

PIPELINE TASK FORCE
Thursday June 13, 2024
East Goshen Township Building
FINAL MINUTES

Members Present are highlighted

Chair: Gerry Sexton

Members: Judi DiFonzo, John McDonough, **Mary McCloskey**

Others Present are highlighted

Township Supervisor: **Barbara Emery (Zoom)**; Township Manager: Derek Davis;

Office Administrator: **Ashley Nowak**

COMMON ACRONYMS:

<i>ACOE</i>	<i>Army Core of Engineers</i>
<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>CCPC</i>	<i>Chester County Planning Commission</i>
<i>DCNR</i>	<i>Department of Conservation and Natural Resources</i>
<i>DEP</i>	<i>Department of Environmental Protection</i>
<i>DES</i>	<i>Department of Emergency Services</i>
<i>EGT</i>	<i>East Goshen Township</i>
<i>ET</i>	<i>Energy Transfer</i>
<i>FEMA</i>	<i>Federal Emergency Management Agency</i>
<i>HDD</i>	<i>Horizontal Directional Drilling</i>
<i>IR</i>	<i>Inadvertent Return</i>
<i>MACH2</i>	<i>Mid-Atlantic Clean Hydrogen Hub</i>
<i>ME1</i>	<i>Mariner East 1</i>
<i>ME2</i>	<i>Mariner East 2</i>
<i>NGL</i>	<i>Natural Gas Liquids</i>
<i>PHMSA</i>	<i>Pipeline Hazard Materials and Safety Administration</i>
<i>PMN</i>	<i>Post Meeting Note</i>
<i>PTF</i>	<i>Pipeline Task Force</i>
<i>PUC</i>	<i>Public Utility Commission</i>

Call to Order

Gerry called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Recording

The meeting was not being recorded.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting on April 11, 2024 were unanimously approved.

Public Comment

None.

Select Vice Chair

Judi nominated Mary McCloskey for Vice Chair; Gerry seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Chairperson's Report

Gerry reported that David Shuey resigned from the PTF. Gerry informed the group that he thanked David and let him know that we appreciated all the support he has provided to the PTF over the years, both as a township supervisor and task force member. [PMN: The BOS accepted David's resignation at their meeting on 06/18/2024.]

The PTF placed a brief tribute to Paul Kersavage (PTF member who passed way last year) in the Summer 2024 Township Newsletter. Gerry shared that he emailed a copy of this newsletter to Paul's daughter Katie. She appreciated this gesture.

Gerry mentioned an article from The Philadelphia Inquirer that discussed The CO2 Coalition. This is a nonprofit advocacy organization whose climate change denialist claims conflict with the scientific consensus on climate change. Gerry encouraged the PTF to do their own research on this group for their edification.

Gerry briefly summarized several articles he read recently that discuss: 1) High CO₂ levels in the atmosphere 2) Current research and development work that is underway to reduce CO₂ emissions and improve carbon capture technology.

Gerry discussed a special report from Politico on our nation's failure to safeguard toxic pipelines. He had previously emailed it to the PTF and Barbara. This report is lengthy, but does contain lots of interesting and useful information. Barbara suggested sharing it with our legislators. Gerry will draft a synopsis for Derek to review with the BOS. If approved, it will be sent to Senators Comitta, Fetterman, and Casey and Representatives Pielli, Howard, and Houlahan.

Gerry also mentioned some recent postings on Facebook about Chester County Emergency Planning that Mary brought to his attention. Mary provided the group with additional details and clarified the intent.

Old Business

MACH2 Update

The Department of Energy Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations hosted a virtual listening session for communities within the seven Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs to share feedback and voice their questions and concerns on May 15, 2024. Mary and Gerry were able to listen in. Gerry provided a brief summary of the session.

PUC Docket No. L-2019-3010267 Final Form Rulemaking Order 22Feb2024

Barbara will update the BOS on this topic at their next meeting. [PMN: She completed this on 06/18/2024.]

1338 Morstein Road Pipeline Awareness Study

PTF comments were sent to the Planning Commission as requested on 04/29/2024. Gerry reviewed other comments found on the agenda for the Planning Commission meeting on 05/28/2024. The recommendations from the East Goshen Township Fire Marshall were relevant. In particular, he requested that a second emergency apparatus access road be installed to allow egress from this development.

New Business

PTF article for Fall Newsletter

The topic will be new pipeline safety rules. Mary will send a draft write-up to the PTF for approval. She will submit the final version of the article to Jessica Whilhemy and Ashley Nowak by the deadline on 06/21/2024. [PMN: Mary completed this task.]

Reports / Legislative Update

SB831 Carbon Capture and Sequestration Act

Mary provided an update on this bill. She shared a letter from the Sierra Club PA Chapter, Clean Water Action, Conservation Voters of PA, and Clean Air Action stating their opposition to this bill. She reported that State Senator Comitta will be voting no.

Liaison Reports

CCEA Meeting 4/27/2024

Judi provided an update on the meeting.

Correspondence / Any Other Matter

Although John was unable to attend this meeting, he emailed three items to Gerry to share with the group. Gerry will forward the associated links. [PMN: This was completed on 07/16/2024.]

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 8, 2024 at 7:00pm.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Nowak, Office Administrator

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