



**SUMMIT COUNTY
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Hazardous Materials Planning and Community Right-To-Know

1-27-25 LEPC Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: January 27, 2025

Location: Summit Communications Center, 630 North Ave., Tallmadge

MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Groves – Chair	Valley Fire District
Tommy Smoot	Summit County Emergency Management
Tim Gemind - Secretary	Summit County Emergency Management
Julia Harber-Vice Chair	NEO Regional Sewer District
Jacob Maxim	Huntsman
Melissa McFadden	Summit County DOSSS
Judy Bearer	Direction Home
Sam Rubens	Summit County Public Health
Sharen Breyer	Community
Pam Williams	American Red Cross
Kurt Kollar	OEPA
Kandy Fatheree	Summit County Sheriff's Office

MEMBERS ABSENT

Bruce Koellner - 2nd Vice	Copley Township
Macklin Flinn	Cleveland Clinic – Akron General
Alison Reichard	Huntsman
Kelsey Kurcsak	Georgia Pacific
Shawn Metcalf	Akron METRO RTA
Joseph Shumaker	Akron Fire Department

GUESTS PRESENT

Theo Williams	Univar
Michelle Sowers	Ohio EMA
Judy Kelly	SCEMA
Rob Keener	Akron Fire Department

Approval of minutes

- The November 14, 2024, meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Pam Williams and a second by Sharen Breyer. The motion passed with all in favor and no opposition.



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Correspondence

- No electronic votes
- Welcome to our two new members to the LEPC Committee (Law) Sheriff Kandy Fatheree and Chief Chris Norfolk
- The SERC voted in favor to award the Summit County LEPC full-scale exercise credit in response to the September 5, 2024, SMB incident.

Reports

- Tim Gemind presented the Information Coordinator Report:
 - Since the last meeting, three spill reports, three 30-day follow-up reports, and five right-to-know requests were received.
 - About 60 Tier 2s have been received since January 1.
 - The Ohio Hazardous Material Exercise and Evaluation Manual has been updated and will go into effect on July 1st for fiscal year 2026. While some updates and changes are minor, like updated verbiage or grammar issues, others are on a larger scale, including removing Objective 11, "Sheltering."
- Tim Gemind presented Special Teams Planner Report:
 - Hazmat training included decontamination in December and advanced metering in January.
 - Future training includes personal protective equipment in February, corrosives in March, and railroad incidents in April.
 - A possible LEPC-graded exercise in Macedonia is being considered for July.
 - A truck replacement committee has been formed to replace the 30-year-old hazmat vehicle.
 - Received cost recovery payment from SMB International for \$2,859.09.

Subcommittee Reports

- EHS – no report
- Spill Reporting and Compliance: Tim Gemind stated a letter was sent to SMB International regarding compliance with a 30-day follow-up report



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- and missing Tier 2 reports. The missing Tier 2s were received on December 18th, and the 30-day report was received on January 9th, though not 100% complete. Further meetings may be necessary, but Tim feels the LEPC portion is closed at this point.
- Kurt Kollar reported a concerning trend that spill reporting seems to be declining. Sometimes the local fire departments make notifications, and it doesn't seem to affect larger companies with established procedures.
 - Training, Education, and Exercise Subcommittee: Tim Gemind requested speakers and ideas for the October LEPC conference. The conference is likely to be held on the first Friday of October.
 - Finance Subcommittee:
 - Tommy Smoot presented the 2025 LEPC budget (see attached). Pam Williams made a motion to approve the 2025 LEPC budget with Sam Rubens as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.
 - Tim Gemind requested a motion for the following items: \$5,000.00 for the upcoming Midwest Hazmat Conference in May, \$7,000 for the International Fire Chiefs Hazmat Conference in Baltimore in June, and \$2,665.99 for Duodote kits (15 to the City of Akron and 15 to the County). Pam Williams made the motion with Sam Rubens as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.
 - Planning Committee: No report

New Business

Tommy Smoot asked for nominations for chairperson (currently Steve Groves), 1st vice-chair (currently Julie Harber), second vice-chair (currently Bruce Koellner), and secretary (currently Tim Gemind). Pam Williams motioned to retain the present officers with a second by Sharen Breyer. The motion was carried by voice vote.



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Old Business

None

Next Meeting

- The next meeting is scheduled for May 22nd at 8:30 AM at the SECC

Adjournment

Pam Williams motioned to adjourn the meeting with Sam Rubens as the second.
All in favor: None opposed.