

**New River Valley Regional LEPC
Nov 21, 2017, 10:00AM - 12PM
Montgomery County Government Center
755 Roanoke Street Christiansburg VA**

The meeting was opened at 10:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Chair David Linkous (VDH)

Motion made by Jay Altizer, second by Neal Turner to approve the agenda. Voted to approve.

Motion made by Jay Altizer, second by Neal Turner to approve the minutes of the May meeting.

Voted to approve.

Standing Items:

1. Hazmat Incidents: Neal Turner (Montgomery Co.) reported on six spills on I-81, and offered comment on the different contractors that do spill cleanup. He also discussed the issues with debris removal efforts from the tornado; need to work out issues ahead of time with all agencies involved, especially hauling and landfill, regarding: convenient placement of debris receptacles, asbestos testing. No reports from other municipalities.
2. Educational Needs & Offerings
 - JT Clark (NSPA) reported that NSPA is hosting a class with VDEM on recovery operations on Nov. 30
3. Host for February Meeting: Unless another offer appears, it will be at the Montgomery County Government Center on February 20.

Old Business:

1. Board of Supervisors appointments to LEPC: Neal Turner reported on approval by Montgomery County of members who have registered.

New Business:

1. Naxalone distribution: David Linkous and David English (Montgomery County Sheriff's Office) reported on Montgomery County's program to train and equip law enforcement and first aid squads with aerosol spray naxalone.
 - a. There is a short training program called "Revive" that the LEPC would like to sponsor.
 - b. Bobby Parker (VDH) offered information on a Netflix documentary on efforts made to combat the epidemic in Huntington, WV. Trailer at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=khSO7qEKbvo>
2. Grady DeVilbiss (Radford U) expressed concern for preparedness planning for houses of worship. Mike Guzo (VDEM) offered a program from Virginia State Police on this which the LEPC could sponsor. Mike stressed all-hazards preparedness for houses of worship.
3. "Stop the Bleed" campaign – Mike Garnett (WVEMS) indicated this program is available for training to the public. LEPC is interested in sponsoring this class.

4. Rick Christ (Crisis Prevention & Response) resigned as Secretary; David Linkous appointed Tonya Hockett (VT) as Secretary.

Program:

Steven Owen, Ph.D., and Rick Christ, MEP presented an After-Action Review of the tabletop exercise held at Radford University at the August meeting. Before this meeting, a draft After-Action Report/Improvement Plan was circulated. At this meeting it was presented, along with recommendations for future LEPC action. The following task groups were established:

Public Information: Grady DeVilbiss (RU) will lead this group, with Bobby Parker (VDH) and Derley Aguilar (Montgomery County) volunteering to help.

Resource Allocation: Tonya Hockett (VT) will lead this group.

Responder Communications (between and within responding agencies): no leader established at this time.

See the additional notes regarding next steps.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

New River Valley Regional LEPC

Work Groups for Community Preparedness

At the November 21 LEPC meeting, the following work groups were established to continue planning efforts identified during the LEPC's tabletop exercise in August.

Public Information – how to communicate with the public during a disaster.

- Techniques to use during a prolonged power outage
 - (Mike Guzo mentioned a program he instituted in Roanoke City called DIBBS – Disaster Information Bulletin Board System – that might be available)
 - How to listen to the public, and share official information, through alternative means:
 - Churches and other community gathering places
 - Communicating with mainstream and alternative media sources
 - Pre-planning systems for use during emergencies

Resource Allocation – how to identify and share scarce resources during an emergency.

Work groups should consider:

- What information do you need?
- Who do we need to include?
 - Public
 - Private
 - non-government
- Public policy questions
- Overlaps and gaps between groups
- Short- and long-term solutions

Suggested Ground Rules:

- Each group needs a leader
- Groups must be mixed – first responders, public health/healthcare, volunteer organizations, industry, education, government
- Report by 1/15/18 to plan 2/20 meeting
- “We can do it if...” rather than “We can’t do it because...”

Group Objectives:

- Short-term
 - Sharing of information
 - Questions/Obstacles
 - Training/Discussion ideas
- Long-term goals
 - Plans, policies & procedures
 - Public policy decisions
- Exercises