



Medina County Local Emergency Planning Committee

Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2025

LEPC Members

Mark Albrecht – Industry	Aaron Harrison – Elected Official
Tom Bartfai – Transportation	Colin Johnson – Health
Gregory Bartoe - EMA	Brad Karns – Law
Chris Blair - Fire	Phillip McHugh – Hospital
Jim Carter - Fire	Bob Mueller – Community Group
Anthony Dattilo – Industry	Stephanie Mueller – First Aid
Noah Eddy - EMA	Ben Nau – EMA
Julio Esis – Industry	Alliss Strogan – Community Group
Rob Haas – Fire	Barb Walton - Environmental
Steve Hambley – Elected Official	

Guests

Mark Shane – Ohio EPA	Ben Weisbrod – Ohio Homeland Security
Michelle Sowers – OEMA	Chris Schrader – Hubbell Power Systems
Noah Porter - OEMA	

Anthony Dattilo called the meeting to order at 0830.

Public comment: None

Minutes: Motion to approve January 2025 Minutes made by Mark Albrecht, second by Rob Haas. Motion approved unanimously.

Incidents: The following HazMat incidents were discussed by the group.

- 01/17/2025 – BleachTech, 320 Ryan Road, Seville, OH
 - A spill of hydrochloric acid occurred when a tanker truck was accidentally overfilled. The driver of the tanker truck failed to indicate the truck had a compartmentalized tank. The tank was overfilled due to the tank compartment and spilled into the dike. The spill was contained onsite and cleaned up by BleachTech personnel.
- 01/29/2025 – Zion Industries, 6229 Grafton Road, Valley City, OH
 - Nitric acid was incorrectly mixed with methanol. Thereafter, the mixture erupted and caused a spill of nitric acid that was contained to the chemistry room in Zion Industries. The HazMat Team responded and utilized acid pads to absorb the spill as well as neutralizing the spill. The spilled nitric acid amounted to approximately five (5) gallons. Zion Industries then hired a contractor to fully clean the chemistry room.

LEPC Grant: Greg Bartoe reported that the LEPC Grant has been submitted. The amount awarded under the grant should be known in the Fall of 2025. This grant is funded by the State of Ohio from fees received from Tier 2 filings.

Upcoming Trainings:

- HazMat Safety Officer – The third and final class will be held on 03/08/2025 at Medina Fire Station 1. The class has eight (8) – nine (9) participants and has been well received.
- HazMat Operations Level Refresher Class to be held on 04/05/2025 at Westfield Fire.
- Incident Response for Lithium Batteries to be held on 05/21/2025 at Lafayette Fire.
- HazMat for Rail Operations to be held on 06/02/2025 to be held in Valley City.
- HazMat Decontamination Operations to be held on 07/21/2025 at Earhart/York Twp Fire.
- HazMat for Law Enforcement – TBD
- HazMat for Dispatchers – TBD
- HazMat Confined Space Technician Training – TBD

Once Around:

- Colin Johnson
 - The Health Department is cohosting a Volunteer Reception Center exercise on March 15, 2025, at the Cornerstone Chapel in conjunction with the EMA, Medical Reserve Corps, CERT, and the Ohio Military Reserve. The focus of the exercise is on processing volunteers and assessing capabilities.
- Ben Nau
 - Ben noted that EMA has been updating the Mitigation Plans and will be done sometime in June. In addition, EMA will soon finish updating the Emergency Operations Plans. Also, there will be an upcoming Pipeline Exercise in the future (likely in May 2025) with the Nexus Pipeline. Ben mentioned that last series of the Dive Training has recently started, and the goal is to field a functional dive team by mid-May.
- Rob Haas
 - Rob stated that the All Hazards Team recently hosted an Ice Rescue training last month that was well attended and covered by local media. In addition, a Med Dive class took place last month while Ice Dive training is planned for next year. Once training is completed, Medina County will have a fully functional team in place to handle dive and ice rescues.
- Mark Shane
 - Mark mentioned that Ohio EPA is working on three (3) spills in the Medina County area:
 - The BleachTech hydrochloric acid spill involving a loading truck on 01/17/2025.
 - Darling End Ingredients – A hydraulic oil spill
 - Travel Center of America – Diesel spill caused by an accident when a truck's diesel saddle tank was struck and leaked. The scene was handled by Westfield Fire.
- Chris Blair
 - Chris mentioned that the HazMat Team trailer was going to be reorganized.
- Philip McHugh
 - Philip introduced himself to the group and went over his background. Phil currently works for the Cleveland Clinic and is working on covering some basic ICS training in healthcare facilities. Phil completed a community review of hazard vulnerability in January 2025, with tornadoes identified as a significant concern. In addition, he is reviewing active shooter training, especially considering the recent hospital shooting in Pennsylvania where hostages were taken and a police officer was killed.
- Brad Karns
 - Brad announced that he will be retiring from the FBI next month. Brad said he expects the FBI to find a replacement for him on the LEPC and he will provide the contact information for his WMD supervisor in the meantime.

- Stephanie Mueller
 - Stephanie stated the Medina Safety Council recently hosted a presentation on the lessons learned from the 2024 BleachTech spill. This presentation was very well attended and received. The Safety Council's March presentation will cover severe weather and will feature Freddie Zeigler of the National Weather Service. The April presentation will be a program on distracted driving put on by the Medina Police Department. Stephanie is looking for speakers for the Safety Council presentations and to let her know if you know anyone.
- Barb Walton
 - Barb mentioned that there have been about four (4) fires on trucks coming into the Solid Waste District. The last fire was on Monday, March 3, 2025. Lithium batteries continue to be a source of concern, especially regarding the recent fires. The Solid Waste District is working with Westfield Fire on a response plan regarding the prevention and/or response to fires and incidents. In addition to the fires, the Solid Waste District had a HazMat incident with a fuming drum in August of 2024.
- Steve Hambley
 - Commissioner Hambley noted they are trying to update the Solid Waste District's management plan. One of the goals is to stress prevention of incidents rather than responding to incidents.
- Ben Weisbrod
 - Ben introduced himself as the Northeast Regional representative for Ohio Homeland Security. Ben noted that the Ohio Homeland Security offers free security and vulnerability studies. In addition, Homeland Security teaches active shooter classes.
- Noah Porter
 - Noah mentioned the LEPC exercise deadline is June 30, 2025. Ohio EMA is willing to assist with the exercises.

Motion to Adjourn made by Chris Blair, second by Julio Esis at 0851.