Mitigation Branch Director
Dottie Anderson, Mass Care, Housing, and Human Services Branch Director
Allen Britton, Public Information Officer
Jack Dellinger, RACES and Training
Jim Walsh, RACES/ York Township Fire Chiefs Association

Guests:

Helen Springer
Michele Shaffer
Mary Shaffer

A Holiday Dinner was held at 6:00 PM prior to the regular meeting and was attended by the above mentioned staff and guests. It provided an opportunity for spouses and friends of the EMA staff to meet and better understand the roles of the EMA participants. The food was provided by the individuals with all bringing a covered dish. It was a very pleasant event.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Kathleen Dellinger, York Township EMC.

Jim Walsh reported on the recent Fire Chief's meeting and said that the meetings are no longer monthly meetings, but rather bi-monthly. The next meeting is scheduled for January. He also reported that the main topics of discussion were the new radios and pagers, and that they were aware that EMA now has new radios. Another topic for discussion was the fact that there are no ordinances requiring specific house number heights. Numbers that are too small can cause problems with emergency responders in finding the correct location when on call. Also, in some cul de sacs, there is one number at the end of the road where as many as four houses are located.

EMA radios have arrived in the form of a new base unit with two hand-held units. They are simpler units with 12 talk groups and they work well throughout the county. The main channel for EMA in channel 1. It was also requested that when using the radios that you identify yourself first then the radio you are calling so all know who is on the air.

The pager that was ordered has arrived and is with the EMC. 5 pagers from Station 19, supposedly for EMA, are going to County to program for EMA and will be considered "on loan" from YTFD.

The donation discussed previously is still in the works. Nothing new.

Kathleen thanked the work party for installing the new map hangers and the new maps made by Gary Milbrand in the EOC. The work party was Jim Shaffer, Ray Shaffer and Kathleen Dellinger.

County Quarterly Training is scheduled for January 14, 2009 from 7:00 – 10:00PM and January 17, 2009 from 9:00 – Noon. No topic has been identified

Other Items:

Jack Dellinger reported that on January 31, 2009 there will be a TMI training session with multiple courses offered including a course for municipal officials. Course descriptions and registration to follow. He also reported that there will be a TMI Drill April 13 & 14, 2009. Since York Township does fall into either the TMI or Peach Bottom “plume zone”, we are not required to participate in the drills. However it would be of value for anyone interested to go to another Emergency Operations Center in the plume zone and observe the activities of the EMA staff in that EOC.

Title 35 legislation is being reviewed and re-written. This act covers EMA and may have major changes. One may eliminate the need for EMA’s for municipalities of 5000 population and under.

Jack Walsh indicated that under Title 22 any emergency responder operating within 25 feet of a road MUST be wearing an ANSI 3 vest. Kathleen will investigate acquiring ANSI vests for YTEMA.

One handout was distributed from FEMA entitled, “Are You Ready for Winter.”

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM

Respectively submitted by Ray Shaffer, Acting Recording Secretary.