



Stark County Board of Commissioners Local Emergency Planning Committee

4500 Atlantic Blvd. NE (LL) - Canton, OH 44705

Phone: 330-451-3907 Fax: 330-451-3934

24-Hour Release: 330-451-3911

MEETING MINUTES		
Meeting Type: Quarterly LEPC Meeting Date: 1/31/2024		Chairperson: Tom Burgasser Meeting Time: 8:15 AM
TOPIC/SPEAKER	DISCUSSIONS, PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED, CONCLUSIONS, & RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION TAKEN/FOLLOW-UP/ MOTION
Call Meeting to Order	Meeting called to order by Tom Burgasser at 8:15 AM.	None.
Approval of Minutes	Motion to approve minutes from October. Motion by Tim Warstler. Seconded by CJ Stantz. Minutes approved.	Motion by: Tim Warstler Seconded by: CJ Stantz Motion Approved.
Financial Report	Bob Pattison went over the financial report for the LEPC. The current balance is \$172,976.12. Motion to approve the financial status for the LEPC. Motion made by Tim Warstler. Seconded by Tim Reichel. Second motion to approve the 2024 budget for the LEPC made by Patty McConnell. Seconded by Derrick Loy.	Motion by: Tim Warstler Seconded by: Tim Reichel Motion Approved. Motion by: Patty McConnell Seconded by: Derrick Loy Motion Approved.
Business: Executive Board Report	Tom Burgasser discussed holding the quarterly meetings somewhere other than here. He mentioned the Hazmat building, as well as the previous experiences we've had at Marathon and other facilities.	
Information Coordinator Report	David Schmidt reported that the LEPC Grant application will be submitted to the SERC today. There have been 35 Tier II reports received already, 100% of those received have been electronic. There were 27 reported spills to the LEPC in 2023, most of these in the front half of the year. David is currently working on the annual report for the LEPC. In May, there is an exercise that Matt Sweeney is coordinating at the Akron Canton Airport. The LEPC will work to participate and use this as credit for the LEPC's annually required exercise.	
Emergency Coordinator Report	Tim Warstler reported on the rough staffing within the office. The eclipse is starting to get some really good traction within the county. There are about 10 events going on around this. The traffic is expected to be significant. There is a very wide estimate for how many people will be in the county for the day. Hotels in Stark County are considered to be 72% booked for the day. The fairgrounds have officially announced they'll be open for it as well with rides and carnival events for 5 days. There are some 911 changes for the EMA coming due to ORC changes.	

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Affiliated Agencies	Tim Reichel gave a shout out to Canton Fire because there was a multi building fire that the American Red Cross was at a level 1 disaster response. In April and May there is a sound the alarm event going on with Canton Twp and Jackson Twp. They will go to predesignated neighborhoods to make sure alarms are working. Marathon is also looking to be a helping hand in this project. The Red Cross opened a new center through a new partnership with the YMCA. Marty Bowe reported that most of the schools have already canceled school for the day of the eclipse and he projects that all of the schools will be off for it. Wade Balser reported that there were 10 reports to the Ohio EPA over the last three months. The airport had a glycol release that got into a water way, but was contained by dam in the creek. Chief Heck and Hunt had nothing to report on fire. Kai Rieger reported that there were 26 calls to the Hazmat team in 2023. Most of these are just consultation calls. The team lost three personnel, but added 11. Huge growth of new personnel on the team. They are currently planning for 2024 trainings and working to get Hazmat Technician training for some of the new members. Patty McConnell reported that Amanda Archer is the new health director in Canton. Jim's last day was last week. Several warming shelters were opened over the winter thus far and were used. There's a permanent location identified at the Crossroads Methodist Church as an overnight shelter automatically when temperatures reach certain points. SARTA works with the overnight shelters/warming centers to take people there as well. Kirk Norris reported on the hospitalizations within the county. The flu is considered mild this year. A Health Unit was donated to Stark County for overdose drug prevention due to grant funding, but now can be used however. Nothing to report for the hospitals, and nothing to report for industry in Stark county. Major Stantz wanted to remind everyone about how unpredictable the weather in Ohio can be, even with as mild of a winter as this has been. Staffing wise, law enforcement is projecting a busy eclipse, with late notice. Nothing to report from Ohio EMA. Tim mentioned that they want to do a reunification workshop with the school superintendents. Steve Gronow reported on similar fashion to Major Stantz to be aware of the roads and ice.	

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Commissioner's Comments	Commissioner Regula reported on the jail project. It's gone from \$65 million up to approximately \$100 million in a very short period. The pledge to the taxpayer's is that there will be no new taxes, and the goal is to keep it that way. Working on a renovation ongoing at the prosecutor's office. Once the coroner's office is complete and it could be a real opportunity for hosting the LEPC meetings as well. The county is doing well financially. A housing study is being completed within the county as well. Talking to developer's and businesses to determine the needs for housing in the county.	
Public Comments	Whitney Reinhart reported that there are first responder grants from Marathon being offered. This can be used for training and equipment, and interested members just need to apply through Whitney. There is a local giving committee providing grants to local non-profit organizations in Stark County. Customer appreciation is going to be in May for first responders and community partners at the Gambrinus location. Commissioner Regula spoke about the oil discovered running under Stark County all the way up to Lake Erie that is the largest oilfield in the country. Ohio Search and Rescue received a major award for finding a retired Marine. After hours of searching, the team was able to find him within 46 minutes.	
Good of the Order	Mark Cush mentioned a member that is on the SCSC that is an expert in eclipses and has attended them all over the country for the last 40 years. There's a possibility in having him speak on March 14 th . Tim Warstler reported that Jackson Twp is getting communication towers. Walsh is getting radios. Hazmat received \$150-160k and the Coroner's office received \$50k as well. These	
Next Meeting	Wednesday, April 24 th at 8:15 a.m. in the EOC.	
Adjournment	Tom Burgasser asked for a motion from the floor to adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Tim Warstler. Seconded by CJ Stantz. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 AM.	Motion by: Tim Warstler Seconded by: CJ Stantz Meeting Adjourned

LEPC Chairman

Date

MEETING ATTENDANCE											
Meeting Type: Quarterly LEPC						Chairperson: Tom Burgasser					
Meeting Date: 1/31/2024						Meeting Time: 8:15 AM					
#	LEPC Members	Yes	No	Ex.	Representative	#	LEPC Members	Yes	No	Ex.	Representative
1.	Berczik, Timothy		X			18.	Norris, Kirk	X			
2.	Bowe, Marty	X				19.	Pattison, Robert	X			
3.	Burgasser, Tom	X				20.	Plastow, Al	X			
4.	Clark, Gregory		X			21.	Podlogar, Dan		X		
5.	Dugan, Anthony	X				22.	Regula, Richard (Comm.)	X			
6.	Gronow, Steve	X				23.	Reichel, Tim	X			
7.	Heck, Matt	X				24.	Rieger, Kai	X			
8.	Heck, Ted		X			25.	Schmidt, David	X			
9.	Henderson, Steve	X				26.	Schneider, Anthony	X			
10.	Hunt, Jason	X				27.	Stantz Jr., Charles (Major)	X			
11.	Jackson, Steve		X			28.	Vergis, John			X	
12.	Lantz, Scott	X				29.	Warstler, Tim (CEM)	X			
13.	Loy, Derrick	X				30.	Wilcox, Lance			X	
14.	Maier, George (Sheriff)		X			31.	Wood, Douglas	X			
15.	McConnell, Patty	X									
16.	Murdoch, Arthur R. (Ph.D.)		X								
17.	Newsome, Gregory		X								

#	Guest Name	Agency/Company	#	Guest Name	Agency/Company
1.	Wade Balser	Ohio EPA	11.		
2.	Whitney Reinhart	Marathon	12.		
3.	Mark Cush	Young Truck Sales	13.		
4.			14.		
5.			15.		
6.			16.		
7.			17.		
8.			18.		
9.			19.		
10.			20.		