

**WASHTENAW COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Proposed Minutes  
September 10, 2020  
Washtenaw County Emergency Operations Center

**Present:** Marc Breckenridge, Chris Conley, Donald Dettling, Stephen Field, Russ Girbach, Pierre Gonyon, David Halteman, Cindra James, Joseph Jurasek, Kenneth Kelly, Darrell Kirby, Christy Maier, Rick Norman, Scott Robinson, Katie Scott, Kathryn Wilhoff, Grace Hilborn.

**Excused:** Ben Pinette, Carrie Rheingans.

**Absent:** Samantha Brandfon, Armando Falcon, Dylan Kilby, Nancy Smith.

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

Scott Robinson called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

**Review and Approval of Agenda**

**A motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Pierre Gonyon, second by Katie Scott. Approved unanimously.**

**Review and Adopt the June 11, 2020 Minutes**

Two members names were spelled incorrectly and need to be updated with the correct spelling.

**A motion to approve the amended minutes of June 11, 2020 was made by David Halteman, seconded by Donald Dettling. Approved unanimously.**

**Public Comment** – Lamar Weir, from the office of Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, stated he was attending the meeting to learn of important updates and/or goings on within Washtenaw County.

Chris Conley, with DTE Energy, stated he is the manager of a high-pressure gas system that runs through Washtenaw County. He plans to continue to attend these LEPC meetings to remain connected with and be aware of situations occurring throughout Washtenaw County. Chris wishes to become a member of this committee, as well.

**Announcements – None**

**Old Business**

**A. Information Coordinator's Report**

Ken Kelly distributed and reviewed his report as follows:

- As of September 9, 47 EHS sites have updated plans
- No new plans have been created since our last meeting.

Ken stated that he has been working with a Caymen Chemicals in Pittsfield Township on developing their emergency response plan. They have quite a few chemicals at their facility and the only EHS is about 1100 pounds of Sulfuric Acid contained in various batteries.

Electro Arc Manufacturing has ceased operations in Superior Township and has become part of Stillion Industries at 2055 N. Lima Center Road in Dexter. The only EHS Electro Arc had on site was an Anhydrous Ammonia tank containing slightly more than 2,500 lbs, located outside the building. Stillion has not yet filed a Tier II report so Ken is currently unaware of their chemical inventory. Ken did, however, inform our representative at EGLE but has yet to hear back from him.

Furthermore, Ken stated that he submitted all the necessary paperwork to Lansing for both the Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant and the Support Grant. The HMEP Grant should be \$2,200 and the Support Grant should be an additional \$1,500.

- B. Emergency Coordinator's report** – David Halteman stated that since June 11, 2020, the Sheriff's Office along with several other law enforcement agencies have dealt with a lot of social justice protests in the area of Hogback/Carpenter Rd and throughout Washtenaw County. All incidents were managed quite well and therefore, remained quite peaceful.

The major hazards or hazardous events that have occurred since our last meeting are as follows:

- June 26, 2020 – A Thunderstorm Watch, two Thunderstorm Warnings, and a Flood Advisory all occurred on this day. There was significant storm activity but no major damage outside of a small amount of localized flooding.
- June 27, 2020 – A statewide 9-1-1 outage occurred. The outage was related to a company named PFN (Peninsula Fiber Network). PFN is a major contributor of fiber connectivity for NEXTGEN 9-1-1 equipment

around the state to the various 9-1-1 dispatch centers. On June 27<sup>th</sup>, one of their servers failed which resulted in a cascading effect disrupting connectivity for several agencies all around the state. Since Metro Dispatch was still in the process of transitioning to PFN, and therefore not officially on the PFN network, there was little to no impact on operations within the dispatch center. It took most of the day, but the issue was resolved by the end of the 27<sup>th</sup>.

- July 7, 2020 – A Heat Advisory and an Excessive Heat Watch were put in effect, with a heat index of 100 degrees. Two cooling centers were established in order to assist the citizens of Washtenaw County. The County's Heat Response plan was also updated at this time.
- July 9 – July 10, 2020 – There were several Severe Thunderstorm Warnings throughout these two days. No major damage occurred.
- July 19, 2020 – A Heat Advisory and a Severe Thunderstorm Warning occurred resulting in several downed trees and power lines. There were 7 homes in Ypsilanti Township that suffered damage including one roof being torn off and several areas of power outages.
- September 8, 2020 – Incident occurring near Zeeb/Pratt Rd. involving a county employee transporting 12 batteries in the back of a truck. The truck gate was not secured properly, and the batteries fell out of the truck spilling acid onto the roadway. It was a small HazMat situation that Scio Township Fire Department was able to mitigate rather quickly.

**C. HazMat Team Director's report** – Russ Girbach stated that there has been no activity for the HazMat Team since the last meeting. There was an accident that occurred in Pittsfield Township at Carpenter/Ellsworth Rd. involving a passenger vehicle and a dump truck. As a result of this accident, 75 gallons of diesel fuel was spilled onto the roadway. The fire department was able to contain the fuel quickly and it did not reach any storm sewers or water ways.

**D. EB M14/Barton Dr. Update** – Scott Robinson began discussions regarding the letter that was drafted about the ongoing EB M14/Barton Dr. concerns and safety issues. This committee was previously asked to review the letter and bring any necessary changes/corrections to this meeting, in order to update the letter before sending it to the Board of Commissioners. Joseph Jurasek stated he corrected the wording under the second bullet point to show “2018 there were 40 accidents resulting in 3 injuries out of 701 total accidents in Ann Arbor Township”. Joseph also added an additional paragraph stating there had been three incidents since 2017 that required a response from the Washtenaw County HazMat Team. These updates were already added to the draft prior to this meeting.

Steve Field recommended adding dates to the second to last paragraph to give a frame of reference to the Board of Commissioners as to when the initial letter was sent and when MDOT responded.

Scott Robinson suggested once all adjustments have been made to the letter, that it should be distributed to this committee via email so all members can review and approve it as soon as possible. Scott Robinson, David Halteman, and Ken Kelly agreed to meet and make the necessary changes within the week. Once the committee approves the updated letter, it will be sent to the Board of Commissioners immediately thereafter.

**New Business** - None

**Adjournment**

**A motion to adjourn was made by Katie Scott, seconded by Joseph Jurasek at 3:50 p.m. Approved unanimously.**

The next meeting of the LEPC will be held on **Thursday December 10, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.** via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,

Grace Hilborn  
Emergency Services Specialist