



**SUMMIT COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Hazardous Materials Planning and Community Right-To-Know*

**Meeting Minutes  
August 27, 2020**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Capt. Steve Groves – Chair Stow Fire Department  
Don Weaver Summit County DOES  
Tommy Smoot Summit County Emergency Management  
Julia Harber-Vice Chair Metallic Resource  
Shawn Metcalf RTA  
Sharen Breyer Galata Chemicals  
Tim Gemind - Secretary Summit County Emergency Management  
Sam Rubens Summit County Public Health  
Brenda Robinson Emerald Materials  
Kurt Kollar OEPA  
Bruce Koellner-2nd Vice Copley Township  
Pam Williams American Red Cross  
Clarence Tucker Akron Fire Department  
Jerry Hughes Munroe Falls Police  
Laura Villwock Direction Home Akron Canton

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Bill Goncy Village of Boston Heights  
Justin Bechtel Cleveland Clinic – Akron  
Mike Gordon First Energy

**GUESTS PRESENT**

|                 |               |              |                 |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Michelle Sowers | OEMA          | Eric Phol    | US EPA          |
| Rob Keener      | AFD           | John Denison | People Services |
| Greg Newsome    | Ohio Gratings | Jim LaPorte  | Citgo           |
| Lori Pesci      | DOPS          | Gary Scotton | Polaris Inc     |
| Alex Burt       | SCEMA         |              |                 |
| Joe St. John    | SCEMA         |              |                 |
| Judy Kelly      | SCEMA         |              |                 |
| Dan Wiltse      | HEPACO        |              |                 |
| Greg Newsome    | Ohio Gratings |              |                 |



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**I. INTRODUCTIONS**

This meeting of the Summit County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) was called to order by Chairperson Steven Groves at 8:00 a.m. via a Zoom call on August 27, 2020.

Introductions of those in attendance were made.

**II. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

**Approval of Minutes – February 27, 2020**

First: Pam Williams

Second: Sharen Breyer

The motion was carried by voice vote.

**Correspondence and Comments:**

Captain Groves went through the correspondence and will be emailed.

- Email from State containing the Ohio Hazardous Materials & Exercise Evaluation Manual to review. Tim did review and had no comments.
- March 5<sup>th</sup> Hazmat functional exercise was approved in the June SERC meeting per Michelle Sowers. The approval is contained in the minutes.
- Received LEPC grant award of \$68,500.
- Tim submitted the LEPC fiscal status report at the end of June.

There were no electronic votes.

**III. INFORMATION COORDINATORS REPORT:**

Tommy Smoot reported that there have been (15) right-to-know requests since the last meeting in February. There were also (13) 30-day follow up reports and (3) spill reports.

The fiscal report has been completed and the grant money (\$68,500) has been received and deposited.

**IV. SPECIAL TEAMS PLANNER REPORT – Tim Gemind**

Tim Gemind reported Hazmat training has been postponed since March 5<sup>th</sup>. Capt. Amonett has put forth the option that any department who has Hazmat members in their department can request training to come to their department for 10 or less.



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Tim has made minor equipment purchases to keep up the equipment.

Sharen Breyer asked if the 1994 HazMat box truck has been auctioned? Tim reported the lights/sirens and a few pieces of equipment must be removed prior to sending it to auction.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

Tim Gemind stated the County Law Department is still pursuing Barberton Steel regarding reimbursement for a Hazmat incident in 2017.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS –**

Brenda Robinson stated she was working for Emerald Performance and this was bought out by Huntsman ESP Akron sub LLC. They still have the same operations.

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**EHS Hazard Analysis Committee**

Tim Gemind has completed 2 (Rubbermaid, Americhem) EHS visits since the last meeting. US Food and St. Gobain are scheduled.

**Spill Reporting Compliance**

Tim Gemind stated 4 (Holland Oil, Prairie Farms, Monroe Inc, Republic Services and Arconic) letters were sent to spillers and a response requested.

**Training, Education & Exercise Committee**

- Tim talked with Medina/Stark County and the LEPC Fall Conference is cancelled. Tim Gemind stated moving forward, Medina does not want to participate in this conference.
- IAFC and the Midwest Hazmat Conference were also cancelled.
- Incident on Rt. 8 will be used as a tabletop exercise for the LEPC exercise cycle.

**Planning Committee**

No report

**Finance Committee**

Tim Gemind purchased the Class D fire extinguisher. The budget has been updated and will be emailed.



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**VII. INCIDENTS**

Clarence Tucker thanked EMA, EPA and Summit County Hazmat team and many other agencies for a significant incident where 8000 gallons of gasoline were released. With the river catching fire and one fatality, the coordination was excellent, a great job working together. Tommy Smoot stated the EOC was activated and the Sheriff's office put out a reverse alert. Akron Fire and Police evacuated approximately 100 people. We also worked with Akron Metro for busses and the Red Cross to setup a temporary shelter. The shelter was not needed as all residents were able to return to their homes later in the morning. Kurt Kollar stated booms were placed in the river for containment and a cleanup contractor is still onsite.

Barberton, Norton, New Franklin and Green called Hazmat for phone conference.

Kurt Kollar stated there was also a soap spill in the Tuscarawas River. Through tracking, they were able to track the source.

The EPA is still working from home but on full response capabilities.

**VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Pam Williams asked if it would benefit to ask Portage County to join our annual conference. Tommy Smoot stated he will reach out to them.

**IX. MEETING ADJOURNED**

Pam Williams motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 am with Tommy Smoot as the second. The motion carried by voice vote.

**X. NEXT MEETING**

November 19, 2020 @ 8:30 a.m location TBD.