

LaSalle County Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2016

Attendees:

Bethanie Albrecht – LaSalle County Health Dept.
Connie Brooks – LaSalle Co. Emergency Management
Brian Marcinkus – Flint Hills Resources
Randy Freeman – IDOT/LaSalle County Board
Nick Fish – IL Valley Community Hospital
Matt Stafford – LaSalle County Environ. Svcs. & Land Use

Mark Gebhardt – American Red Cross
Michelle Kohr - Sabic
Fred Moore – LaSalle Co. Emergency Management
Jeff Arthurs – IL Valley Community Hospital
Bernie Anderson – Nicor

The meeting was called to order at 10:30am.

Old Business:

January 6, 2016 meeting minutes were reviewed - Motion made by Randy Freeman to approve as presented; second by Brian Marcinkus, all ayes, motion carried.

Tier II Report: 152 Reporter for 2015 including 302 (EHS Facilities) with over 1,100 chemicals reported in LaSalle County.

Spill reports were received and information disseminated as follows:

January 22, 2016 CSX Rail reported an approximate 50 gallons of grease by the Fox River; ground was frozen so nothing penetrated the soil; Sunpro contractor hired for clean-up and remediation

o FOIA requests received last quarter.

FFY2016 HMEP Grant Update – USDOT has changed the grant in several ways for FY2016; three (3) year grant application and if an LEPC doesn't apply in 2016, the won't be eligible to apply until 2019; grant announcement came out March 24th and application deadline is today, April 20th; there are three (3) grant planning priorities: 1-Maintain Certified LEPC and an updated Hazardous Materials Transportation Emergency Response Plan; 2-Conduct Hazardous Materials Transportation Exercise; 3-Conduct Commodity Flow Study; priorities #2 & #3 have to be accomplished on a multi-county level or with multiple LEPCs that serve no less than 500,000; 20% hard match required this year where it's been optional before; we wrote the FY2016 grant for maintaining a certified LEPC and updating our Hazardous Materials Transportation plans utilizing 5% of staff time for completion as the 20% hard match. The committee questioned how the current IL budget impasse would impact the grant and that continues to be unknown. Jeff Arthurs asked if the LEPC could make a recommendation to the Public Safety II Committee to have the County Board present a resolution similar to the recent LIHEAP resolution urging IL lawmakers to release Federal HMEP and the general consensus was that it couldn't hurt; Fred Moore made the motion for the LEPC to recommend to the Public Safety II Committee of the County Board to pass a resolution to State Legislators for the release of FY16 HMEP grant funds; all ayes, motion passed.

Plant/Pipeline Updates:

Brian Mueller @ Mid American Pipeline Not present, but emailed his report to the LEPC Secretary: No recordables and no environmental issues to report; their company plans on having a representative at the Great Lakes Basin Rail meeting coming up in Belvidere because if this rail project receives approval, it will cross their pipeline in LaSalle County.

Michelle Kohr @ Sabic No environmental issues; No lost time accidents; 89 days without an OSHA recordable

Brian Marcinkus @ Flint Hills Resources No environmental or production issues to report; personal safety continues to be an issue with 2 OSHA recordable related to employees walking, 1 with pant legs that were too long

Bernie Anderson @ Nicor Continuing upgrade process as part of Invest in IL; cost approx. \$230million/year which is good for economy because they're hiring employees

New Business:

Shelli Ocepek from United Way of Eastern LaSalle County gave a presentation on 2-1-1 in LaSalle County; indicated that a future Town Hall meeting would take place and that everyone is encouraged to attend for a show of support for 2-1-1

LEPC Business Plan: A "draft" cover letter and invoice for companies was presented and discussed; the decision was made to remove the work "donation" on the cover letter. It was also decided by the Committee to send this out as is and see what comes back by next LEPC meeting and re-evaluate as needed.

LEPC Vice-Chairman Election: Mark Gebhardt was nominated for election by Fred Moore and seconded by Bethanie Albrecht; all ayes, motion carried. Mr. Gebhardt will fill the term of Vice Chairman vacated by the retirement of Bruce Hucker for the remainder of his term which will end January 2017.

Miscellaneous: Randy Freeman mentioned that he recently attended a pipeline seminar at Senica's Oak Ridge and it was very worthwhile and recommended to others; Connie indicated that these seminars are usually offered both Spring and Fall locally.

Connie asked that members of the LEPC sign a retirement card for Bruce Hucker who has moved to Iowa.

Connie briefly discussed and passed around information from the Winnebago County LEPC conference that she attended last week in Rockford.

Public Comment:

No members of the general public in attendance

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bernie Anderson; second by Brian Marcinkus; motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.

Next meeting is July 6, 2016 at 10:30am, same location.

Submitted by,



Connie Brooks, LEPC Secretary
LaSalle County EMA Director