

**LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
MASON COUNTY, MICHIGAN
MEETING MINUTES
August 09, 2022**

Emergency Management Coordinator Liz Reimink called the LEPC meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the lower level conference room in the Sheriff's Office. Committee members in attendance were: Liz Reimink, Cayla Sanders, Kathy Winczewski, Fabian Knizacky, Tim Kozal, Carlene Zielinski, Zack Vanderwall, Bret Haner, Seth Hopkins, John O'Connor, Mary Samuels, Barbara Wood, Jannice Lamm, Jon Miller, Kathy Kenyon.

Public hearing on Hazard Mitigation Plan: Draft plan will be done August 2023

WMSRDC Staff, Stefan Carlson gave opening remarks about hazard mitigation and moved on to invite comments regarding community hazards in terms of location and vulnerable populations.

Comments received:

- Mason Lake Conservation District representative noted a road-stream crossing inventory that can be shared for the hazard mitigation plan and may present an opportunity for collaboration.
- During recent Lake Michigan high water episode, City of Ludington municipal water intake was severely impacted, as well as other manmade structures along the shoreline. Water deaths were above average around Lake Michigan.
- Old or aging public infrastructure presents a significant risk... and also opportunity for improving resistance to natural forces
- Mason County is experiencing residential growth, which is expected to continue in the near future.
- Excessive rainfall events have impacted Mason County with increasing frequency, causing erosion and flooding. Waterfront properties are regularly impacted by flooding.
- Increasing heat is an increasing concern in Ludington, whereas it historically has not. (Cooling centers maybe needed).
- Within federal forest lands (Huron-Manistee National Forest) homeless and transient population is a concern due to difficulties for contacting/warning those populations. Approximately 50 family units are believed to be living in the forest.
- Chemical spills along roads and railroads, and near industrial operations
- Ludington Pumped Storage Facility

Public Hearing Concluded with discussion about next steps in the hazard mitigation planning process and gratitude for comment and participation in the meeting.

Motion by Kozal and seconded by Samuels to approve the agenda for the August 09, 2022 meeting and the minutes from the May 21, 2019, meeting. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Notifications/Correspondence Received: Metalworks had a tank over fill & made a report to LEPC

HMEP Grant Updates: Kate is wrapping up plans. Charter will be a new site

Hazard Mitigation Updates:

CodeRED Updates: Has been a boom in enrollments

Updated By-Law Adoption: Kathy moves Jannice 2nd to approve the update to the LEPC By-Laws. Motion Carried.

Three-Year Training & Exercise Schedule: Ludington Fire, West Michigan Community Mental Health System & House of Flavors just did trainings. CMH and House of Flavors would like to do active training in 2023. Rural Fire Departments would like water emergency exercise in 2023. Quick way will be doing an active shooter exercise in late 2022. We need to do 300 & 400 training. Pump Storage FERC exercises are necessary in 2022 and 2023.

Agency Updates:

Emergency Management: Updating THIRA.

Ludington Police Department: Having a Triathlon this weekend.

Community Mental Health: Did an incident command exercise.

Oakview: Covid still a problem

Food Club: The food club is changing their rates.

AFFEW: K. Winczewski doing beach sweeps.

City of Ludington: Doing a deer cull and voluntary gun turn in.

Road Commission: Working on road projects though out the County.

Mason County Airport: Nothing

Mason Lake Soil Conservation: Household Hazardous Waste drop off will be August 20.

DHHS: Working hybrid schedule and are still under public health emergency.

County Administrator: Office is moving to the Mason County Airport Terminal. Also there is a zoning survey being done.

Salvation Army: Very busy. Divisions are consolidating from 10 to 8. Divisional office moving from Grand Rapids to Southfield.

Zoning office: Very busy.

House of Flavors: Doing infrastructure improvements in near future. They have added confined space position.

Upcoming Dates & Events:

September 10 Emergency Management is doing a Prepare Fail Noon-3:00 pm.

August 25 there will be an active shooter exercise at local schools.

Any Other Business:

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2022.