



Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2023

VIA TEAMS/TELECONFERENCE

Trice Burgess, Fairfax County FMO
Vanessa Baker, Fairfax County FMO
Kristi Bartlett, Fairfax County FRD
Joseph Colein, Inova Fairfax Hospital
John Higginbotham, VDEMS
Johna Gagnon, EQAC
Richard Michelback, Fairfax County Public Schools
Eddie Murphey, PHMSA
Nathaniel Murray, Colonial Pipeline
Eric Peterson, Inova Fairfax Hospital
Cary Petrovich, Fairfax County PD
Bart Roth, SICPA
Liza Sabine, Fairfax County Health Dept.
Brian Walker, Inova Alexandria Hospital
John Walser, Fairfax County FRD
Gregory Zebrowski, Fairfax County VDEMS
Laural Shultzaberger, Fairfax County DPWES

STAFF SUPPORT

Trice Burgess, Fairfax County, FRD
Vanessa L. Baker (Vee), Fairfax County, FRD

FJLEPC MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Richard Michelback called the December 14, 2023, meeting of the Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee to order at 10:00 a.m. He also welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting, and roll call was taken by Trice Burgess. (See above)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Michelback stated that the minutes were distributed recently. Hopefully everybody had a chance to check them out and look at them. Are there any suggestions to edit those?

Johna Gagnon (EQAC), said that she had a couple of changes. I notified Trice last night that the minute date at the top of the minutes was today's date instead of the October date as well as the title of the of file that have been saved under and Trice had taken care of that. In addition to that, two places for my name, some places they list me as EQAC and some places they list me as a guest.

The guest is listed in the middle of Page 4 under the FJLEPC website old business they have John Gannon. Guess that should be EQAC if you're going to list the place, I'm with and then again on page 9 you have me list the guest.

Trice Burgess stated that I think what happened with that is Vee was looking at the transcript and that's how it has you (Johna) on the transcript as guest. So, we'll make sure we get that fixed for you.

Johna Gagnon also stated that she had one other thing at the top of page 4 where she made the comment about the Minutes, or I'll post it before they were approved, and you said you'd take care of that.

And I wasn't quite sure what that meant. Are you going to continue to post them before the meeting and they get approved or are we going to wait to post them till after?

Trice Burgess replied: We're going to wait to post and that's what we're gonna do.

Johna Gagnon replied: Ok. And to me, it wasn't clear. And those were the only corrections I had.

Chairman Michelback asked to share any other suggestions?

Eric Peterson (Inova Fairfax Hospital), stated: On Page 1, the meeting call to order the second paragraph. If that was there, it reads a table exercise. Could we put in the word table top? Add that word and then at the bottom of Page 1, the spelling on Trice's last name. And then, uh, several areas where LPC is listed if we could change that to LEPC.

And that starts over on page 2. Liaison with other LEPC's. Just the spelling Loudoun. That's listed there a couple of times. On page 7, the 4th paragraph up from the bottom. It says uh MSDS pop up and that, uh, the last sentence there. And if we could just change that to SDS. And then over on Page 9, Joseph Colein's comment, UMM, changed Derek to Eric. Also, the 5th row down my name and just the last sentence should read lithium-ion battery. Looks like a little bit with page 9 the yeah. And then as the spelling on Norman Cole at the bottom.

Trice: Noman Cole? Yeah. Again, we're just going off the transcript and that doesn't catch it all sometimes.

Chairman Michelback: Yeah. And I'll be honest with you guys, I didn't have a chance to look over this. I've been super busy; I think like a lot of other people have as well. So, we'll do a better job on these next time.

Eric Peterson stated: And then on page 10, just changing spelling on my name there and then next meeting will be held on December 14th. I don't know if we caught that.

Trice: We did, yes.

Chairman Michelback motioned for meeting minutes to be approved with the changes that were just mentioned. Eric Peterson made the motion to approve. Johna Gagnon seconded the motion. Motion carried and was approved. Chairman Michelback: Meetings are accepted. We'll make those changes before we post them.

Johna Gagnon: May I make a comment / question about the Minutes?

I've noticed we've changed from minutes to verbatim. Is that something that's required or that we missed that we wanted to do because this is more of a verbatim than it is minutes and the only reason I asked is I just did a 3 hour taking minutes, if you will, for three hours last night at EQAC and we all take one turn a month to a year doing this and we haven't told we have to keep ours to four pages for posting reasons we're not allowed to have more than four pages.

And so, we don't do verbatim, we do whatever the topic is that we're discussing, we spend 45 minutes on one topic with two presenters and we get that down to about a paragraph three or four sentences. And then if there's a motion or if there's something like one of them, they said, oh, the supervisors are very concerned about this. We note that or if we ask for feedback to come back to us, but outside of that, we sum everything up in 2,3,4 sentences and we've been told we have to keep our three-hour meeting highlights as we call them. Now we don't call them minutes to four pages for the I don't know or are we doing verbatim here.

If you go to the Planning Commission, they do forums. If you check their stuff.

Chairman Michelback: We are right now. I know that we started doing that. I think within the last year.

Trice Burgess: That's correct. Just because we have a transcript to go by now.

Chairman Michelback: Maybe we'll take a look at that John, talk about it, and bring back up again. Is there anybody that have an opinion either way strongly on this? I know it's for ease of, you know, of getting the notes down and for being thorough and complete. I'm not aware that we have any size limits.

Somebody correct me if I'm wrong. Does anybody feel strongly either way about this?

Johna Gagnon: I didn't know. I thought they posted on the county's website, and they didn't give you any size restrictions.

Trice Burgess: Now we have our own website. It's not a County meeting.

Johna Gagnon: And that could be the difference that we're on the counties and they've told us to keep ours to four pages or less. And believe me, the people talking don't keep their comments concise. So, that's three hours and four pages.

Chairman Michelback: We'll talk about this a little bit more and if we need to bring it back up, then we'll bring it back up again. And if anybody has anything they'd like to contribute to that conversation, please let us know. But I think it's safe for us to move on.

REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Communications: Gregory Zebrowski (DEMS) stated we continue to build up our messaging and our public outreach efforts, increasing the number of subscriptions. So that's going well. Continuing to increase, I think from what I heard last, we had 150 public outreach events where we were signing up residents and businesses for Fairfax alerts and our messaging communication system.

Business Outreach: Greg Zebrowski mentioned that yesterday they had a meeting with economic development with the kind of disbanding of the BEC. We are now working with our Economic Development Agency and are starting efforts, very preliminary stages of working directly with the Chambers of Commerce that are all registered and working with our economic development. So, things that are moving in a positive direction with that I don't really have much else to report out on it, but something new and better will hopefully be coming soon.

Chairman Michelback: The hazardous materials exercise. How did that go? Is that the exercise or is that hazardous materials in general?

HMERP Exercise Subcommittee: Trice Burgess stated that it was to incorporate our hazardous materials Emergency response plan to it, and it went well. I'll let Chief Bartlett if she wants to speak on that. Uh, I've got a short presentation with just some photos of the event at the end of the meeting here, we can show you.

CCC Liaison: Chairman Michelback did not attend the last meeting. Bart Roth attended and stated, it was different. I mean the first meeting I attended; they had a presentation. This meeting was basically the whole meeting, it was organization update dates pretty lengthy. It would be like us going through the roles and everybody having a detailed discussion of their areas and what's going on.

So that was the meeting. I don't know if they're not necessarily any highlights other than I don't know if we have to worry about it. But Courtney, who's their version of Trice. She said the county wants to go green, so they are limiting and ending printing. So, I don't know if that affects us on the LPC, but that's what she said; she couldn't get stuff printed anymore for their meetings.

Yeah, Printing, printing, copying. Think he was printing but copying. Getting copies, different county's trying to go green. Let's see if there's anything; it's unbeknownst to me, I guess. But there is a Volunteer Fire Department in Fairfax County, so it was interesting to listen to what they had to say. I'm sure Trice is aware of that.

Trice Burges: Yes, they're quite a few volunteer stations in the county.

Bart Roth (SICPA): All right. Well, they have a Rep so yeah. Yeah, animal assistance Crisis Response Team certified eight new dogs. They sent dogs to me. A lot of interesting stuff at the CCC, so I don't know how much of a report you want from me, but that was some of the highlights.

Chairman Michelback: That sounds pretty good. I've been to one of the meetings too and I can experience the kind of the same thing you did with the opening remarks and everything that they did. Courtney talked about a lot of budget cutbacks. Like they both got cut in half, or even maybe even more so. And I guess this latest printing documents then copying documents thing is the continuation of those. Thank you.

Bart Roth: As you bring that up, I think she said a bunch of grants got cut too. So, all those organizations that are on the outskirts of Fairfax County stuff, a lot of the grants have been cut and they're not getting funded. So, the CCC may be in one of them.

Johna Gagnon: We had some mention of that last night that there's a tough, really tough budget cycle coming up and there's gonna be changes. So just want to let you know that is probably what we're gonna see for a while.

Ways and Means: Erik Peterson, nothing new to report.

Liaison with other LEPCs: Bart Roth noted that he did try to get to the Alexandria LEPC and that many of you are aware it's not easy getting there. He did not make it on time.

Chairman Michelback: Is Loudoun County's coming up right?

Bart Roth: Let's see, I got all those on my calendar. Prince William, I got the 20th at 10:30. You know the Loudoun and was over the holidays. So, they cancelled their next meeting is 26 March. And actually, for the CCC meeting, the next one is virtual also; they have allowed one virtual a year and that one is on 25 January. So be nice of Alexandria was virtual, but.

SUBCOMMITTEES REPORTS:

HAZMAT RESPONSE TEAM (HMRT) UPDATE

Battalion Chief for HazMat, Kristi Bartlett, Fairfax County FRD: Well, I think there's, uh, I think too big to report for HazMat.

RECENT INCIDENTS

Battalion Chief Bartlett had nothing to report at this time.

HMRT TRAINING

Nothing to report.

FJLEPC COORDINATOR UPDATE

Tier II Manager Update and HMERP

EPCRA Tier II Report

Trice Burgess: OK, not a lot to add to this.

We've got 100% compliance this year for reporting. I have sent out a public notice in the Fairfax Times, that started running on December 8th and estimated by the availability of our HazMat Emergency Response Plan for public viewing if they would like to look at that. So again, it has been running for two weeks.

I did some updates on the LEPC website. I put in the August meeting minutes there listed a couple of weeks to some EPA topics of interest dealing with EPCRA. And they're also looking for some ideas for some supplemental environmental projects. When it comes to dealing with the consequences that they're finding people ~~or~~ for issues with violations at that group, what they can do to help the community out in the future by tying in some of these projects, they must be obviously related to the incident. But that's out there for public viewing. I also have some photos from the exercise we did yesterday. We could show them at the end of the meeting room new business.

- Online Tier II Manager Program stats:
 - UH-548 facilities in our System
 - 423 active facilities
 - 163 are critical hazard facilities

FJLEPC Website

Chairman Michelback: Have you seen any? A change in the website traffic since you posted the public notice; I may have missed that?

Trice Burgess: No, I haven't seen anything on the on public notice side; no, I haven't had any contacts with that.

Old Business:

Johna Gagnon: I think in the minutes it said we were going to try to bring back dates for possible Community events to try for FJLEPC to be at next year. And I'm just searching my sent file now, I thought I'd sent this, but I can't be sure. I recommend we do at least three throughout the year, one in North County, one in South County, one in central and for South County. I'd like to see us connect in April with supervisor Storks Envirothon that he holds every year. It's usually at Fort Hunt Park and I think in the past we have been to Burke, which is kind of central and I'm not as familiar with North County.

Chairman Michelback: Could you do me a favor and resend it to the group please?

Johna Gagnon: OK, I'll resend. I'm not familiar with North County, but I mean, there's probably all kinds of things we could do, but we obviously want to get to things that are gonna have a large number of people at it. If we have limited resources to what we can do, and that's why I suggest that North, South and Central, though it could be four.

Chairman Michelback: That's a great that's a great suggestion. Thank you.

Johna Gagnon: You're welcome. I will send it. I'm not sure it's going to get sent this week, but I will send it.

Trice Burgess: Greg, is that something we can incorporate with DEMS as far as some of the participation of y'all's events?

Gregory Zebrowski: I think absolutely. I think Courtney would be happy; we can talk with her. But you know, we're all over the county and if you guys want to do something like a joint table or something like that. I don't see any issues with that whatsoever.

Johna Gagnon: They think it will be great, but we also have to recognize that we don't get ourselves over extended for what we have but then with the 40th, if you want to call it anniversary recognition of the India incident, that kind of brought the LEPC's into existence next year seemed like kind of a year we could do like a stand up board on a table that could go from place to place along with general local LEPC.

New Business:

Trice Burgess: The only thing I've got is if you want to take a look at those links that I posted on our web page. As far as anybody has any comments they want to send to the EPA, that's about the only thing you have got from that perspective. One of the items that we were on there was about incorporating our reporting on animal waste at large farms. But the interesting thing with that is not actually the farming stuff is they were looking at developing nationwide Tier 2 reporting database. I don't know how detail they're gonna get with that. And they're looking for comments on what happened to be snuck in with that. So, something you might want to look over as far as that goes.

We like what we have right now as far as our Tier 2 reporting goes. Well, with the company we're dealing with just because of what we can do with that, it gives us a lot of options as far as planning through modeling contacts, you know, SDS sheets, all of that. And I just don't know what the national database would look like. It would make it easier for companies to submit obviously. I don't know what kind of costs would be involved with that, but again, that's something you might want to look at.

Chairman Michelback suggested doing a brief summary of the exercise that occurred yesterday.

Trice Burgess: Chief Bartlett, would you like to please chime in with all with anything you have on this, but I'm gonna run just a few slides that we had about the about the exercises and just some photos and that's about all I'm going to do with this.

Chief Bartlett: Sounds good. I'll go ahead and go over anything that you messed up. You get down to the slide show.

Trice Burgess: Chief, do you want to go over kind of the summary of what we had here.

Chief Bartlett: Yeah, that's fine. So, we set up an incident where we've seen a couple of places in the country where people had stolen radiation sources and then one of the vehicles that had stolen a source or a couple sources got into an accident with a bus with a couple of people on it. So, we had a police officer get on scene first with his meter going off that he was obviously detecting radiation and then we also have to go ahead and apprehend the suspect, the driver, and advised the fire department what was going on. The fire department on scene, all their detectors were going off as well, but they realized it was a safe enough environment to go ahead and make life safety measures. They did that.

All the occupants on the bus kind of backed away from the incident. From there, we just went over, progressed into notifications that would be made, and how to mitigate the scene. For our fire department members, we realized that we haven't done a training drill on radiation sources in a while, so we have a lot of new people, so they're a little rusty on that.

What our limitations are what our zones would be and then also we have a new officer on the HazMat unit. So just kind of running him through the paces talking with the FBI and also the State and the procedures from there.

We have the accident near a school, also notifications being made to the school and also to the hospital because I think we had it; one patient being transported to the hospital.

Trice Burgess: I'm going to go through some of the pictures here. This is when we got started. We had a really large crowd there, which was nice to see. We had the on-duty shift with their HazMat team and a lot of participating agencies that joined in. They kind of packed everybody into our classroom here and went over the overview of what we're gonna be doing that day. This is the actual site, basically happened we had the SUV run up underneath the a connector bus. All Fire department arrived on the scene. Virginia State Police were already there, and they notified them that their radiation meters were going off. Our guys went in to set up like they normally do when on an accident scene.

And again, like the chief said there, instruments went off, indicating they were radioactive materials there. And then we call in the cavalry with a lot of equipment with the HazMat perspective at that point. Virginia State Police were there, and this was the arrest of the driver. And they frisk him down for weapons. So, we're going to frisk him, frisk for radiation too. They set up incident command obviously. Some of our other participants from other agencies, including VDEM and the FBI, Virginia State Police and DEQ were there also. Our HazMat team was setting up their instruments.

As far as your radiation and Ludlum's. We had Decon set up for gross Decon should our guys get contaminated with particulate matter. Again, there were a lot of meetings of the minds out there with

command staff and the HazMat team.

Other agencies: we got to use a lot of our instruments as our Rad detectors to go in to look at the site and get more hands on with that sort of stuff; that's something we don't. We don't do a lot of this and we're like, thank goodness we do train for it. But again, this was nice. We had some actual radioactive sources brought in for this event, so this was the real deal as they say. HazMat team right there.

Some of the agencies we had participating in this event, we had our Fire and Rescue Department, Police Department had a lot of reps there, the County public schools had six or seven folks there from their safety group. The FBI was present. A couple of Virginia State Police officers were there, Virginia DEQ was represented, Maryland State Police showed up and assisted with the sources. We had a Rep from PHMSA and I'm not sure if anybody showed up, they were supposed to from the Virginia Department of Health as they were gonna be out there too.

Nice day to have the event out there. Again, we worked on some stuff that we don't get to do very often, with the radiation detection instruments. A lot of good learning was there, and this is setting us up for, also do some more training in the future now that we have some really good radioactive sources that we can go out and train with. Alright Chief if you have anything else to throw in with that. And that's what we did there. Thank you.

Chairman Michelback: Thanks Trice. I have a question. What is PHMSA? What does PHMSA stand for?

Trice Burgess: The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

Eddie Murphy (PHMSA): We're the people who support the ~~HMA~~ HMAP grant funds come from US DOT PHMSA.

Roundtable:

Joseph Colein: Sorry I missed some of the beginning so maybe this has already been asked. I was just curious. Has anyone gone through the Tennessee, the Y-12 training with radiation? Anyone been over there, or anyone involved in the drill had done that?

Trice Burgess: I'll let Chief Bartlett speak about that. I know we've had folks still go out and do radiation training at sites out of state. I'm not sure which ones.

Chief Bartlett: We haven't been to the one in Tennessee. There's one out in New Mexico, he flying to Vegas and there's a slight up near there and they have some pretty strong sources that we've trained on.

Joseph Colein: OK. Like I said, I was just curious. I've been out to Tennessee to do that training over there and I just wondered if anyone else had similar or the same training.

Chief Bartlett: Yeah, I'm not sure who leads that one or who they're geared towards emergency responders?

Joseph Colein: I know they deal with a lot of hospital type places and a few other areas with radiation sources. I couldn't say specifically who they're geared towards, but I do know it was pretty comprehensive. It sounds like you had some pretty good experts in here anyways, so again it was just a just thought. I really don't have anything to add.

John Higginbotham (VDEM): Another road for VDEM, but I'll talk to you a little bit on the Tennessee classes. They're not geared toward 1st Responders, they're much more toward industrial type stuff, hospital stuff. For emergency responders. CTOS, which is out of Las Vegas Nevada provides probably 95% of radiation training for first responders both on site and mercury and remotely. We deliver remote classes from CTOS regionally pretty much constantly through a program called Securing the Cities. We were one of the original five grand fees from CWMD office of CWMD for Radiation, which is pumped up proximately \$36 million worth of radiation equipment and training into the National Capital Region and continuing in that effort with the further grants as of now. So that's about it.

Johna Gagnon: Sorry, I lost my mic. I have nothing. I just want to say that the EQAC is having its annual public comment period. We finished the ARE and not that the related, but if you want to submit written, video, or sign up to speak, you have to do it in three weeks by January 5th because three weeks in the March January 5th if you can believe it. The public comment period on Wednesday, January 10th 7:15 at the government center. Thank you.

Eddie Murphey: I just wanted to say that I thought the exercise was well done yesterday and everything looked good, and I appreciate the opportunity to be there and observe.

Eric Petterson: Thanks, Trice. We had a disaster drill yesterday as well. Mass casualty incident and it was around an active shooter; overall, the drill was successful. We had a very good participation, and Brian, I don't know if you want to add anything else.

Brian Walker: Nothing other than the fact that we're sorry we couldn't free someone up to come and participate in the HazMat drill yesterday because we were engaged in our own mass casualty incident drill, which again was pretty successful considering we haven't done one of that type in quite some time. So, we look forward to expanding those exercises moving into the new Year.

Trice Burgess: Great. Again, appreciate both of y'all's comments there and in real life sometimes you have two disasters going on at the same time, so that's quite understandable.

Bart Roth: So much great report, although I mean those have been on the LEPC for a while and I've been talking about our new varnish plant, which is not super new anymore. It's been five years since we built it and we've been transferring to it. We supply it to the BPE Bureau of Engraving and Printing. It looks like next year we'll be moving fully into the new building. For those of you who walk through the facility and for those who might, we do bring in the fire departments, particularly Station 22 to go through there. So, they went through recently. But again, just to let everyone know it looks like we will be moving fully into our new "C" building and then refurbishing the building where we may have the old varnish plan. That's all I have.

John Walser: Good morning. And I will apologize, I've kind of been in and out this morning, but I did have a question and if you guys have already talked about it, please don't feel like you need to rehash it. But with the upcoming legislative session, is there anything that this group is looking to pursue in the coming year in Richmond?

OK. I think that's my answer, and that's ok if you're not. There's nothing that I'm aware of that would impact this group, but it's always a good time to start thinking about those items that may require more regulatory oversight at the state level and getting in the delegates ear at this point in the legislative process.

Trice Burgess: Yeah, I'm not aware of anything at the state level. Again, there's items I mentioned earlier at the federal level might be something that just keep an eye on this.

John Higginbotham: Ok, this is from GM really quick, something that I can't tell you if it has happened or is getting ready to happen, but there used to be an oversight committee, if you will, for LEPC in the State season as they called the verb or vert. I can't remember what it stands for, but then vert there you go.

Trice Burgess: Yeah, Virginia Emergency Response Council (VERC).

John Higginbotham: So that was done away several years ago. Folded into another committee with the idea that they would oversee from there, which that really has not happened. And I believe it's a proposal that is probably everything we understand, is going to carry that committee to be reestablished of Tom Jordan, who's my HazMat boss, will be representing VDEM on it and probably be the chair of it. If not the Co-chair along with the way John Giesy from Department of Environmental Quality will most likely be on the EQ.

Anyway, that committee is going to be reestablished to oversee, if you will, all the state, all the sorry local LEPCs. So that's the one thing on the state level that's coming up. I believe it's getting ready to be proposed and from all everything we understand on a legislative level that's going to carry fairly easily.

John Walser: Ok. Thanks, and I think somebody mentioned earlier the grants that are being challenged and always the aid to localities. I don't know if anybody uses those funding sources from the state level, but if you're in Richmond in about a month from now and you have a delegate's year, it's always good to mention the aid to localities and how vital that is for jurisdictions to have that that money from the state to be able to continue their operations for training and equipment and those kinds of things. So just one of those opportunities to make sure everyone's aware of it.

Laurel Shultzaberger: Hey, John, this is Laurel from public works. We're kind of in that loop, not on a HazMat realm, but on a flood realm. So, we're already kind of gripping around some of that with the aides, so.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Chairman Michelback called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Johna Gagnon moved to adjourn. Chairman Michelback ask for a second and Eric Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

***The next meeting of the Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee
will be held on February 8, 2024***