

**WASHTENAW COUNTY
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2021
Washtenaw County Emergency Operations Center

Present: Marc Breckenridge, Chris Brown, Donald Dettling, Stephen Field, Russ Girbach, Pierre Gonyon, David Halteman, Grace Hilborn, Cindra James, Joseph Jurasek, Kenneth Kelly, Glenn Levine, Christy Maier, Sydney Parmenter, Ben Pinette, Scott Robinson, Katie Scott, Nancy Smith, Kathryn Wilhoff.

Excused: Brian Halloran.

Absent: Darrell Kirby, Jessica Warfield.

Call to Order/Roll Call

Scott Robinson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Review and Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Chris Brown, second by Pierre Gonyon. Approved unanimously.

Review and Adopt the March 11, 2021 Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of March 11, 2021 was made by David Halteman, seconded by Russ Girbach. Approved unanimously.

Public Comment – None

Announcements – None

Old Business

A. Information Coordinator's Report - Ken Kelly reviewed his report as follows:

- As of June 10, 2021, 45 EHS sites have updated plans.
- No new plans have been submitted since our last meeting.

Ken stated that after reviewing site plans in Tier II reports, it was determined that two EHS sites no longer exist. Malloy Incorporated in Scio Township closed their Jackson Road facility which previously stored sulfuric acid in hi/lo batteries. Ann Arbor Offset in Pittsfield Township, storing sulfuric acid in batteries, also ceased operations.

Ken stated he submitted the final agreement, including all of the required paperwork, for the 2020-2021 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grant. Washtenaw County will be eligible for approximately \$1,500.00 from a support grant and \$250.00 will be awarded for new plan submissions and \$15.00 will be awarded per updated plan.

Furthermore, Ken informed the group of an update regarding the M-14 truck crash situation. He stated that the Ann Arbor City Council passed a resolution requesting that MDOT address the frequency of commercial truck crashes on the eastbound M-14 bridge over the Huron River. The City Council passed the resolution on May 3, 2021. Ken proceeded to share highlights from the resolution and answered any questions that arose.

Lastly, Ken stated that updated copies of the Emergency Response Guidebooks are available to any LEPC member who would like one. The Guidebook is also available online and the link can be provided upon request.

B. Emergency Coordinator's report – David Halteman stated that since the last meeting there was one natural hazard along with five technological hazards. Those events are as follows:

- **March 18, 2021** – Issued NWS Wind Advisory with a forecast of up to 45 MPH wind gusts.
- **March 28, 2021** – Coordinated notifications after reports of illegal dumping of unknown substances into a storm drain in Pittsfield Township.
- **April 8, 2021** – Coordinated response with AAPD, AATFD and Washtenaw County HazMat Team following a jackknifed semi on M-14 and Barton. A ruptured saddle tank resulted in approximately 30 gallons of diesel fuel to spill. Some fuel did reach the river. EB M-14 was shut down for almost 4 hours.
- **April 15, 2021** – Coordinated notifications following a natural gas outage near N. Harris and Geddes Rd. in Superior Township. Some 615 residents were affected after a contractor damaged DTE equipment. Space heaters and blankets were made available at the Ypsilanti District Library on MacArthur Blvd.

- **April 19, 2021** – Coordinated response following a semi crash and diesel spill on SB US-23 and Plymouth Rd. Approximately 100 gallons of fuel were spilled.
- **May 17, 2021** – Coordinated notifications following a natural gas outage near Dixboro Rd. and Plymouth Rd. in Superior and Ann Arbor Townships. A contractor hit a gas main causing a 125-resident outage. DTE had to go into the homes and disconnect all the customers and then relight the pilots.

Additionally, David stated that Ben Pinette has been working diligently with our mass notification software, Everbridge, to ensure residents are being properly notified as needed. A public announcement was recently distributed stating Consumers is going to install and pay for an outdoor warning siren at the Freedom Township Pumping Station. It will be programmed for activation for all of Washtenaw County's criteria including severe weather and hazardous materials incidents that may occur in the area that would require residents to take immediate action. David then offered to answer any questions that the group had.

- C. HazMat Team Director's report** – Russ Girbach stated the only incident that the HazMat Team responded to since our last meeting was the jackknifed semi incident on EB M-14 and Barton on April 8, 2021 resulting in diesel fuel spilling into the river. Russ continued saying that about 3-4 hours after this incident occurred, a similar incident occurred in the same location. Another semi jackknifed and more diesel fuel was spilled into river. The HazMat team responded to and handled the spillage. Yet another accident occurred in the exact same location about 3 days later. Thankfully, there was no fuel leakage into the river.

Russ informed the group that after those incidents, the fire chief from Ann Arbor City sent a letter to MDOT discussing the issues with the roadway that continue to cause accidents in that area.

After further discussion about the ongoing traffic hazard on EB M-14 and Barton Drive, Katie Scott stated, on behalf of the LEPC, she would be willing to take the request for resolution to the Board of Commissioners, in hopes they would send a letter to the State with these concerns.

A motion to support the actions of Katie Scott with presenting a letter of resolution to the Board of Commissioners was made by Stephen Field, seconded by Don Dettling. Approved unanimously.

A motion to approve the reports as submitted was made by Marc Breckenridge, seconded by Chris Brown. Approved unanimously.

D. EHS Site Hazard Ranking - Stephen Field stated that back in May he had raised the issue of needing risk assessments for sites that are filing Tier II reports. After speaking with Ken Kelly, Stephen was informed that there is a risk assessment list already in existence on the Washtenaw County website that displays the various types of risks/hazardous materials throughout the county without identifying the specific sites. Stephen stated that through the Tier II reporting, Washtenaw County Emergency Services reviews those reports and shares pertinent information with the local fire departments and with Huron Valley Ambulance so that they are aware of any potential risks on site when responding to a call. Furthermore, Emergency Response Guide Books have been given to Huron Valley Ambulance, all fire departments and police agencies, hospitals, etc. that instruct how to deal with the hazardous materials they might encounter when on scene.

New Business - None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by David Halteman, seconded by Marc Breckenridge at 3:33 p.m. Approved unanimously.

The next meeting of the LEPC will be held on **Thursday September 9, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.** via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,

Grace Hilborn
Emergency Services Specialist