

# LEPC MEETING MINUTES

*March 20, 2002*

Rich Szczepanek called the meeting to order at 10:07a.m.

**Members in Attendance:** Al Federico, Jim Hancock, Paul Hascher, Sergeant Lee Hoeksema, Mike Galleger for George Keefe, Sindee Maxwell, Randy Mergener, Dale Myaard, Chief Jerry Paauwe, Susan Paauwe, Chris Pfeiffer, Diane Phillips, Susan Ream, Myra Reimink, Bonnie Schuitema, Bill Smith, Chief Rich Szczepanek, Rick Velderman.

**Members Excused:** Willie Beattie, John Crozier, David Dongvillo, John Edwards, Eric Klingensmith,  
Sen. William VanRegenmorter, Cornelius VanderKam.

**Members Unexcused:** Michael Averill, Mark Bethke, Scott Braak, Capt. Dave Guikema, Pete Jazdyk, John McDonnell, Anne McManus, Earl Mokma, Chuck Pistis, Doyle Stratton, Lewis Wiedewitsch, Paul Ziegler.

**Guests:** Darwin Baas, Chief Dan Henderson, Holland Fire Dept. Dean Blouser, Haz-Mat.

**1/16/2001 Minutes** Jim Hancock made the motion to approve the minutes, Randy Mergener seconded it and the motion passed.

**Handouts:** Evaluation of the All Hazards Planning Workshop, Nics News, Zeeland CAER Meeting Minutes, Community Right-to-Know Manual.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Executive Subcommittee** (Rich Szczepanek)

April 25th the Executive committee will meet to discuss future goals for the LEPC.

**Planning Subcommittee** (Jim Hancock)

The following plan was reviewed and approved:

- Harbor Deburring & Refinishing

The motion was made to accept the plan by Chris Pfeiffer; it was seconded and passed.

**Public Information Subcommittee** (Randy Mergener)

The Public Information Subcommittee met on the 25th of January with the Emergency Response Subcommittee. A "wish list" was developed during this meeting and was distributed to the LEPC. It was noted that the goals & objectives of both committees were similar and the meeting proved to be more effective when combining the two committee's together.

**Business/Industrial Outreach Subcommittee** (Willie Beattie)

The CAER group meeting minutes were distributed. The direction, determined by the committee, for this year is to develop a mission statement and set goals. The Committee will meet tomorrow at noon at the community center. The LEPC is invited.

**LEPC Conference Subcommittee** (Dianne Phillips)

The overall evaluation for the conference, on a scale of 1 to 10, was 8.666. Had a real good turnout. There was a great cross section of people represented at the conference. Bill stated that this has been the best overall conference we have hosted thus far. One of the strongest groups participating came from the special needs groups. We are reaching the audience we targeted. It

was suggested that a sample plan for Day Care Centers be developed using a fill in the blank type plan. Every one of the speakers offered their services and made themselves available for future contacts. Myra mentioned the fact that it would be helpful to find or develop simple plans as samples and to provide some direction. It was suggested that the next time we do a conference we have a combination of tables/chairs, with chairs only, at the back of the room in order to accommodate more people.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Tulip Time:** An application for participation in the Tulip Time parade has been sent in. The parade will be held May 11th.

**Emergency Tubes:** Have been updated, moisture proofed, and distributed. The Fire Department was asked to provide feedback on whether or not the plans were utilized for fires.

**NOAA Weather Radios:** 280 NOAA Radios have been ordered. Letters, regarding training, will go out this week. Training sessions will take place on March 29th or April 4th.

**Sirens** – There are 45 sirens county wide, with 5 more just approved for Spring Lake. Over half of the sirens will be 2 way. The system will allow the activation of a single siren without involving the entire system. 15 sirens will be updated for 2-way capability; this is being funded by Project Impact. Each jurisdiction has developed a 5-year plan to update their sirens. The ultimate goal is to have all sirens 2- way in 3 to 5 years. There are mitigation grants and monies available to update and install new sirens. The majority of jurisdictions have submitted mitigation requests.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Haz-Mat Response:** A letter was sent to the Ottawa County Administrator regarding the Haz-Mat proposal with no response. The committee that met to fill out all paperwork has met again and has begun to look at spending that money. The consensus has been that while we don't have a lot of WMD threat they will start procuring equipment that will let departments operate at the level they are trained to operate. There were 20 out of 21 Ottawa County Departments present at the last Fire Chiefs meeting with everyone's commitment to develop a Hazardous Materials Team. Chief Dan Henderson Chief Jerry Paauwe and Chief Rich Szczepanek, with Bills assistance, will meet to determine the parameters of the Hazardous Materials Team. Bill stated that we are currently at the operations level but will need technician training along with those upgraded to a specialist level. We are 2 to 2 ½ years from there. It was determined that we will need 25 people to be trained to the specialist level and 50 trained to the technician level in order to mitigate the problem that we have. The Departments agreed that they would need to supply manpower. The question was posed could we go to industry for help? Bill answered absolutely! Industry can help with a donation for equipment and training. Dean Blouser said that he could do all the training and has experience, adding that he has trained all Fire Departments in Grand Rapids. Attention was brought to the fact that hospitals will also need training so they are prepared to handle victims. Fire Chiefs will take the lead role, with a committee from the hospitals, business & industry and the LEPC. Written documentation will be presented to the Fire Departments and to LEPC. The Haz Mat Team has been looking for one time donations, training equipment, donations, etc. Chris asked if there was a way Pfizer could lead in a goal to procure money from industry. The official statement from the county is that they will take the lead to secure funds from Industry. It was noted that Pfizer could act as a primary supporter, pulling other industry in. Chris said he needs something tangible to present to his company. One of the main concerns expressed was that funds need to be generated in order to pay for the training. We will need business and industries involvement to offer their facilities for onsite training to keep team current.

**Emergency Management Conference 2002:** May 16 – 17, Novi Hilton, Novi, Michigan

**Michigan Homeland Security Conference:** April 1 – 3, Kellogg Center MSU Campus, East Lansing

## TRAINING

Dean Blouser from Haz-Com Solutions presented a video explaining the software available through Haz Com. Bill stated that the software is very user friendly and the proposal is real reasonable. He stated that all Emergency Response equipment is put on software. Project Impact funds will be able to put 74 of the sites available on disks. Dean The request to purchase this software will go to the board first, would also like funds from business and industry. Fire and Emergency response will have copies. Disc could be loaded on any laptop. Dean said that he has helped Holland Township with 10 of their sites. The question of whether this CD would be acceptable to MIOSHA was posed? Dean answered that it would, perhaps, if he added further information.

## NEXT MEETING

The next LEPC meeting will be on Wednesday, May 15th at Pfizer.