

**PIPELINE TASK FORCE MEETING
1580 PAOLI PIKE
THURSDAY, February 27, 2020
FINAL MINUTES**

Members Present:

Caroline Hughes, Chair; Bill Wegemann, Vice Chair; Members: Judi DiFonzo; Christina Morley; Gerry Sexton

Others Present:

Rick Smith, Township Manager; Michele Truitt, Township Supervisor

COMMON ACRONYMS:

*BOS - Board of Supervisors
CCATO - Chester County Association of Township Officials
DEP - Department of Environmental Protection
EGSEA - East Goshen Safety and Environmental Advocates
HDD - Horizontal Directional Drilling
IR - Inadvertent Return
ME1 - Mariner East 1
ME2 - Mariner East 2
PHMSA - Pipeline Hazard Materials and Safety Administration
PUC - Public Utility Commission
TF - Task Force*

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Caroline called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and Christina led the pledge of allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Caroline called for a moment of silence to honor those we have lost.

Recording

Caroline asked if anyone was recording the meeting. No one was recording.

Public Comment

Michele provided a summary of the meeting that she and Supervisor John Hertzog attended with East Goshen staff and two Sunoco representatives. The representatives from Sunoco explained how the programmable logic controllers along the pipeline are connected and how the communications functions normally and during a failure. She continued that they learned about a grant that is available to the township emergency service staff for gas meter equipment. Two items that the Sunoco representatives could not address were: 1) What size leak can be detected and 2) What is the threshold for shutdown. Michele concluded that she told Sunoco representatives that improving communications between Energy Transfer and East Goshen Township should be a priority.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from January 23, 2020, were unanimously approved as amended.

Chairperson's Report

1. Caroline reported that the PUC fined Sunoco \$200,000 and called for a remaining life study of ME1 following a prior pipeline leak in Morgantown, Berks County.
2. Caroline stated that the U.S. Department of Justice has launched an investigation into Energy Transfer's handling of a pipeline explosion in Western PA.
3. Caroline explained that a resident reported a PECO gas line was hit by Sunoco when they were excavating at the site near the Chester County Library. Rick stated that since the line was not marked, it was unknown that it existed.

Reports

1. **Legislative Update** – Bill summarized that stocks pertaining to the oil/pipeline industry are at all-time lows partly because of the due diligence from local groups and citizens.
Bill reported that Governor Wolf is due to veto the Petchem Bill which will deny the state economic stimulus.
Bill noted at Senator Killion's tele town hall no attendee asked a question in reference to the pipeline.
2. **Current Pipeline Events Impacting East Goshen** – Rick gave the following update via email prior to the meeting. "*HDD 461 – Still doing the initial bore with pull back to occur in April, HDD 500 – installing casing at south end of the HDD. Need to install casing at New Kent. They plan to drill from both ends and meet in the middle. HDD 520/530 – Casing for 20" pipeline installed at Bow Tree. Connecting the 16" pipelines at Bow Tree.*"

New Business

1. It was agreed by the TF that a workshop meeting will be held on March 12, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. to consider the BOS recommendation for comments to PHMSA regarding their proposal to its regulations concerning natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines. Comments need to be complete for the BOS meeting on 3/17/20 in order to be submitted by 4/6/2020. Caroline will send out a google doc to the TF for comments prior to the meeting.
There was discussion about advocating to Houlihan's office for more stringent regulations regarding hazardous volatile liquids. Michele stated she will reach out to one of her contacts.

Old Business

1. **Boot Road Geophysical Survey Reports and Right to Know Request** – Rick reported that a Right to Know was filed to PennDOT for additional information about the Boot Road Geophysical Survey Reports. Once the Township receives the information, it will be forwarded to Pennoni for review. Rick estimated the timeline to be mid-March.

Christina reported that she also filed a Right to Know request. She explained that she plans to inspect the records in person. Christina added that she emailed Rettew and has not received a response.

2. **Hiring of geologist consultant** – Rick reported that the BOS has agreed to have a geologist from Pennoni review the Boot Road info.
3. **HDD S3-500 Re-Evaluation Report** - Rick explained that the drilling method of using steel casings is being implemented at HDD S3-500 (New Kent/Bow Tree). He continued that this should minimize the risk of an IR. He noted that he suggested this method in the public comments to the DEP. Christina explained that she also requested in the public comment for steel casing implementation to eliminate movement in the fracture zones.

Christina expressed concern that the steel casing being added was a change by Sunoco that was done with no documentation or proper amendment. Rick explained that the addition of the casing does not change the method of drilling. Christina stated that she will contact the Clean Air Council.

There was discussion about the curvature angle the pipeline takes at the New Kent location.

4. **Pipeline TF Accomplishments/Objectives Follow up** - Bill explained that he reported at the 1/28/20 ABC meeting. Rick added that the BOS will be reviewing the ABC objectives at the 3/3/20 board meeting and will provide feedback.
5. **Ongoing contact with Planning Commission and other EGT Committees** – Rick will reach out to Mark Gordon about adding to their 3/4/20 agenda the development of a pipeline ordinance. He stated that the CCATO model ordinance would be a starting point for them.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

The next workshop meeting is Thursday, March 12, 2020, at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan D'Amore

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