

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AGENCY
MINUTES OF
Jan 9th 2023
Regular Meeting
SALEM CONNECTICUT

Present at meeting:

Board Members:

Mike Bednarz

Erik Trotter-Remote

Eva Agathos

Peter Lynch- Remote

Staff:

Richard Martin

Christina Martin- Remote

Not Present:

Cory Bourgeois

2024 JAN 24 P 5:54
RECEIVED
TOWN OF SALEM, CT
John A. Stoltz

1. Meeting called to order by M. Bednarz at 7:17 pm EST.

2. Approval of Minutes

M/S/C E.Trotter/ Eva Agathos) to approve the Minutes of 12/12/2023.

Vote: Approved Unanimously

3. Guests /public comment– First Selectman Ed Chmielewski and Chief Silvia GLVFD

4. Everbridge- 319 Residents 41 employees- Several EPA board members and staff reported “double messaging”. C. Martin contacted Everbridge and a poling on the account was done. Finding of 48 “double” messages were found. Everbridge ordered and completed an update to our system. Due to pending storm, Everbridge has placed the account to be monitored by AI overnight. If any issue is detected or reported, a Everbridge Liaison Tech will be available.

5. Eversource –Salem EOC has been assigned an area rep to handle any issue that may arise from pending storm. Eversource has placed this storm in an elevated status that will enable more local resources to the town during storm.

6. Old Business:

A. Drill: Nothing to report at this time. Continued to next meeting.

B. Communications: M. Bednarz announced that EPA will join with the FDs for funding for P25 radios via Capital budget/funding request.

C. 2024 Meeting Date Revision- C. Martin submitted an amended revised list of EPA meeting dates for 2024. This was to correct 4 dates.

M/S/C E. Trotter/ P. Lynch) to approve the Amended EPA 2024 Meeting Dates Revision.

Vote: Approved Unanimously

7. New Business:

A. EMD/Committee Activities: M. Bednarz discussed the previous Snow Storm. The EOC operated well and communications between departments was seamless. Ed Chmielewski commended the EOC, GLVFD, SVFD, Salem PW, State Troopers for outstanding performance. All departments were well prepared for any issue.

8. Other Business:

A. EOC- The EOC is fully functioning and ready to operate for pending High Wind event storm on 1/9-1/10/2024. The EOC will "Partially" activate at 10pm EST. If/when the storm intensifies to winds gusts of 55+mph the EOC will go to "Full" activation. At that time Vibe communications and operations will be opened for all departments. Forecast is for peak of storm to start at midnight on 1/10/23. Predictions are for 30-35mph sustained winds with 55-75mph gust. PW is currently on stand-by, Chief Silvia conveyed and confirmed GLVFD ambulance coverage, Paid Firefighters will report for storm duty at 10pm on 1/9/2024. First Selectman Ed Chmielewski has authorized Trooper Crosby for overtime for police coverage. R. Martin is continuing to work on the Cyber Security annex for the LEOPs.

B. Vulnerability Assessment - On going.

C. Outreach -Discussion on Social Media -C. Martin to contact First Selectman's Office to work out the logistics of an "Official" social media page. Platforms to be included at this time: Facebook. More media platforms may be added at a later time. First Selectman Ed Chmielewski presented a recommendation for EPA staff to attend department meetings and the Senior's meeting held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at SVFD. C. Martin to reach out to Everbridge for promotional items to hand out. Discussion on ordering more pamphlets, C. Martin to obtain a quote from printer.

9. Good & Welfare:

A. Monthly Weather Tip- Winter weather, Black Ice, Generator Safety, Ponding/Frozen Water on roads.

B. Current Events: M. Bednarz is still researching the possibility of changing the quantity of EPA meetings per year. Linda Flugard has retired as Town Clerk. There will be a small gathering to celebrate all Linda has done for the town on 1/18/24.

C.

10. Adjournment:

M/S/C (P. Lynch/E. Trotter) at 7:46 PM EST.

Vote: Approved Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted by
Christina Martin