BURKE COUNTY
LEPC MEETING
MINUTES August
12, 2024, 1300
Location: 200 Avery Avenue, Morganton, NC 28655

1. Call to Meeting to Order
   • 13:00 – Meeting called to order by Dominic.
   • Two motions for approval

2. Approval of meeting minutes from **June 5, 2025**
   • Dominic reviewed last meeting minutes.
   • Two motions for approval of those minutes passed.

3. Introductions
   • 13:05 – Introductions were made around the room.
   • New Emergency Management (EM) Planner introduced. Quinn Reece took a few minutes to introduce herself to the group and talk about her role and professional background.

4. Emergency Services / Emergency Management Updates
   • High call volume for Search and Rescue incidents. Burke County has more SAR incidents than any other county in NC, mostly in the Linville Gorge.
   • Grace Heights Fire incident. Detailed the fire at the Grace Heights assisted living home, evacuation of nearly 100 patients, shelter activation, and subsequent relocation of all patients.
   • Haz-Mat call on I-40 off of Jamestown Road. Fire on a truck carrying 40,000lbs of copper, environmental contamination from runoff and diesel.
   • Broughton Exercise participation.
   • EM attendance at McDowell County Fair. EM is committed to community engagement and is seeking out opportunities for public engagement.

5. Grant Updates
   • Nothing new to report; awaiting response from the State.

6. Legislative/Policy Updates
   • 13:13 – Update on PHSMA HM-263.
   • Increase in penalty rates (10–15%).

7. Training Opportunities:
   • 13:15 – Discussion of CAMEO/EPLAN tools and their potential usefulness for Fire Departments.
   • EM to offer and assist with setting up all subject matter training.

8. New Business
   • 13:17 – Proposed Tier II fee pushed back to next budget year.

- Member Updates:
    - BCPS: Testing alert buttons scheduled for 8/15.
    - MAHPC: HCA takeover; training still offered and available on NCTERMS.
    - WPCC: Fire College scheduled for October; EMT/Medic classes moving into rotation; contact made with US Forest Service and State Parks for training coordination
    - SAFT: Inquired about conducting a Tabletop Exercise (TTX).

9. Next Meeting: November 6, 2025.
10. Motion to adjourn.
    - Motion seconded. Meeting adjourned.