

**MINUTES**  
**SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Richland Township and Richland Volunteer Fire Department**  
**June 14, 2023**

*Richland Township representatives and the Volunteer Fire Department representatives met at the Richland Township Administrative Offices on June 14, 2023 at 11:00 a.m., for their monthly Safety Committee meeting.*

**PRESENT**

*Bryan J. Beppler, Executive Director  
Kimberly D. Stayrook, Administrative Assistant  
Kevin Gaudlip, Police Department Representative  
Scott Conahan, Police Department Representative  
Russell Felton, Road Department Representative  
Wesley Meyers, Fire Chief*

**ABSENT**

*Jim Haberkorn, Richland Fire Department  
Todd R. Shaffer, Road Department Representative*

*Guest – William Lehmann, RVFC*

**APPROVAL OF PRIOR MONTH'S MEETING MINUTES – May 2023**

*- Detective Gaudlip moved to approve the minutes of May 17, 2023 as distributed, seconded by Mr. Meyers. All in favor.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Follow up from the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2023 Safety inspections**

*It was noted that on June 18, 2023, the fire department addressed the compression cylinders from the previous inspection. Also, the emergency light batteries were updated. Ron Shomo (Fire Department President) is obtaining quotes and approvals for purchasing an AED for the Scalp Avenue location.*

*Mr. Beppler stated that the ladies' auxiliary had already purchased an AED for the Solomon Run Station.*

**New Incidents or Near Miss Reports**

**\*Richland Municipal Building**

*Mr. Beppler stated that a police officer responded to a resident's complaint on May 31, 2023 regarding a rabid skunk. The officer euthanized the skunk with a service pistol causing a potential spray exposure. The resident had the skunk tested and it tested positive for rabies. The officer sought treatment and received rabies shots, as a precaution.*

*Corrective Action: On June 5, 2023, Mr. Beppler spoke to Captain Rick Pollino regarding this incident and officers will be instructed to use a long rifle in future similar incidents. If a long rifle*

*is not an option, officers will wear protective clothing (i.e. long sleeves, mask) to prevent future exposures.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2023 Site Safety Inspections**

*Mr. Beppler gave updates on the site safety inspections. Inspections were conducted on June 7, 2023 for Administration, June 12, 2023 for the Public Works Department, and June 13, 2023 for the Police. There were no safety concerns / issues reported during these three (3) inspections.*

*The Fire Department has yet to complete the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter site safety inspection at the Geistown station.*

**Annual Safety Training**

*Safety Committee training has been scheduled for August 9, 2023 at the municipal building. Barb Smith from the Teeter Group will be present to administer the training.*

**Safety Tips**

*Mr. Beppler reviewed safety tips received from First Energy (electric company) for first responders. The tips are for live wires that may be down and presumed live, telephone poles, etc.*

**New Safety Concerns/Suggestions**

*There were none presented.*

*The next meeting is July 12, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at the municipal building.*

*There being no further business,*

*- Mr. Felton moved to adjourn at 11:23 a.m. seconded by Mr. Sgt. Conahan. All in favor.*

*Respectfully submitted,  
Kimberly D. Staybrook  
Administrative Assistant*