

Minutes
Washtenaw County LEPC Meeting
Thursday, March 13, 2008
Chrysler Proving Grounds, Chelsea, Michigan
3:00 p.m.

Members Present: Steve Arrieta, Marc Breckenridge, Vic Chevrette, Donald Dettling, Jon Ichesco, Cindra James, Joseph Jurasek, James Luckhardt, Leon Moore, Daniel Onyskin

Members Absent: Barbara Levin Bergman, Pam Byrnes (excused), Donna Duvin (excused), Pierre Gonyon, David Halteman, Cindra James, Joseph Jurasek, Kathleen Knol, Michael Perry, Scott Robinson (excused), Lucy Teets (excused), Kathryn Wilhoff (excused)

Staff Present: Kenneth Kelly, Mary Kowalski, Tom Winebrenner

Guests Present: Ken Ascher, Gary Bowen, Julie Cullen

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. by D. Onyskin.

Oath of Office for New and Reappointed Members

All attendees introduced themselves, and M. Kowalski administered the Oath of Office to all members present. It was noted that there are still several vacancies on the Committee, so attendees should try to recruit members. Resumes are due on March 14.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

S. Arrieta nominated Scott Robinson for Vice Chair. He was elected unanimously.

D. Dettling, seconded by S. Arrieta, nominated Daniel Onyskin for Chair. He accepted the nomination and was elected unanimously.

II. Introductions

III. Review and Approval of Agenda

M. Breckenridge moved to approve the agenda, L. Moore seconded and the motion carried.

IV. Review and Approval of Minutes

D. Dettling moved to approve the minutes, J. Ichesco seconded, and the motion carried.

V. Public Comment

There was no public comment

VI. Announcements

M. Breckenridge announced that there are two training sessions coming up for Severe Weather Spotters. It is a free training for the volunteer program, and participants can call or register online. There are currently around 490 trained spotters in Washtenaw County.

VII. Old Business

A. EHS facility planning update

- K. Kelly reported that of 52 EHS sites that exist in the County, 47 have updated emergency response plans. The list will be available soon, as plans and updates are being transformed to an electronic format. Once they are set, binders with the information will be distributed to area fire departments.
- Tier II reports are coming in. L. Moore noted that 179 facilities require Tier II forms, and of those 171 have submitted the forms. He also noted that there may be a discrepancy between the number of EHS facilities reported by the database and the number reported by K. Kelly – he will speak with K. Kelly on this subject.
- L. Moore stated that several facilities have been over reporting the amount of sulfuric acid they have on site – the acid itself is only about one-third of the weight of each battery and they had been reporting the entire battery weight.
- L. Moore stated that he has toured several Verizon sites in the County and believes that all of them have been identified.

B. Information Coordinator's Report

- L. Moore stated that the County has sent information on the Tier II forms to 1100 facilities and have received responses from all but 350 facilities (the due date was March 1). The goal is to have at least 90%-95% reporting by the end of the year.
- There is some concern because the Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) bond runs out on 10/1/08. If it is not renewed, funding for environmental cleanup will be reduced.

C. Emergency Coordinator's report:

- M. Breckenridge noted that one non-EHS facility had an incident on January 10. The facility is located on Pleasant Lake Rd. in Freedom Township, and it was a gas pipeline that was spewing natural gas – it was capped and put online within a few hours, and the Saline Fire Department responded.
- M. Breckenridge passed out a handout, the Technological Hazards Summary, which outlines environmental investigations over the year. He noted that anything reported to Emergency Management that is not a fixed site incident or created by HazMat transportation is automatically deemed to be an environmental investigation.
- He also noted that the goal is to have the total numbers go down over time, and they generally have done so. The only fatality on the list was in 1994.

D. HazMat Team Director's report

- V. Chevrette reported that there were three incidents since the last LEPC meeting:
 - On February 12, there was an incident with Lenawee County Public Health in which Lumex unit was used to clean up a Mercury spill.
 - On February 20, at 2201 Hogback, a woman came in with an envelope containing white powder, which was determined to be paper shavings and non-hazardous.
 - On March 5, there was an explosion and flash fire at Cayman Chemical. The person involved was decontaminated at the facility and was treated at the University of Michigan Burn Center. The Pittsfield Township Fire Department will follow up. L. Moore noted that there have been two incidents at this location recently.
- V. Chevrette announced that the HazMat team has received a Lumex instrument for use in detecting levels of Mercury. It is being shared between Environmental Health, the HazMat Team and Monroe County Environmental Health.

- They have also received a Sirius MSA detection kit, which can be used to determine what a product is. A team member will be going to Chicago for training on this equipment.
- Washtenaw County and the Monroe County Sheriff will be receiving Sergeant 4x4 General Purpose armored, bulletproof vehicle to be used by area SWAT teams. There are three in the region.
- The HazMat team does training twice a month and quarterly drills, and will be having a golf outing fundraiser late in the summer.

E. Reports from standing committees

- L. Moore reported that the Education/Outreach subcommittee met twice last year, but neither meeting was very well-attended. He believes that it is valuable to continue the group, as other LEPCs have more of an active educational role in their communities, and would therefore like to recreate the committee.
- The subcommittee would determine priorities for outreach, but staff can assist in actually doing the outreach itself. Members should let L. Moore know if they are interested in participating.

VIII. New Business

Summary of State and Federal Hazardous Reporting Requirements

- Tom Winebrenner of Environmental Health discussed the many types of facilities that often hold hazardous materials, and noted that staff at these facilities are often confused about the reporting requirements. He has therefore put together a document summarizing requirements from the perspective of both a site facility coordinator and inspector.
- The summary lists requirements under SARA Title III, which is enforced by the EPA – the information comes from the Michigan Facilities Guide to SARA Title III -- a great resource.
- T. Winebrenner asked that Committee members inform him if they see any inaccuracies, as L. Moore would like to put the document on the website for public reference.

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by J. Ichesco at 4:10 p.m.