

LEPC MEETING MINUTES
January 15, 2003

Rich Szczepanek called the meeting to order at 10:10 A.M.

Members in Attendance: Darwin Baas, John Crozier, Al Federico, Jack Hankiewicz, Paul Hascher, Dr. Paul Heidel, Chief Dan Henderson, Mary Kleinheksel, Eric Klingensmith, Sindee Maxwell, Randy Mergener, Dale Myaard, Chris Pfeiffer, Dianne Phillips, Myra Reimink, Bonnie Schuitema, Chief Rich Szczepanek, Jim Szejda, Steve Vander Hill, Jeff VanderWerff (attending for Mark VanderWerff), Cornelius VanderKam, Rick Velderman, Paul Ziegler.

Members Excused: Willie Beattie, John Edwards, Jim Hancock, George Keefe, Lt. Steve Kempker, John McDonnell, Earl Mokma, Susan Paauwe, Bill Smith, Jeff Trosper, Mark VanderWerff, Sen. William VanRegenmorter.

Members Unexcused: Michael Averill, Scott Braak, Capt. Dave Guikema, Anne McManus, Chuck Pistis, Doyle Stratton.

New Members Introduced:

Guests Present: Anne Latini, American Red Cross; Kathy Mitchell, Holland Community Hospital; Vito Palazzolo, Ottawa Co. Health Dept.

November 20, 2002 Minutes: Bonnie Schuitema made the motion to approve the minutes; Myra Reimink seconded it and the motion passed.

Handouts:

Community Right to Know Bulletins
2003 LEPC Meeting Dates

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Subcommittee: (Rich Szczepanek)

- Dianne encouraged LEPC members to distribute the LEPC meeting date sheets to wherever they feel others might be interested.

Planning Subcommittee: (Jim Hancock)

- No new plans needed to be reviewed
- Since 1996, \$27,777.19 has been collected with the HMEP grant because of the work of the LEPC.

Public Relations & Promotions Subcommittee: (Randy Mergener)

- A promotion announcement for the March 20, 2003, LEPC Conference will be put together by Randy Mergener and Sindee Maxwell.

- A Notice of Public Review of the LEPC needs to be written for publication. Randy Mergener will be in charge of this.
- Bonnie Schuitema stated that Zeeland Community Hospital will be part of “Day of the Young Child” on April 26, 2003, and that maybe the LEPC would like to be represented there. It was discussed that it might be a nice to have the Haz-Mat Team do a demonstration, such as a “wash-down” for the kids. Also, Bonnie is looking for volunteers to staff this event. May contact Dawn Larson at ECC in Zeeland for more info.

Outreach Subcommittee: (Darwin Baas)

- Darwin Baas has agreed to chair this committee.
- The Emergency Management office is working on a local church database to use for various events. Sindee Maxwell offered to send a copy of the Red Cross church database for this purpose.

Training & Exercise Subcommittee: (Paul Hascher)

- The LEPC Conference on March 20, 2003, was discussed. It will be held in the Main Conference Room, Fillmore Road, from 8:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M. The following topics will be covered: Team Building, Incident Command, Bomb Threats and Terrorism, Hazardous Materials, and Shelter In Place/Evacuations. The goal is to invite churches and special needs groups to this conference and assist them in learning how to set up emergency plans. There will be room for displays to be set up along the walls of the conference room.

OLD BUSINESS

Haz-Mat Team Update: (Rich Szczepanek)

- Training for the Haz-Mat team is complete.
- Most of the equipment from the first grant monies and from donations has arrived. More equipment is being ordered and paid for by grants from places such as Pfizer and Mirant.
- New equipment for the truck is being installed.

Haz-Mat Team Update (con't.):

- On January 17, 2003, bids are due for additional equipment for the team in the amount of approximately \$109,000. These bids will be discussed and decisions made next week.
- NOCH might be willing to donate an ambulance to the Haz-Mat Team. The ambulance will possibly be used as a command vehicle.
- There is a need to formally organize the Haz-Mat Team and also train another team in the spring. There will hopefully be a meeting with heads of county to assist in this matter.
- Plans for the full-scale exercise at Grand Haven High School on March 24, 2003, were discussed. The exercise will take place at 3:00 P.M. and will include a chemistry spill and will possibly include WMD. There will be a need for approximately 275 volunteers for this exercise.
- Dianne gave some details on the Emergency Tube Workshop, which will take place on January 30, 2003, at the St. Joseph’s church, in Conklin, from 9:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M. There will be displays, a video explaining emergency tubes, and a demonstration on how to put together an emergency tube. The workshop is free and will also include lunch. Please call phone number (616) 846-8770 ext. 5, or (616) 677-3048 to register. Please note that registration must be done by January 17th.

NEW BUSINESS

- Zeeland CAER has a meeting on Thursday, January 16, at 12:00 P.M., in the Herman Miller Library in Zeeland. Bonnie Schuitema will chair the meeting.
- Myra Reimink asked for assistance in locating 55-gallon white (not clear) trash bags for a personal decontamination kit that Holland Hospital is putting together. The kit would include the

white trash bags, (2 of them per kit), a 1 quart Ziploc block for personal effects such as wallets, etc., surgical booties, and a 1 gallon Ziploc bag to hold the contents of the kit. If anyone has any ideas in locating 55-gallon white garbage bags, please contact Myra. (She is in need of approximately 500 bags.)

- Jeff VanderWerff from Royster-Clark stated that their company had had 100 gallons of anhydrous ammonia stolen from empty nurse tanks at their facility, and warned others who had outside tanks to be aware of this danger as well. Anhydrous ammonia is used to manufacture methamphetamines.
- Sinee Maxwell said that on March 8, 2003, from 9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M., there will be free CPR adult training provided by the American Red Cross at the following locations: Georgetown Township, Donnelly Corp., and White Pines School. To register, call 396-6545. Registration is open to the first 40 people to register.
- On January 25, 2003, at 11:00 A.M., at the Otsego Fire Dept., the Allegan City Fire Dept. will set up their decontamination tent.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting date is March 19, 2003, at the Fillmore Street Complex, Emergency Management Office.

TRAINING

Steve VanderHill, from the American Red Cross, presented an informative video showing a hospital in Israel performing a full-scale exercise on chemical warfare and decontamination/treatment of victims.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:25 A.M.