



**Memphis / Shelby County
Local Emergency Planning Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2005
Web Page: www.mslepc.org**

Call to Order: Butch Pennington - 2:37 PM

Roundtable Introductions: All Attendees

Reading of Previous Minutes: Reviewed minutes from the March 2005 meeting. Minutes were accepted as read.

Financial Report:

Current Balances- Savings: \$6,082.25

Checking: \$12,650.47

Incident Discussions:

- **PREMCOR** – Glen Mohler reported that Premcor recently had a mechanical failure which led to a production leak. The unit in the refinery was shut down. There was a reportable quantity of smoke from the flare. There was an overflow to the sewer greater than 1 pound. Parts of the plant were evacuated until the problem was under control.
- **Collierville Baptist Hospital** – It was reported that during the recent tornado, evacuation procedures were activated.
- **DOT Audits** – Ruth Henry reported that the DOT was in the area checking chemical companies and their safety procedures for tankers and trucks. They were making sure that proper tanks and trucks were being used for the cargo. Also, they were checking that other procedures were being followed.

Task Team Reports:

- **Community Outreach** – Diane Wyatt reported that there would be presentations at Schering Plough next week. More volunteers are needed.

Old Business:

- **Status of Emergency Response To Domestic Biological Incident Course** – Butch Pennington reported that 38 people are signed up for the course. He has sent the roster to LSU and that there are 2 seats left. The course will be held at the Memphis Fire Training Academy.
- **2005 Drill Status** – Nick Ridge reported that two planning meetings had been held. The time frame for the drill is late August or the first week in September. The following have committed to participate: LEPC, Memphis City Schools, Memphis Fire Department, Memphis Police Department, Shelby County Fire Department, American Red Cross, Memphis/Shelby County Health Department, Germantown Fire Department, Memphis/Shelby County EMA, and the Hospital Disaster Council (including all area hospitals). Other agencies being contacted are: Department of Homeland Security, TEMA, FBI, US Coast Guard, Area Maritime Security Committee, Memphis Port Commission, and the Shelby County Sheriff Department. The scenario is to have the drill on President’s Island, possibly involving the river or the harbor area. Schools and hospitals are being worked into the drill. Other ideas are welcomed. Thanks to Sammy Crews, Scott Rice and John Selberg for their quick responses. The next meeting is set for May 3, 2005 at 2:30 PM. Contact Nick if you have questions.
- **2005 Emergency Preparedness Conference** – Butch Pennington reported that there had been two Emergency Preparedness planning meetings. At this time, there will be one day for the conference and one day for training. Dates are August 29th and August 30th. He asked that consultants volunteer to assist in providing the HAZWOPER Refresher Training Course. Several conference topics are under consideration. He requested representatives from the Hospital Disaster Council and the MCACHMM attend the planning meetings. The next meeting will be on April 26, 2005 at 1:30 PM at the EMA offices.
- **By-Law Status** – Ruth Henry reported that the By-Laws are still being reviewed. She hopes the review will be complete next month. In June or July the revisions will be presented to the membership and the changes discussed. Please contact her if you have any changes you would like to be made.
- **Sierra Club Cleanup** – James Baker reported that an cleanup along the Wolf River was held during March. Eleven to twelve hundred pounds of trash were picked up. They worked about three hours on this project.
- **Airport Drill** – Sammy Crews reported that an unannounced drill had been held at the airport. It simulated two planes colliding in flight. There were approximately 69 “victims”. The Fire, Police and TSA Departments all worked the drill. All went well. There were a few communication difficulties. Major Stepter reported for the Police Department. He reported that the drill was held in McKellar Park, just south of the airport. Dispatch knew where to send everyone. The command center was in McKellar Park and when he arrived, everyone was in place. The one difficulty he saw was that the person from the Police Department that was assigned to the center was across town and had a problem getting to the center due to the rainy weather. According to the

procedures, the Airport Command Center had to have a person that was on duty, and this person was across town. It was learned that another patrolman could have filled in until the designated person arrived.

No media was involved. This drill helped the fire department determine strengths and weaknesses. This type of drill is only done every two to three years.

New Business:

- **2005 Conference** – Butch Pennington requested any ideas for the Conference.
- **EMA Director** – Claude Talford reported that he was meeting with several state Coordinators and District 11 Homeland Security to form a Citizen Corps Council in Memphis / Shelby County. This group would deal with volunteers such as the Red Cross, Salvation Army and Volunteer Center of Memphis. After forming this council, the citizens would work with Homeland Security.

Meeting Attendance: 39

Meeting adjourned: 3:05 PM

Next Meeting:
2:30 PM, May 19, 2005