

**PIPELINE TASK FORCE MEETING
THURSDAY, July 23, 2020
TELE CONFERENCE
FINAL MINUTES**

Members Present:

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

Others Present

David Shuey, Township Supervisor; Rick Smith, Township Manager;

COMMON ACRONYMS:

<i>BI&E</i>	<i>Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement</i>
<i>BOS</i>	<i>Board of Supervisors</i>
<i>CCATO</i>	<i>Chester County Association of Township Officials</i>
<i>DEP</i>	<i>Department of Environmental Protection</i>
<i>EGT</i>	<i>East Goshen Township</i>
<i>EGSEA</i>	<i>East Goshen Safety and Environmental Advocates</i>
<i>ET</i>	<i>Energy Transfer Company</i>
<i>HDD</i>	<i>Horizontal Directional Drilling</i>
<i>IR</i>	<i>Inadvertent Return</i>
<i>ME1</i>	<i>Mariner East 1</i>
<i>ME2</i>	<i>Mariner East 2</i>
<i>PHMSA</i>	<i>Pipeline Hazard Materials and Safety Administration</i>
<i>PUC</i>	<i>Public Utility Commission</i>
<i>TF</i>	<i>Task Force</i>

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Caroline called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. Judi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Caroline called for a moment of silence for our first responders, for those serving in the armed services and those who are fighting COVID and helping those with COVID.

Recording

Susan reported that she was recording to the cloud.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from June 25, 2020, were unanimously approved as amended.

Public Comment

Caroline read an email received from Russ Frank. Russ stated that he attended the BOS meeting on July 7 and thought that Christina did a great and thorough job with her research and presentation to the Board on the public nuisance topic. He thanked her for her work.

Chairperson Report

Caroline stated that the Dakota Access pipeline and the Atlantic Coast pipeline were recently shutdown.

Caroline reported there was a large drilling accident in Exton affecting the Chester Valley Trail on Route 30. West Whiteland experienced 12 new sinkholes. She explained that there are similarities between these sinkholes and the problems at Boot Road and Airport Road. She also stated that the BI&E has opened an investigation. It was agreed that the members of the TF would notify the Chester County Commissioners as concerned citizens of Chester County to encourage them to become informed on this situation.

Reports

Legislative Update

Bill informed the TF that in reference to Senator Killion's bill, he received a response from Representative Comitta's office stating that Senator Killion's participation in the PUC Safety 7 Complaint along with the pipeline safety regulations are likely to yield results before many of the pipeline bills work their way through general assembly.

He also reported that Representative Chris Quinn's HB #2293, which is a companion bill to Senator Killion's SB 284, was unanimously passed and is now at the senate for consideration.

Caroline explained that Michele has asked the pipeline TF to help lobby to vote for this bill. Caroline will follow up with Michele to clarify the next step.

Bill also noted that for the first time ever there is a line item in the governor's budget requesting funding for pipeline safety.

Current Pipeline Events Impacting East Goshen

Rick updated that Sunoco will begin the pull back at the segment at the Giant Shopping center at Hershey's Mill by the end of July/early August. Sunoco will also pull back the segment at New Kent and Bow Tree. Drilling will then begin at the Quaker and the Executive Center. The pipe has been unloaded and is being welded together. Drilling will continue at Bow Tree & New Kent towards SS. Simon and Jude. It is estimated that the pipe in December 2020. Rick explained that casings are being used at the Quaker site to minimize IRs. These casings are being utilized as the result of the HDD reevaluation report from Bow Tree.

Rick stated that Sunoco has plead guilty to 6 noise violations that the Township filed against them.

Caroline expressed concern about Sunoco's sound violations during this time as many children and parents are at home due to COVID. She continued that sound mitigation should be a priority to the township.

Christina stated that she saw a video demonstrating alternative methods that will minimize sound as opposed to the hammer drill. David asked Christina to share the link to this video.

Old Business

Adelphia/PennEast

Gerry explained his investigation on the natural gas odorization requirements in conjunction with the PennEast project. Gerry clarified that he did not find any specifications from PennEast for odorant to be used for natural gas. He also was unable to determine when PennEast plans to connect to Adelphia which runs through East Goshen Township. Gerry stressed that the TF and the Township should do everything possible to retain the requirement to add the odorant. The TF agreed. Caroline will touch base with Eve to see if she has any additional information.

Public nuisance laws

Rick stated that the BOS will be meeting with a lawyer next week to discuss the public nuisance issue to determine what can be done. He added that the research Christina provided at the 8/7 BOS meeting was forwarded to the solicitor.

Any Other Matter

Pipeline TF Monthly Meeting

Caroline made a motion that the Pipeline TF meetings will now start at 6:30 pm beginning with August 27, 2020. Judi seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

The TF discussed online meetings vs virtual. It was agreed that the virtual meetings are working well and will continue for the next few months at a minimum.

Budget 2021

The individual ABC budget requests for 2021 are due to Jon Altshul by September 2021.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

The next meeting is Thursday, August 27, 2020, at 6:30 pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,
Susan D'Amore