



**SUMMIT COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

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

**Meeting Minutes  
May 23, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Steve Groves – Chair	Valley Fire District
Tommy Smoot	Summit County Emergency Management
Tim Gemind - Secretary	Summit County Emergency Management
Pam Williams	American Red Cross
Sharen Breyer	Community
Julia Harber-Vice Chair	NEO Regional Sewer District
Don Weaver	Summit County DOSSS
Bruce Koellner - 2nd Vice	Copley Township
Kurt Kollar	OEPA

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Sam Rubens	Summit County Public Health
Macklin Flinn	Cleveland Clinic – Akron General
Brenda Robinson	Huntsman
Shawn Metcalf	Akron METRO RTA
Steve Brown	Bath Township PD
Joseph Shumaker	Akron Fire Department
Jacob Maxim	Huntsman
Judy Bearer	Retired Industry

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Melissa McFadden	Summit County DOSSS
Kelsey Kurcsak	Georgia Pacific
Stephen Tompkins	ODNR
Michelle Sowers	OEMA
Judy Kelly	SCEMA
Joseph St. John	SCEMA
Rob Keener	Akron FD



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## **I. INTRODUCTIONS**

This meeting of the Summit County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) was called to order by Steve Groves at 8:30 am on May 23, 2024, in the EOC, 166 S. High St., Basement.

## **II. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

### **Approval of Minutes – February 15, 2024**

First: Pam Williams      Second: Bruce Koellner

The motion was carried by voice vote.

### **Correspondence and Comments:**

Steve Groves reviewed and passed around the correspondence:

- New member Allyson Reichard (Huntsman) will be the Other, and Don Weaver will be retiring, with Melissa McFadden replacing him under Environmental.
- One electronic vote:
  - An additional \$560 for breakfast items for Hazmat training

## **III. INFORMATION COORDINATORS REPORT:**

Tim Gemind stated we received thirty-seven right-to-know requests, two 30-day follow-up reports, and nine spill reports. Tim attended the LEPC "Coffee Talk" on March 20, "How to do a Hazard Analysis," which was a good refresher. Tim sent the packet with information from the Federal EPA's "Stronger Safety Standards." M & A Industries added as a failure to report by the SERC. Tim attended another LEPC Coffee Talk, "Initial Spill Notification & Field Response," yesterday via Zoom, which was also a good refresher. Tier II reports that, as of the March 1st deadline, he had received 688 /5 late. Less than 10 were paper. Tim also submitted the 2023 Tier 2 First Time Filer's report to the State; we had less than a dozen for the first time. Tommy Smoot added Jeff Beatty retired on April 29.

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

Tim Gemind stated that the March hazmat training was on lithium training. Attendees appreciated the breakfast items. April's training was spill booming operations with Kurt Kollar from OEPA. May training was a Hazmat CAMEO refresher course at the computer lab at U of A. June will be on Hazmat Air monitoring, July will be off Refresher, and August will be on Hazmat Tox Med.

We also sent 3 Hazmat technicians to Chicago for the Midwest Hazmat Conference in May. We also will send four technicians to Baltimore for the International Fire Chiefs Hazmat Conference.



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**V. OLD BUSINESS**

The group discussed the Tallmadge Fire Department's request for a new spill trailer and laptop. Tallmadge is looking to replace an operational-level trailer with hazmat equipment and a laptop computer. The group discussed that this needed to be a regional team asset and that the requesting agency should be trained to use the requested equipment. Bruce Koellner motioned to deny Tallmadge Fire Department's request for a new spill trailer/laptop with Don Weaver as the second. The motion was passed by voice vote, with one dissenting vote by Tim Gemind.

None

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**EHS Hazard Analysis Committee**

No report.

**Spill Reporting Compliance**

The NOV report was emailed but did not include Kurt Kollar's report.

**Training, Education & Exercise Committee**

The LEPC Conference will be at the Red Cross on Friday, October 4. Chief Drabick from East Palestine will be a guest speaker, and Kurt Kollar will also present from the state EPA perspective. If you have any ideas for speakers, please contact Tim Gemind.

**Planning Committee**

No report.

**Finance Committee**

The LEPC Budget and expenses were emailed.

Sharen Breyer motioned for \$10,000 to send 4 Hazmat technicians to the Hazmat Commanders & Instructors Conference in October, with Bruce Koellner as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.

Bruce Koellner motioned to spend up to \$6,531 to purchase 2 Chlorine cylinder leak stop adapter kits, with Don Weaver as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.



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**VII. INCIDENTS**

The committee discussed the incident in Macedonia last week, which involved a tanker explosion with sodium hydroxide at Royal Chemical. Tim is compiling the cost recovery for this incident. Royal Chemical did not make the initial spill call to the LEPC.

Capt. Groves stated Tuesday was SRA at Copley High School for a student with a chemical reaction.

Akron had an orphan drum call (10 – 6 gallon drums). The EPA Orphan Drum Program came and removed the drums.

**VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Don Weaver introduced Melissa McFadden, who will replace him when he retires at the end of the year.

Kurt Kollar stated that they are hearing conflicting information regarding lithium battery fires. They are looking to develop an SOP regarding air monitoring, which is still in its infancy.

**IX. MEETING ADJOURNED**

Tommy Smoot motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 am, with Julie Harber as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.

**X. NEXT MEETING**

August 15, 2024, @ 8:30 am location EOC.