

**LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE  
MASON COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 18, 2021**

Emergency Management Coordinator Liz Reimink called the LEPC meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. in the lower-level Conference Room of the Mason County Airport & via TEAMS. Committee members in attendance were: Joe Stickney, John O'Connor, Shannon Stickney, Steve Ruba, Janet Vyse-Staszak, Andrew Velky, Mary Samuels, Kathy Winczewski, Melissa Alvarado, and Elizabeth Reimink. Derrek Wilson (Ludington, MI), Timothy Kozal (Ludington), Karen Ripke (on the road), Kathleen Rodell (Fountain), Orville Theaker (Gaines Township), Kate Carrigan (Milford), Holli Werner (Big Rapids), Jeffrey Nawrot (Wyoming, MI) attended virtually. The committee meeting was hosted virtually and in-person to accommodate CoVID-19 restrictions.

Motion to approve the agenda for the May 18th, 2021 meeting and the minutes from the February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting by J. Vyse-Staszak supported by J. Stickney. Motion carried.

**Notifications/Correspondence Received:** L. Reimink updated the committee on a report oil sheen on Pere Marquette Lake. Nothing was discovered and no notification to NRC was made. A CodeRED notification was issued about the Arbore Farm in Oceana County that had a leakage of temporary impoundment release into Freeman Creek. EGLE was addressing the release.

**HMEP Grant Updates:** Mason County Board of Commissioners approved adding 90 additional hours to the Emergency Management Assistant position to complete the plan updates and other LEPC projects. Updates will be completed by September.

**Hazard Mitigation Updates:**

- a. The Plan is available on the Mason County website under the Emergency Management page.
  - b. Planning Grant Application Update –No update from FEMA on the planning grant.
- L. Reimink updated the committee that there were no updates to the grant application and encouraged committee members to share any mitigation efforts that occurred since the last meeting.

**CodeRED Update:** Mason County renewed the CodeRED contract for 3 years. The State of Michigan has purchased a system for the IPAWS component of CodeRED, we may receive an added benefit of discount once the State open up this service to locals. Beach Safety texts will resume at the end of May for the upcoming summer season. The second keyword will be utilized by the Chamber of Commerce for the Ludington Offshore Classic. In return for use of the system, they have printed up promotional materials. CodeRED and beach safety pamphlets have also been distributed to a number of local businesses. L. Reimink shared the enrollments numbers for CodeRED.

**Welcome Packet:** L. Reimink informed the committee the Welcome Packet for the LEPC has been posted to the Mason County website. The Packet provides an overview to the LEPC's activities. Liz gave an orientation on the basics of the Emergency Operations Center ahead of next month's EOC exercise.

**HazMat Table-Top Exercise:** House of Flavors asked to do a table-top exercise with LEPC partners to simulate a hazardous materials leak. The table-top is planned for August, and LEPC partners can let L. Reimink know if they would like to participate.

**Hazard Risk & Vulnerability Assessment:** The LEPC began the process of updating the Risk and Vulnerability Assessment that would have to be updated for the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

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**Upcoming Events & Dates:** No events or trainings planned.

**Agency Updates/ Roundtable:**

Melissa Alvarado (QuickWay): They conducted facility tours for local response agencies, and expressed thanks for the participation and assistance for reviewing the emergency action plan.

Mary Samuels (Road Commission): Road Commission is in process of updating their emergency plan. They have also installed GPS in all of their trucks.

Kathy Winczewski (AFFEW/City of Ludington): Beach sweep occurring today. Continuing effort to clear invasive species at Cartier Park, events occur twice per month. Also mentioned life jacket loaner stations that Spectrum Hospital is initiating. Stations are tentatively located at Buttersville Beach Access, Stearns Beach, & Lake Michigan Recreation Access Point.

A. Velky (US Coast Guard): Coast Guard Station is open for season.

Janet Vyse- Staszak (MDHHS): MDHHS office to re-open July 12<sup>th</sup>.

Shannon Stickney (MCRFA): Mason County Rural Fire Authority members are available to give fire safety presentations.

Joe Stickney (Ludington DPW): City of Ludington placed the gate back on the breakwall for the season. Chief Kozal has the keys. Madison Street mill and fill has been completed. Preparing the beach for the summer season and influx of tourists. PM Hwy closure discussed (MDOT project) and the closure should extend into September due to a late start.

Derrek Wilson (MCSO): PM Hwy closure has altered traffic patterns and increased volume on US-10. Sheriff's office response is adding extra patrols.

Kathleen Rodell (Oakview Nursing Facility): Oakview is working on their emergency plan which is updated yearly. They are currently out of outbreak status. Those who are not fully vaccinated still need to be tested twice weekly until county #'s fall below 10% for at least 14 days. They also need CNA's. Residents are now allowed to receive visitors.

Karen Ripke (DHD#10): Things are slowing down, all 3 brands of vaccine are available. Tuesdays and Thursdays vaccines are available. Walk-ins and appointments are available. Will be hosting several additional pop-up clinics for ages 12 and up. Karen announced she will be retiring May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Orville Theaker (MSP): Last day of COVID clinics at Ford Field yesterday and Friday for Devos.

Timothy Kozal (Ludington Police Department): Gate will help keep visitors and guests off breakwater and should help. City boat is still being repaired and hoping to be in water by Memorial Day weekend.

Holli Werner (Spectrum Hospital): Winding down on vaccine clinic, but still conducting Covid testing. Slowly getting back to normal activities.

Liz Reimink (Emergency Management): Water safety exercise planned for Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. Followed by lunch at Sandcastles Museum to look at new water safety exhibit. Office is also planning on starting video podcasts for increased training opportunities.

**Any Other Business:** No other business was reported.

**Adjournment:** 4:36 pm.

**Next Meeting May 18, 2021.**