

**WASHTENAW COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Proposed Minutes  
December 09, 2021  
Washtenaw County Emergency Operations Center

**Present:** Marc Breckenridge, Chris Brown, Donald Dettling, Russ Girbach, Brian Halloran, Grace Hilborn, Cindra James, Joseph Jurasek, Kenneth Kelly, Darrell Kirby, Glenn Levine, Christy Maier, Ben Pinette, Scott Robinson, Kathryn Wilhoff.

**Excused:** Pierre Gonyon, David Halteman.

**Absent:** Stephen Field, Sydney Parmenter, Katie Scott, Nancy Smith, Jessica Warfield.

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

Scott Robinson called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

**Review and Approval of Agenda**

**A motion to approve the agenda was made by Ben Pinette, second by Joseph Jurasek. Approved unanimously.**

**Review and Adopt the June 10, 2021 Minutes**

**A motion to approve the minutes of June 10, 2021 was made by Darrell Kirby, seconded by Donald Dettling. Approved unanimously.**

**Public Comment – None**

**Announcements – None**

**Old Business**

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

- As of December 8, 2021, 45 EHS sites have updated plans.
- No new plans have been submitted since our last meeting in June.

Ken stated that he has been attending virtual meetings with the National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials. Ken informed the group that through these meeting he has learned that rules and regulations vary greatly from state to state. For example, Ken stated that some states charge facility operators to file their Tier II reports. The operators are charged different rates depending on the number of chemicals they store, as well as the number of EHS chemicals on site. Due to these fees, some states are seeing slight decreases in reporting. Ken continued, saying that the fees vary from state to state, and the money generated does not go to the local LEPC but rather to the state's DEQ.

Ken informed the group that during these virtual meetings another topic that has been discussed was the revised National LEPC Handbook. The handbook was due to be released back in September but has yet to be released. Ken ensured the group that as soon as the handbook is released, he will make sure it will be available to all LEPC members.

**A motion to approve the Information Coordinator's Report as submitted was made by Donald Dettling, seconded by Chris Brown. Approved unanimously.**

- B. Emergency Coordinator's report** – Ben Pinette presented the Emergency Coordinator's report in David Halteman's absence. Before giving the report, Ben updated the group regarding a topic that was discussed during the June meeting. Ben stated that in June, plans were moving forward with Consumers Energy regarding an outdoor warning siren at the Freedom Township pumping station. That siren was successfully installed in August and was operational for routine testing that occurred in September. The new siren was verified and has been established in our network and abides by all the outdoor warning criteria. All sirens, including the new one located in Freedom Township will be activated for severe weather such as, severe thunderstorms with damaging winds over 75 mph, tornadoes, hazardous materials incidents, and any pipeline emergencies.

Moving on, Ben addressed the activation summary report, stating there were 6 natural hazards and four technological hazards since the last meeting. Those events are as follows:

### **Natural Hazards**

- **June 26, 2021** – Issued a NWS Flash Flood Warning and 2 Flood Warnings. Heavy rainfall resulted in widespread flooding. 17 units of an Ypsilanti apartment complex were displaced. American Red Cross opened a shelter for displaced residents.
- **June 28, 2021** – Coordinated response following reports of flooded roadways in Pittsfield and Superior Townships.

- **June 29, 2021** – Issued a NWS Severe Thunderstorm Warning. Some reports of minor road flooding and downed power lines.
- **June 30, 2021** – Washtenaw County declares a State of Emergency following widespread flooding, flooded roadways, flooding of homes and apartments and displaced residents.
- **August 11, 2021** – Issued 2 NWS Severe Thunderstorm Warnings and a Severe Thunderstorm Watch. Winds in excess of 60 mph ripped through the county causing numerous downed trees and power lines resulting in widespread power outages affecting some 51,000 Washtenaw County customers. The City of Milan declared a Local State of Emergency.
- **November 29, 2021** – Issued a NWS Winter Weather Advisory. This was the day of the Michigan/Ohio State football game. Just under 4 inches of snow resulted in numerous accidents on area roadways.

### **Technological Hazards**

- **June 25, 2021** – Coordinated response with Scio Township Fire following a semi crash on I-94 at Wagner. Approximately 150 gallons of fuel spilled onto the freeway. The freeway was closed for several hours.
- **June 25, 2021** – Coordinated response with AATFD following a semi crash on EB M14 and Barton Drive. Approximately 100 gallons of fuel was spilled. The freeway was closed for several hours.
- **August 30, 2021** – Coordinated response following a 4 semi-truck crash and diesel spill on EB M14 and Miller Rd. Approximately 50 gallons of diesel fuel was spilled. Two drivers were injured, and one driver was killed in the incident which closed the freeway for 8 hours.
- **December 1, 2021** – Coordinated notifications following a report of a truck spilling a load of “human waste” on Geddes between Dixboro and US-23. The truck, carrying wastewater plant “filter cakes” had an unsecured rear door which allowed the contents to spill out onto the roadway. A private contractor was called in to clean up the spill.

### **Tests and Exercises**

- **September 16, 2021** – Conducted annual Washtenaw County Disaster Tabletop Exercise.
- **October 2, 2021** – Conducted annual RACES Communications Exercise.

**A motion to approve the Emergency Coordinator’s Report as submitted was made by Stephen Field, seconded by Donald Dettling. Approved unanimously.**

- C. HazMat Team Director's report** – Russ Girbach stated that other than the incidents that Ben mentioned in the Emergency Coordinator's Report, there were no other callouts for the HazMat Team.

Russ continued, stating he was contacted by a citizen regarding a white, milky substance appearing on the Huron River in the Metro Park. Metro Park staff responded but the substance had disappeared. No other reports were made.

**A motion to approve the HazMat Team Director's Report as submitted was made by Ben Pinette, seconded by Darrell Kirby. Approved unanimously.**

### **New Business**

- A. Approval of 2022 Meeting Schedule** – Ben Pinette stated the location where the LEPC meeting will be held needs to be changed to 705 N. Zeeb Rd. in Scio Township since Emergency Services will be moving out to the new Communications Center at the beginning of 2022. Furthermore, the telephone number listed needs to be updated to (734) 222-3911.

**A motion to approve the amended 2022 LEPC Meeting Schedule was made by Joseph Jurasek, seconded by Donald Dettling. Approved unanimously.**

### **Adjournment**

**A motion to adjourn was made by Darrell Kirby, seconded by Marc Breckenridge at 3:35 p.m. Approved unanimously.**

The next meeting of the LEPC will be held on **Thursday March 10, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.** at the Emergency Services Communications Center located at 705 N. Zeeb Rd. in Scio Township.

Respectfully Submitted,

Grace Hilborn  
Emergency Services Specialist