

Emergency Operations Center of the Town of Westhampton

Notes from meeting April 13, 2020 held via ZOOM & recorded

Commenced at 6:00 p.m.

Topic: Coronavirus, COVID-19 Pandemic

Present:

Phil Dowling, Selectboard Chair

Maureen Dempsey, Selectboard Clerk

Teri Anderson, Selectboard

Dave White, Chief of Police

Floyd Fisher, Police Sergeant

Dave Antosz, Fire Chief

Mark Gould, Emergency Services Coordinator

Steve Holt, Emergency Management Director

Bill Jablonski, Highway Dept. Superintendent

Tom Martin, Board of Health Chair

Amy Landau, COA Coordinator

Cheryl Provost, Administrative Assistant

Tom Cleary, Finance Committee Chair

Heard reports of departments:

Emergency Management Director Steve Holt went through MEMA for schedule of supplies; masks and gloves. Everything being done or used related to COVID should be reported to Steve Holt. Dave Antosz ordered supplies from MEMEA and Steve picked them up.

Emergency Medical Services, Coordinator Mark Gould- EMS responded to a call with elderly man experiencing difficulty breathing. Greeted homeowner (wife) at door. Provided patient and wife with facemask. Patient transported to hospital. Test confirmed positive for Covid-19. Discussed follow up phone check-ins to wife. Discussed management of notification of household with confirmed case. Supplies are good for EMS.

Tom Martin reported towns within the Foothills Health District apply for supplies and plan to give them to EMS staff. He understands it draws from the same supply MEMA uses. Tom hesitant to take from that source and asked for suggestions. Dave Antosz replied at this point everything is going through town EOC for supplies, he has been placing the orders. The National Guard will also deliver supplies tomorrow to the highway garage. Supplies are for police, fire, highway; can check if health dept. can be included.

Highway Department, Bill Jablonski-everything good. Waiting to hear when the delivery will be in from NG.

Fire Department-attended a chiefs meeting. The Econo Lodge in Hadley is open specifically for first responders, "insurance plan" available to towns for use of a room. Testing for first responders open at the Eastern States, criteria applies to qualify for testing. Tracking volunteers time. MEMA informed any volunteer efforts towards the infection should be tracked for reimbursement. Payback rate approximately \$20/hourly. Times must be submitted through the portal. Sent email to Selectboard and Admin Asst regarding the FEMA portal, training seminars will be available. Still doing normal inspections and checking. Crews wearing masks and gloves when working together, maintaining space from each other. Ordered face shields, waiting on those. Mark Gould reported he obtained 4 respirators for use by EMT's. There was discussion regarding proper use and fitting of equipment in compliance with OSHA regulations.

Admin-Selectboard acting on town meeting and election dates. Payments for ventilators in process so that system is in place. Invoices go through Cheryl and approved by Phil. Finance Committee approved transfer of funds from reserve to the Covid 19 account for \$2,500.

Board of Health, Tom Martin gave DPH update. Predicting peak transmission April 10th-20th. A lot of community transmission reported. Many cases of persons isolating at home and not tested; out of hospitals but poses a challenge for first responders. FHD has 8 cases out of approximately 7,000 (.1%). Discussed campground business. State does not permit campgrounds to open for recreational business. They can open for essential services. The Board of Health has not yet issued a license to the KOA to open this season.

Emergency Management Director Steve Holt tracking time in meetings for reimbursement.

Moved to Incident Organization Chart, shared ideas and potential services:

Maureen reported a backup for Chris Wayne is Barbara Page for the Westhampton UCC food program.

Tom reported the lunch program is underway at the high school. Tuesdays and Thursdays at regional high school in Westhampton and Monday, Wednesday, Friday at Anne T. Dunfy school in Williamsburg. Health Agent checked their procedures and has no issues with how it's handled..

Council On Aging identifying seniors 75 and up for check in calls. Meaghan Schwelm, Library Director, organizing a facemask making effort. Investigating options for hand sanitizer for seniors. Putting together a flyer on food resources. Hilltown Pantry will donate food if the town can provide storage. At this time town is not providing that service.

Concluded at 6:54p.m.

Next meeting 6pm, April 20, 2020

Respectfully Submitted, Cheryl Provost