



Washtenaw County Local Emergency Planning Committee

Minutes

Thursday, September 9, 2010

MSU Extension Classroom, 705 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI

3:00 p.m.

Members Present: Vic Chevrette, Leon Moore, Daniel Onyskin, Pat Ivey, Samantha Brandfon, Lucy Teets, Bryan Schultz, Pierre Gonyon, Sandra Lopez, John Ichesco, Marc Breckenridge, Joseph Jurasek, Mark Wesley on behalf for Kathryn Wilhoff & Scott Robinson

Members Absent: Steven Arrieta, Rebecca Benedict, Ashley Cielinski, David R. Halteman, Cindra James, Michael Perry, Donald Dettling & Commissioner Wesley Prater

Staff Present: Kenneth Kelly & Stephanie Wolff

Guests Present: None

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by D. Onyskin.

II. Introductions / Welcome City of Ann Arbor LEPC

All attendees introduced themselves.

III. Review and Approval of Agenda

P. Gonyon moved to approve the agenda as presented. S. Robinson seconded and the motion carried.

IV. Review and Approval of Minutes

M. Breckenridge moved to approve the minutes as amended. S. Robinson seconded and the motion carried.

V. Public Comment

None

VI. Announcements

(V. Chevrette) HazMat Golf Outing on September 27th, 2010 at Barton Hills Country Club.

VII. Old Business

A. EHS facility planning update (report by K. Kelly)

- As of March, 2010, of the 56 facilities recognized by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment we have updated information for 49 facilities.
- Farms that we do not have updated information for were sent an Anhydrous Ammonia Compliance Alert Brochure reminding them that if they store more than 500 pounds of anhydrous ammonia they must notify the LEPC and the SARA Title III Program.
- The annual update list was submitted to the State of Michigan on June 23rd and it is currently under review.
- No new plans were written this quarter.

B. Information Coordinator's Report (reported by L. Moore)

- In the county's Pollution Prevention Program, facilities that store hazardous material onsite are inspected. County staff are seeing the continuing effects of the economy because the numbers of facilities are going down. There are currently 37 facilities in the county that are storing over 5,500 gallons of hazardous material. 29 facilities store between 2,750 and 5,500 gallons and 136 facilities store between 500 and 2,750 gallons. The county has inspected over 300 facilities this year with an additional 180 inspections yet to go this year.
- Environmental Health was involved in a sewage release of 4,000 gallons on Sugar Loaf Lake in Chelsea. The spill was not initially reported to the County. The beach was closed four days prior to the spill most likely due to the geese population in the beach area which was producing unsafe water samples. When the sewage release occurred, area residents thought the beach closing was due to the sewage release. The small lake community was in panic because they thought the entire lake was contaminated during their peak recreation season. More unsafe bacteriological samples were collected and the beach remained closed for a good portion of the summer.
- Moore was questioned by Pat Ivey about the County's ability to manage future issues like H1N1. Moore indicated that the H1N1 issue allowed the County to build resources and to learn from the experience that was gained. Moore indicated that we didn't realize what we were getting ourselves into during the first clinic at WISD. We had traffic issues and demand was greater than what we were prepared for. As we moved through that process, we as a Health Department became much better prepared and we understood what type of facility we needed to handle that volume of people. We got organized and still have equipment housed at Public Health - so we are geared up and ready to go.

C. Emergency Coordinator's Report (reported by M. Breckenridge)

- August 4th, 2010 at 8360 Huron Street, Dexter. A water treatment plant had a hazardous materials accident involving sodium hydrochloride and sodium bisulfide.
- A contractor struck a high pressure gas main in Augusta Township at Stony Creek Road, North of Willis. A Washtenaw County Road Commission contractor drilled into the ground with a large auger and hit the high pressure pipeline. The wind was blowing in the driver's favor, away from the vehicle. The vehicle was putting up construction signs using 6 inch x 6 inch posts. Tankers were on stand by. 14 homes were evacuated in the area.

D. HazMat Team Director's Report (reported by V. Chevrette)

- Bottle bombs are expected to surface again. These bombs are made in plastic bottles filled with household cleaners and aluminum and thrown off on the side of the road. When reported, the bomb squad is called and they set off the devices at a safe distance with pellet guns.
- A semi rolled over at I-275 & I-94. The Western Wayne County Downriver Haz mat Team responded. They unloaded eleven 55 gallon drums of hazardous material, and removed 3 totes containing 330 gallons a piece of hydrogen peroxide.
- Dexter – Contractor who was off loading his product from the tote into the piping system through the building of the wastewater treatment plant. The 400 gallon poly container tank inside the wastewater treatment plant was not marked and none of the piping in the facility was marked. Chemicals were mixed and created a chlorine gas which flooded the building.

Residents were advised to stay up wind, evacuate and get ventilation, which was successful. The Haz mat Team went in and capped the tank. Luckily no one was injured.

- Milan – Saline River – Oil and grease was reported to be in the river. It was first investigated on Sunday night and we believe it was coming from the Simons Elementary School. They had just repaved the road and were reroofing the building. There was evidence in the storm sewer, on the Monroe County side, of the black tar substance. The next day, EPA went to Kroger and found a dumpster that was leaking kitchen grease into the storm drain EPA performed a clean up of incident.
- The haz mat team is still working the U of M football games monitoring air quality.
- Mount Pleasant for the MI Propane Association– tanker training on lifting off roadways.
- Summit Conference in Traverse City in October for hazardous materials.

VIII. New Business

- (L. Moore) Made some contacts to get someone to come do a presentation to LEPC on the oil spill on the west side of the state. 800,000 gallons was reportedly spilled.
- LEPC terms expiring this year. Get resume and Letter of Interest to Jason Brooks in Elections by October 9th, 2010.

IX. Adjournment

J. Ichesco moved to adjourn at 3:50 p.m. J. Jurasek seconded and the motioned carried.