



Medina County Local Emergency Planning Committee

Meeting Minutes for March 5, 2026

LEPC Members

Wade Balser – Ohio EPA	Colin Johnson – Health
Gregory Bartoe – EMA	Matt Martin – Transportation
Jim Carter – Fire	Bob Mueller – Community Group
Anthony Dattilo – Industry	Stephanie Mueller – First Aid
Rob Haas – Fire	Ben Nau – EMA
Steve Hambley – Elected Official	Alliss Strogan – Community Group
Aaron Harrison – Elected Official	Barb Walton - Environmental

Guests

Bob Zehertaun – OEMA	Joshua Tidey – EMA
Jarrold Fry - Media	

Anthony Dattilo called the meeting to order at 0830.

Public comment: None

Minutes: Motion to approve the January 2026 Minutes made by Jim Carter, seconded by Barb Walton. Motion approved unanimously.

Incidents: There were no reportable spills since the last LEPC Meeting in January 2026. However, the HazMat Team responded to the following incidents:

- 02/05/2026 – Propane Tanker Truck Accident on Route 303, Hinckley Township, OH
 - A truck hauling a tank filled with propane had issues traversing a steep hill on Route 303 in Hinckley Township. Eventually, the truck began to roll backwards, and the propane tank went over the edge of the road and dislodged from the truck. The tank then struck another truck traveling behind the propane tank truck. No propane was released and it was eventually transferred to another tanker. The Medina County HazMat Team assisted the Hinckley Township Fire Department, the Hinckley Township Police Department, and the OHSP at the scene.
- 02/18/2026 – Propane Tank Tip Over at Maple Lakes Campground, Guilford Township, OH
 - A propane tank mounted to the ground at the Maple Lakes Campground became dislodged and tipped over. The propane tank had recently been filled by Amerigas. The Seville Guilford Fire Department responded to the scene and requested the Medina County HazMat Team for assistance. Amerigas also responded to the scene and up righted the tank. By the time the tank was put upright, it was nearly empty.

In addition to the above incidents, Wade Balser reported on several other incidents that were reported to EPA. These incidents included a Litchfield Township resident claiming motor oil remains in her yard following an earlier auto

accident, the spillage of sewage in Wadsworth impacting a waterway, and the spillage of motor oil and beverages from a box truck in Lodi. Two recent fires that occurred at the Reworld facility in Medina were mentioned. Mr. Balser stated Reworld is not supposed to house any hazardous materials, but the company was less than forthcoming with the Medina Fire Department about the materials involved with the recent fires.

Upcoming Trainings:

- Spill Response Strategies & Tactics – 03/09/2026
- HazMat Radiation Emergencies – 03/14/2026
- Incident Safety Officer NFPA – 04/09/2026
- SKYWARN – 04/09/2026
- G300 – Intermediate ICS – 04/20/2026
- Railroad 101 – Safety & Response – 05/05/2026
- G400 – Advanced ICS – 05/28/2026

Once Around:

- Ben Nau
 - Director Ben Nau noted that planning for the LEPC full scale exercise for the next fiscal year has begun. The December 2025 incident involving the overturned ethanol truck on I-271 was used as the FY2026 LEPC exercise. The FY2027 LEPC exercise will be a full-scale exercise concerning a railroad issue in Medina. Director Nau said this exercise will most likely involve coordination with the Medina Fire Department and Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad.
- Greg Bartoe
 - Greg Bartoe introduced Jarrod Fry, who works for Medina TV and has volunteered to become an LEPC Committee member. Mr. Fry then introduced himself to the Committee. Mr. Fry stated he was with the City of Medina Communications Department, which operates a couple of TV stations and partners with Medina County regarding some technical issues. Mr. Fry also has certified training for a Public Information Officer and previously worked in network news.
- Barb Walton
 - Barb Walton reported the electricity was out for about four hours last week at the Waste District. The Waste District has generators to power the offices and scale houses, but not the transfer floor.
- Jim Carter
 - Assistant Chief Jim Carter thanked the Medina County Highway Engineer for the notices about road closures. Assistant Chief Carter noted these notices are very helpful for the fire departments.
- Rob Haas
 - Rob Haas thanked EMA for getting the equipment to All-Hazards callouts. Mr. Haas noted the Fire Investigation Unit has a very busy tempo and the Water Team just assisted the Medina Police Department with a search of a small body of water.
- Colin Johnson
 - Colin Johnson stated the Medina County Health Department will be having their quarterly staff meeting on April 29, 2026. Also, Mr. Johnson said the Health Department will be conducting a Point Of Distribution (POD) training event at the County Fairgrounds with an emphasis on testing communications strategies for the deaf and hearing impaired. In addition, Mr. Johnson indicated the Health Department was working on developing and coordinating a Mass Care plan with the access and functional needs group.
- Stephanie Mueller
 - Stephanie Mueller said the Medina County Safety Council will be meeting on March 17, 2026, with Barb Walton as the speaker on the topic of Recycle Medina County. In addition, Ms. Mueller stated the Safety Council's April 21, 2026, meeting will concern workplace safety and style for personal protective equipment (PPE). Moreover, Ms. Mueller noted this April meeting will have a PPE fashion show.

- Steve Hambley
 - Commissioner Steve Hambley reported that the Medina County Commissioners continue to work on updating the County's Solid Waste Plan and are still seeking public input. Commissioner Hambley said the official public commenting period will commence around August 2026.
 - Commissioner Hambley addressed a recently released demographics study from a consultant hired by the Commissioners. Although another study by the State of Ohio predicted a decline in the population of Medina County, this demographics study using local data predicted a growth in the Medina County population by 8.1% by 2050. Specifically, this study found the senior and youth population is predicted to increase in Medina County. As proof of the overall continuing growth of Medina County, Commissioner Hambley noted that 1,400 parcels are currently platted for development in the County.
 - Commissioner Hambley addressed a proposed Constitutional amendment that would eliminate property taxes in Ohio and the effect such a proposal would have if approved. There was then a discussion regarding property taxes.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Haas. The Motion to Adjourn passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 0900.