

Pima County
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
Regular Quarterly Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2010
Pima County Emergency Operations Center

The meeting of the Pima County LEPC was called to order at 0900 hours by Chairman Dan Johnston.

Roll call was taken and the following members were in attendance:

Harlan Agnew	Pima County Attorney's Office
Sgt. Steve Johnson	Town of Marana
Dan Johnston	Veteran's Administration
Reland Kane	Tucson Electric Power Company - Excused
Chief Randy Karrer	Drexel Heights Fire District
David Lenox	Pima County OEM & HS
Randy Ortlinghaus	Southwest Gas Company - Excused
Steve Holland	University of Arizona
John Wisner	Pima County OEM & HS
Tony Smith	Western Refining
Don Poage	Pima County Region HazMat Team
Kenneth Drozd	National Weather Service
Scott Porter	Pima County DEQ
Chris Pendleton	Pima County Citizen
Todd Perry	Arizona DEQ
Paul Kramkowski	Raytheon
Joe Bridges	Davis-Monthan Air Force – Excused

The following guests introduced themselves to the members:

Adam Fairman	CTI
Edward Diaz	Pima County Information Technology
Scott Laird	Rincon Valley Fire Department
Mike Ardito	U.S. EPA Region 9
Frank Rando	Citizen

The minutes from the October 14, 2009 Regular Quarterly Meeting were approved by the membership on a motion from Don Poage and seconded by Tony Smith.

Chairman Johnston called for the elections of the Pima County LEPC.

Chairman Johnston first asked for nominations from the floor...Don Poage was nominated to serve as Chairman. On a motion a motion by Randy Karrer and seconded by Steve Holland, all nominations for Chairman was closed.

Next Chairman Johnston asked for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman...Randy Karrer was nominated. On a motion by Tony Smith and seconded by Steve Holland, nominations were closed.

Chairman Johnston asked for a vote from the membership to elect Don Poage Chairman and Randy Karrer Vice-Chairman. The vote passed. Don Johnston afforded the Chairman's seat to Don Poage.

John Wisner presented Certificates of Appreciation to two guests and one member. These certificates were for their assistance in helping the LEPC to grow in the past year. The following people were presented with certificates: Edward Diaz with the Pima County Information Technology for his help in revitalizing and maintaining the web page; Mike Ardito with the U.S. EPA Region 9 for his help to keep the LEPC informed of changes and for providing information for the 2009 Fall Education Seminar; the last certificate of appreciation went to Dan Johnston for stepping up and being the LEPC Chairman.

Funding Committee Report: John Wisner informed the LEPC that he has received a confirmation letter authorizing the LEPC to spend the requested funds requested from the Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) Grant - \$14,417.00. The next step is to get the county to give us the cost center codes so that we can spend this allocation.

He also gave a run down of the items that the LEPC can buy and what they can not buy with the grant money. John asked the membership if some of the money can be spent to purchase a digital camera. The camera would be used to document outreach, training and exercises. Other uses for the camera would be taking pictures of Hazmat Equipment, specifically equipment that was purchased by Emergency Response Funds (ERF). Since the county has to account for the equipment purchased, this would be one way of documenting the purchase and assignment.

On a motion by Dan Johnston and second by Randy Karrer, the membership approved the purchase of a Digital Camera.

Dave Lenox informed the membership that the HMEP Funds could also be used to purchase a computer. His idea was to have a computer like a HP Toughbook, with the Tier II and Facility Plans on it. The computer could also have Cameo and other related software to create hazardous materials plumes and to record other important information. Dave also said that this computer could also be used in the EOC at the Hazmat position, when the computer was not needed in the field.

John Wisner injected that the computer would have to use for planning in order to qualify for funding. John indicated that he would get more information on the purchase of a computer for the next meeting.

Report on Grants: John Wisner reported that he had received notice that money has been set aside for the ERF Grant requests. AZSERC, as of yesterday, had not been given the green light to spend this money. John reported that this money for equipment may go away before getting permission to be spent. John told the membership that he has requests from the 3 Hazmat Teams in hand. Upon written notice from Mark Howard at AZSERC, he will order the equipment.

Membership Subcommittee Report: John Wisner gave Randy Ortlinghaus' report ...he was home in bed with the Flu. Chairman Ortlinghaus, through John Wisner, submitted the name of Adam Fairman representing CTI Trucking Company to become a member. Randy had reported through John that we have very few representatives from the trucking industry and that Adam would be asset to the LEPC. He is the Safety Coordinator with the company and was present. Chairman Poage asked Mr. Fairman to introduce himself to the members and communicate his desire to become a member. Upon completion of his introduction, Mr. Fairman was voted into membership after a motion by Randy Karrer and seconded by Chris Pendleton.

Randy indicated through John that he needed to speak to Citizen Mr. Frank Rando, regarding his membership. Randy will have a complete report at the April meeting.

Public Readiness Outreach Subcommittee: Committee Chairman Don Poage reported that this committee met briefly prior to and during the Fall Educational Seminar. Chairman Poage indicated that this committee has come up with some ideas to distribute information to the public regarding hazardous materials preparedness.

Todd Perry, a committee member, indicated that he felt that his office could distribute brochures on the LEPC and on HazMat Safety. John Wisner indicated that money was approved to either purchase or develops and print brochures. Don will be looking into future events that the LEPC can be involved in to help spread HazMat Safety.

Membership Attendance: Some discussion ensued regarding membership attendance. John Wisner indicated that he has a record of 2009 attendance, but not with him today. John said that he will send his report out for the membership to view.

Fall Seminar: John Wisner reported the following information:

- The Seminar was held at the Desert Diamond Casino on Old Nogales Highway
- Over 70 people were in attendance; most were owners/operators of businesses with hazardous materials, only 4 fire fighters were in attendance and most of the LEPC membership associated with a business was present.
- Topics include: EPCRA elements and reporting criteria, RCRA reporting requirements, what an EPA Audit includes, Chemical Facilities Anti-Terrorism Standard, Chemical Safety Board's top causes of HazMat Releases, DOT regulations vs. EPCRA requirements, & how to report Tier II and Facility Emergency Plans electronically.
- The electronic registration worked very well.
- Many of the participants were pleased with the information provided...many have said that they will attend next the next seminar and offered many topics for discussion.
- Perhaps if we decide to hold another seminar, we do so in November instead of December.
- John passed around copies of the summary from the evaluations forms.

Guest Speaker: Mike Ardito with U.S. EPA Region 9 handed out a flyer and spoke to the changes that were going on at EPA.

- He thanked the membership for his certificate and offered assistance to the LEPC,
- Mike talked about the new Administrator for EPA and some of new activities;
- Mike spoke about the NASTTPO Conference in California in May;
- He informed the membership of the new EPA Emergency Management Web Site - www.epa.gov/oem;
- Mike spoke to the Toxic Inventory Reports and how they affected the communities;
 - 274 facilities reported for 2008
 - 95.2 million pounds of toxic chemical releases
 - 87% is attributed to mining or primary metal facilities
 - Top 5 are: copper, zinc, lead, barium, and manganese
 - Arizona data for 2008 is available on www.epa.gov/tri
- Mike told the membership that EPA had a competitive grant available for Air Toxic Issues.
 - CARE Grant – Community Action for a Renewed Environment
 - Information was available on the EPA web site;
- Mike talked about the Oil Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Rule is scheduled to be effective January 14, 2010 – could be delayed;
 - This Rule will amend certain requirements for Spill Prevention, Control, and countermeasures. This new rule reflects certain removal of provisions for farms & oil production facilities;
- Mike also explained to the membership how EPA was working with the AzWANN Project.
 - He explained the Water Emergency Response Team;

Staff Report: John Wisner gave an overview of the items that he has been working on for the PCLEPC.

- Dave Lenox and John Wisner attended the AZSERC Meeting and the HMEP Workshop at ADEM in Phoenix on January 12th.
 - The workshop provided an overview of what we could and could not spend the HMEP Money on;
 - Arizona State Statute spells out the requirements of the LEPCs and membership
 - APEX Training is a requirement for LEPC Members
 - All membership forms were approved by AZSERC, including the ones with only affiliation changes
 - AZSERC received a report from a Task Group that was formed to look into Senate Bill 1112 – Toxic Fire Response Bill

- A copy of this Senate Bill will be posted to our web site for members to read
 - John has requested a copy of the Final Recommendations
 - Will try to schedule the chairperson for this Task Group to speak to the LEPC on this topic at next meeting;
- All required reports to AZSERC have been completed and turned in on time.
 - This includes our request for a share of the HMEP Grant funds.
 - Brought letter from AZSERC Meeting on January 12th confirming our request had been approved;
- Still have certificates from the APEX Training back in April 2009;
 - Would like to schedule a course for Pima County in October 2010;
- Our HazMat plan has been returned from the contractor;
 - A workshop has been scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2010 from 1300 to 1700 to review the plan;
 - Each member and response agency will get a CD with the entire plan;
 - The plan will be sent to the County Attorney before going to the Board of Supervisors;
- John reported important topics from attending the Mid-Year Conference for NASTTPO on October 20 through 22 in Las Vegas;
 - John created a report of the speakers and the topics with information from each topic;
 - The last day of the conference was devoted to EPA Headquarters and Region 9 to up-date the attendees of the activities;
 - The Annual Conference will be held in Pismo Beach, California in May 2010...details on the NASTTPO web site – a link off of our web page..
- State reported that so far this year the following Hazmat Classes have been requested:
 - 1 Awareness Course
 - 4 Operations Course
 - 3 Technician Course – 1 in Tucson
 - 3-day CAMEO Train the Trainer in Tucson in June
- Web Site Statistics – Since January 2009: 911 visits to our site;
 - Does not include County computers/e-mails visiting the site;
- John also reported the following statistics:
 - Notice of releases in the county = 16
 - Hazmat incidents reported = 3
 - Radioactive shipments reported = 7
- John continues to meet with the County Hazmat Teams, their leaders, and trainers. He continues to maintain communications between PCLEPC and the response communities and the Pima Fire Chiefs;

HazMat Team Reports:

Don Poage advised that the Pima County Regional Team was working with the City of Tucson to combine hazardous materials training and refresher training. They are making great progress and the entire program is now on line. The program is balanced out over the next 3 years (2010 through 2012). The training program includes both on-line studies and information and quarterly drills and exercises to practice required skills.

No report from Tucson Fire or Rural Metro.

Dave Lenox reported that the Hazardous Materials Response IGA with the HazMat Teams was signed by the Pima County Board of Supervisors on January 5, 2010. He will be sending out copies of the signed documents to the respective departments upon receipt of the signed copy.

SAFE HAVEN for Trucks:

Chairman Poage began this discussion by asking if anyone would be interested in serving as the Chairperson of this Task Group. After some discussion, Tony Smith agreed to take the leadership of this task group. New member Adam Fairman, Steve Johnson and Paul Kramkowski also agreed to serve on this committee. John Wisner and Dave Lenox will provide staff support.

Other items for Discussion:

Harlan Agnew asked about the disposition of the County Evacuation Plan. John Wisner reported that a plan has been created, unknown if approved by the county government leaders.

Future Agenda Items:

None were determined

Public Comment:

Chairman Poage asked for any Public Comment on any items presented, on the agenda or any PCLEPC Business...none was communicated.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 14, 2010 – 9:00 a.m.

Pima County Emergency Operations Center

NOTE: Additional agenda items for the April Meeting will need to be to John Wisner by April 2, 2010.

On a motion by Randy Karrer and seconded by Steve Johnson to adjourn the meeting, the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

To our guests: If you want to become a member of the LEPC, you will need to submit a letter requesting to join the LEPC and a brief resume. Both the letter and resume goes to Randy Ortlinghaus at Southwest Gas (P.O. Box 26500, Tucson, Arizona 85726 or randy.ortlinghaus@swgas.com).