



LEPC MEETING MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2022

Location: 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085

Call to Order:

- Meeting opened at 9:00 am by Chair Dave Vollrath.
- Robert Harrison assisted the Chair facilitate the meeting.

Roll Call of Members:

- Secretary Ashley Geuther announced a quorum to conduct business.
- Rocky Adams, Dave Albers, Mark Bilka, Frank DeLaTorre, Al DiBrito, Jack Fisher, Julius Grau, Ashley Geuther, Michael Hansen, Robert Harrison, Michael Mattix, Caitlin Sampsell, Dave Vollrath, Ralph Williams.

Presentations:

- Lisa Kuntz, Berrien Conservation District, Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) Technician presented on MAEAP Emergency Farm Plans. If you are interested and would like additional information about MAEAP process please reach out to Lisa Kuntz at lisa.kuntz@macd.org.

Approve Previous Meetings Minutes:

- A motion to approve the minutes of June 21, 2022 was made by Michael Hansen, supported by Julius Grau, and approved unanimously.

Approve Consent Calendar:

- A motion to approve the consent calendar was made by Michael Hansen, supported by Julius Grau, and approved unanimously.



Executive Subcommittee Reports:

- Chairperson Report: No report.
- Secretary Report: No report.
- Information Coordinators Report: We received 3 National Response Center incident notifications. There was an unknown sheen in St. Joe River by Berrien Springs and another unknown sheen at New Buffalo Harbor between docks 1 to 20. Another Incident was of a boat sinking at St. Joe Marina.
- Emergency Management Coordinator:
 - The Hazard Mitigation Plan public comment period has ended. There were 4000 participates and 20 commented on the plan. Overall the feedback was good. The plan is currently being reviewed by the state of Michigan then it will go to FEMA for review. In the meantime we will start engaging all of our municipalities to consider adoption of the plan. For more info: <http://berriencounty.org/1742/2020-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan-Project-Page>
 - The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Staff participated in a communications exercise with FEMA. The exercise went through a number of different outage scenarios for telecommunications and internet. We demonstrated the ability to communicate through satellite both on data and telecom side. We were also able to use a number of different amateur radio bands to transmit data as well as voice communications.

Membership Subcommittee Report:

- The LEPC received two applications for membership.
- If you won't be able to attend an LEPC meeting please send an email so you will have an excused absence.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Julius Grau stated in Kiplinger's Personal Finance writer Rivan Stinson tells us how to create a financial plan for a natural disaster.
 - <https://www.kiplinger.com/personal-finance/601658/things-you-should-have-in-your-emergency-financial-to-go-kit>
- Michael Hansen stated to be on the lookout for the invasive Asian long horned beetle and invasive Spotted lanternfly. If spotted take pictures if possible, note the location and report it to:
 - Midwest Invasive Species Information network at <https://www.misin.msu.edu/>
 - -Or- Michigan Invasive Species at <https://www.michigan.gov/invasives>

Announcements/Reminders

- Robert Harrison stated the next LEPC meeting is 11/15/2022 at 9:00 AM in the Administration Building Board Room.



Public Comment:

- Steve MCarthy from SEMCO Energy Emergency Management Division introduced SEMCO's new Emergency Manager Darcy Falkowski. Darcy works out of SEMCO's Energy Gas Company Headquarters.

Adjournment:

- Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Geuther

Secretary



LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

M2022003 - CONFIRM APPOINTMENT OF JEFF THORNTON AS AN LEPC MEMBER

SPONSORED BY: CPT ROCKEY ADAMS

MEETING DATE: AUGUST 16, 2022

Introduction

A vacancy exists in primary membership for the Local Environmental category that will expire Dec 31, 2023. LEPC bylaws state the following regarding vacancies: *“Vacancies shall be appointed by the Chair at the earliest possible time and new appointees’ names shall be sent to the MCCERCC for approval and will serve the remainder of the predecessor’s term.”*

Jeff Thornton is the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for Berrien County Health Department. The membership committee favorably recommends Jeff Thornton for appointment to the LEPC.

Resolved

The Berrien County Local Emergency Planning Committee has agreed to resolve the following:

- 1. The primary members of the LEPC confirm the Chair’s appointment of Jeff Thornton to serve as a primary member representing Local Environment group until December 31, 2023.

Certification

The above resolution is a true and accurate reflection of the committee’s decision made by majority vote on the indicated meeting date. This resolution is certified by the signature of the chairperson and secretary of the committee.

Secretary: Mrs. Ashley Geuther

Chairperson:

(Signature)

(Signature)

8/16/22

(Date)

8/16/2022

(Date)



LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

M2022002 - CONFIRM APPOINTMENT OF STACY RAYCHOWDHURY AS AN LEPC MEMBER

SPONSORED BY: CPT ROCKEY ADAMS

MEETING DATE: AUGUST 16, 2022

Introduction

A vacancy exists in primary membership for the Industry subject to SARA III and their workers category that will expire Dec 31, 2023.

LEPC bylaws state the following regarding vacancies: *“Vacancies shall be appointed by the Chair at the earliest possible time and new appointees’ names shall be sent to the MCCERCC for approval and will serve the remainder of the predecessor’s term.”*

Stacy Raychowdhury is a member of the Safety Team at Vail Rubber Works.

The membership committee favorably recommends Stacy Raychowdhury for appointment to the LEPC.

Resolved

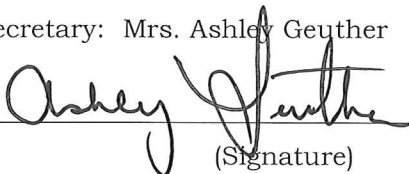
The Berrien County Local Emergency Planning Committee has agreed to resolve the following:

1. The primary members of the LEPC confirm the Chair’s appointment of Stacy Raychowdhury to serve as a primary member representing Industry subject to SARA III and their workers until December 31, 2023.

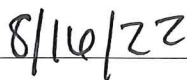
Certification

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Secretary: Mrs. Ashley Geuther




(Signature)

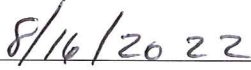


(Date)

Chairperson:



(Signature)



(Date)