

Local Emergency Planning Committee
Mailing address; 1121 W. Gardner. Spokane, WA 99201

Minutes

Monthly Meeting Wednesday – July 20, 2022 Time 9:00 – 10:30

LOCATION: Department of Ecology, Eastern Regional Office
4601 N. Monroe St., Spokane, WA 99205

Attendees: Tim Archer, Sharon Colby, Frank Cejka, Jason Clark, Alex Bergh, Pat Brown, Summer Warfield, Bethany Osgood, Anessa Boyer.

Welcome: Chair Tim Archer Old business:

1. Any update or progress?
 - a. Upcoming Horizontal Directional Drilling set to accelerate in Spokane Co. in 2022. Avista has serious concerns regarding the Sub-Contractors who may take shortcuts and not do the proper work to ensure they are being as safe as possible while avoiding gas lines. How can the LEPC weigh-in on this issue to ensure the contractors realize the importance and liability that comes with supervising Sub-Contractors.

Brent McDaniel from Avista sent a note from their Gas Operations & Construction manager, Craig Buchanan. He stated: “So far things are going pretty well this year. We found out that actually there will not be near the work in the Spokane area in 2022 that we anticipated. We have been meeting with TDS, Fiber Tel, and Zippy on a regular basis. This has helped us establish a relationship and has opened up many more communication lines. We anticipate the work to come to the area over the next few years, but hopefully they keep it spread out over time. This really helps us keep track of all the work being done.”

- b. In the coming months, the committee needs to revisit the proposed involvement and education within Spokane Co. of Pipeline safety, location, and possible ordinances that would require developers to know where potential hazards exist near pipelines. Then, what mitigation measures they need to take before building homes that encroach within the danger zone. This task was proposed in March of 2021 and based on a presentation by the Pipeline Safety Trust.

Gerry discussed how the LEPC needs to work with the Pipeline Safety Trust to help develop Education and resources for developers to help educate where pipelines are in relation to their developments and how they could mitigate risks. Gerry will be bringing more information and a work plan to the committee in the coming months.

Tim brought up further concerns regarding development near former landfills in the County and other hazardous waste sites that developers may not be informed about. Also, there is a concern over Lithium battery waste and recycling issues. The LEPC can look to asking the City of Spokane and Waste Management how they are recycling and disposing of this increasing battery waste issue.

Updates:

Elected Officials – Sharon Colby FD3 is continually growing due to housing and business development. They are having difficulty keeping up with building inspections at the pace of new building with limited staff to do the inspections.

State Officials – Pete Hartmann, Sean Thompson, John Geppert, Moody Harmon

Emergency Management – Gerry Bozarth: Work has begun on the Updating of the Spokane County Hazmat Plan. Sharon was concerned that the LEPC has not had any contact with the City Hazmat Team for some time. Gerry will continue to attempt to engage them and with some review of the plan once updated.

Water Resources – Tim Archer, Shane Sheppard, Kelly Williquette, Todd Henry
Tim mentioned that the well station at 6th & Havana is under repair and there is a new water tower being installed near the Airport to supply the West Plains area.

Fire Services – Tim Archer reported: Spokane Valley FD academy is graduating a class in Sept. and the City is running a recruit class now.

Hospital – Darrell Ruby

Media – Vacant

Health – Mike LaScuola

1st Aid/EMS – Bethany Osgood is our new EMS Rep. She works for Aging and Long-Term Care of Eastern WA (ALTCEW). They have developed a 1st Aid training dealing with those who are suffering from possible Dementia, Alzheimer's, or other brain diseases who may become combative and how to deescalate the situation for first responders and others. Bethany will be giving a presentation at the next COAD meeting and we will provide a link to this training in August.

Transportation – Vacant

Law Enforcement – Lt. Chuck Arnold,

Community Groups – Anessa Boyer Our new rep from ALTCEW. She is updating her agency's Disaster Plan and promoting fall prevention training. A significant percentage of EMS calls are for those who've fallen in their homes. This training could make a difference in those numbers.

Homeland Response Force (HRF), Jason Clark: Approximately 600 members participated in a validation exercise recently in Spokane to certify the HRF for deployment throughout Region 10 and beyond. The Army Guard participated with the Air Nat. Guard side and worked very well together practicing the decontamination procedures.

Facilities & Pipelines – Chris Church, Ron Dowers, Amy Smith

Phillips 66 conducting a Pipeline Spill Drill August 3-4th Gerry will be attending as the Emergency Management Rep and Jason Clark would like to see if some of military members could attend to observe. Gerry will forward this request to the Coordinator from Phillips 66.

Next Meeting

August 17, 2022

Location: Likely WA Ecology Building above.