



## **Meeting Minutes**

**June 13, 2024**

### **STAFF SUPPORT**

Trice Burgess, Fairfax County Fire Marshal's Office (FRD)  
Vanessa L. Baker, Fairfax County Fire Marshal's Office (FRD)

### **VIA TEAMS/TELECONFERENCE**

Trice Burgess, Fairfax County Fire Marshal's Office (FRD)  
Vanessa L. Baker, Fairfax County Fire Marshal's Office (FRD)  
Richard Michelback, Chairman, Fairfax County Public Schools  
Kristi Bartlett, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department (FRD)  
Bowman Olds, Prince William County LEPC  
Jayson Taylor, Colonial Pipeline  
Joseph Colien, INOVA Fairfax Hospital  
Liza Sabine, Fairfax County Health Department  
Bart Routh, Vice Chairman, SICPA  
Laurel Shultzaberger, Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services  
Gregory Zebrowski, Fairfax County Department of Emergency Management and Security (DEMS)  
John Higginbotham, (VDEM)  
Douglas O'Neill, George Mason University Health and Safety  
John Haneklau, Quest Diagnostics  
Andrew Irvine, Loudoun County LEPC  
Johna Gagnon, Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC)  
Mark Keim, Fairfax County Health Department  
Eddie Murphy, US Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety  
Fire Chief John O'Neal, Fairfax City Fire Department  
Keith Robinson, Colonial Pipeline  
Amara Smith, Colonial Pipeline  
Mercury Payton, Vienna Town Manager  
James Sager, Fairfax Water Authority

### **FJLEPC MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Chairman Richard Michelback, called the June 13, 2024, meeting of the Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee to order at 10:00 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting and asked if we could go over our positions since we had new members. Roll call was taken by Trice Burgess. (See above)

Chairman Michelback took a second to welcome back Mr. Douglas O'Neal who was a former chair of the LEPC when he was with Fairfax County Public Schools, also his former supervisor. Mr. O'Neal assigned Chairman Michelback to start attending LEPC and now he is here representing George Mason University; we're so glad to have him there. Mr. O'Neill is a very knowledgeable environmental, health and safety person and we really look forward to his contributions.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Michelback asked everyone if there were any suggestions or comments to the April 11, 2024, meeting minutes before motion to approve. If no one has any objections and/or suggestions for the April 11<sup>th</sup> minutes, the motion passes and the minutes are adopted. Johna Gagnon, EQAC, motioned for the meeting minutes to be approved. Bowman Olds, PWC LEPC, seconded the motion. Motion carried and was approved.

Chairman Michelback noted that we changed the format for the minutes the last time from a transcript of the recording, which was several pages long, with several issues, to a more concise summary.

## **REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Public Communications:**

Gregory Zebrowski, Fairfax County VDEMS reported that their public communication is going very well and they continue to do messaging from previous meetings. They have also included the LEPC in Emergency Management and security outreach events. It has been successful so far and he is looking forward to more opportunities with it.

### **Business Outreach:**

Greg Zebrowski reported that they continue to work with our Department of Economic Initiatives and working with the Chambers of Commerce to also push Emergency Management preparedness, LEPC preparedness, and messaging out to the business community.

Their guest star, Trice Burgess attended an online session and spoke with Courtney Arroyo, CEM, about the LEPC for their Facebook, on live chat. Trice noted that it is always good to get the word out about the LEPC and HazMat concerns in the county.

### **HMERP Exercise Subcommittee:**

Trice Burgess, Fairfax County FMO reported that they plan on doing an event in the fall, but nothing has been arranged yet. Chief Kristi Bartlett, Fairfax County FRD, reported that they have not started planning out yet, however, will start working on that and will have more to discuss at the next meeting.

Trice Burgess attended the April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting that was very interesting. They're proposed to go ahead and disband this organization because they have met their mission; with all the new coordination and context they made over the years with it, they can continue doing what they have been doing, but without having this Council set up. They are going to submit a letter to DEMS and refer this to the Board of Supervisors to see if they wish to expand this particular Council or not.

Gregory Zebrowski noted that the Citizen Corps Council, through that meeting, from the voting members, it was unanimously agreed upon to kind of disband the group. There is a lot of other groups that have come together and pushing the messaging and the mission of what Citizen Corps Council started. It is currently through the formal process since it is a board council with the county Attorney's Office drawing up the final documents. And sometime in the fall, it will go before the board to have the final vote on it by the Board of Supervisors.

### **CCC Liaison:**

Bart Routh, SICPA, reported that they're going to vote in the fall and the next meeting is August 22, 2024.

**Ways and Means:**

Trice Burgess, nothing to report.

**Liaison with other LEPC's:**

Bowman Olds, PWC reported that they met on June 12, 2024, and they had a good opportunity then with focus especially on the subcommittees. We highlight in fact the number of points that you all made in your previous meeting as well as focus on some information we got from Alexandria as well. We brought folks up to speed in terms of where we were with the different organizations that we have extended that outreach to in the process. Also, we were reaching out to a very diverse and comprehensive group of folks that could be a real asset to the LEPC as we move through this process. We also covered a bit with the HazMat team updates and one of the big-ticket items for us was the approval of our LEPC rules and procedures manual.

Chairman Michelback and Bart Routh attended the Alexandria LEPC (in-person) meeting on Tuesday, June 11, 2024. They are a lot more engaged in some things, a lot more questions and being bounced around. It was interesting to see the highlights of what they went over. They are going to have an open house for their Mercy Management Team sometime in late August and September. Apparently September is emergency Preparedness month, so that's going to coincide with that.

They also asked questions about some incidents that occurred outside their jurisdiction, (e.g., the fuel spill that happened on or near Fort Belvoir, a Fishkill, and four-mile run).

Chairman Michelback also reported that they are preparing for hurricane season and the biggest thing that went over was the Covanta issues; Covanta is burned to energy facility, where they take trash, set it on fire, create steam, create electricity. They are having a lot of issues with fires occurring from lithium batteries being discarded in the trash.

They also discussed the several incidents in New York City of Fatal E bike fires from lithium batteries.

Bart Routh reported the following:

- Alexandria Hospital mentioned that they were having a whooping cough outbreak.
- NOVA has three new hospitals or hospital centers coming online in the next couple of years.
- Arlington, LEPC, that meeting is coming up on June 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

Laurel Shultzaberger reported that they are also seeing an increased number of fires in trash trucks from lithium batteries. The severe fire that we had in Covanta was about 8-10 years ago. That was caused by a fire that started on the tipping room floor, and that is where the fires got out of control.

If they occur before the trash is dumped into the incineration area, so just to shed a little light on if the lithium battery catches on fire before it's put in the burning incinerator area that can cause fires for the facility itself that are less controlled.

Chairman Michelback reported that they said they were going to Long Island to look at some type of AI camera technology that supposed to help identify that stuff.

Laurel Shultzaberger reported that it has the ability to pick up heat and sensors and then turn on fire suppression. However, lithium batteries are more and more becoming a problem for trash collection.

Eddie Murphy reported on the lithium-ion battery discussion, we had DOT FEMSA see these problems nationwide with lithium-ion batteries being moved to different recycling facilities and things around the country there are truckloads of these damaged defective, recalled old end of life batteries that are in transportation and there have been numerous incidents of truck fires on trucks. Regarding the Micro mobility devices, the problems that they're seeing I have presentations with the shipboard fires, truck fires on highways, rail fires, and air every mode of transportation. It has been affected and this could particularly affect Fairfax County with the majority on the roads as well.

Chairman Michelback noted that he would have a discussion with Mr. Murphy to get more details on his presentation and try to get it on the agenda.

Laurel Shultzaberger reported that there was a huge highway shut down due to a truck fire; one of their solid waste large trash haulers that caught on fire. She believes that it was a lithium battery in the trash hauler, and it shut down traffic on Route 1 for hours one morning.

Andrew Irvine reported that the next LEPC (in-person) meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Their meetings usually last about an hour. Location: Fire and Rescue Administration Building, 801 Sycolin Road, Room 102 (large conference room). Also, a Team's link will be provided, email Mr. Irvine or Mr. Matt Schultz.

Lastly, we are continuing to work with stakeholders as well as the company HazConnect to possibly bring the product on in the next budget cycle. Hopefully we can incorporate HazConnect into our LEPC UMM program.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEES REPORTS:**

##### **HAZMAT RESPONSE TEAM (HMRT) UPDATE**

##### **RECENT INCIDENTS**

Chief Kristi Bartlett reported that they have not had any big incidents in the last month and their monthly drill is coming up, possibly in Herndon, a full team drill at the end of June.

##### **HMRT TRAINING**

Trice Burgess, nothing to report

##### **FJLEPC COORDINATOR UPDATE**

Trice Burgess reported the 2023 annual Tier 2 reporting period closed the 1<sup>st</sup> of March.

##### **Tier II Manager Update and HMERP**

Trice Burgess reported that currently in our HazConnect Management Records System for our Tier 2 facilities we have:

## EPCRA Tier II Report

Online Tier II Manager Program Stats	
573	Test Connect System Database
426	Active Facilities
147	Inactive Facilities
159	Critical Hazard Facilities

- Oldies 95% of those because they have sulfuric acid in there
- UPS batteries
- We had 430 facilities actually complete the 2023 annual reports, but a few of those went inactive because their business actually closed up. They came in the cycle to have to report, and we had 100 books, 100 percent compliance this year. We ended up doing a whole bunch of revisions this year through 159 of those.
- We need to do a bunch of revisions. We will BE requesting that the company submit their chemical safety data sheets this time around.
- HazConnect no longer has a third-party vendor to provide that information.

## FJLEPC Website:

- Trice Burges updated the Tier 2 LEPC website with the February meeting minutes and is waiting to get approval from his deputy chief in the Firm Marshals Office to approve funding for the renewal of Word Press website cost that's coming up in July that expires then.

Dates for this coming year:

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
April 20, 2024	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Public Safety Day Off	South County High School, Norton Franconia area
May 4, 2024	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Tacoma Community Days	6101 Norwood Drive, Falls Church
May 18, 2024	11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	McLean Day Festival	Lewinsville Park
September 18, 2024	** TBD	McLean Day Festival	Lewinsville Park
September 18, 2024	** TBD	Public Safety Days at Masons	** TBD
September 18, 2024	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	National Preparedness Month Fair	Defense Intelligence Agency

**NOTE:** \*\* Public Safety Days at Masons: Currently no information on exact location and time for this event.

Anyone interested in attending any events, please let Trice Burgess know and he will contact Courtney with VDEMS to get you on the list.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:**

Trice Burges: Appreciates everything that Eddie Murphy has done and hopefully he will provide us with a presentation in the future.

Also, if anyone has something you would like to present to the LEPC, we'd love to have you on board, to share what you do or how things would relate, what you do, your agency, or your business.

As far as HazMat and the IPC is concerned, feel free to reach out to Richard or myself. Let us know if you had something you would like to share with us, and we will get you on the schedule.

**Roundtable / Member Updates**

Trice Burgess called for roundtable/member updates.

- Bowman Olds: LEPC meeting will be on September 11<sup>th</sup> a memorable date.
- James Sager: If I could have the representative from the principle LEPC add me to that meeting, it would be much appreciated.
- Eddy Murphy: I'll be happy to present at the next meeting.
- Chairman Michelback: The last day of school was yesterday.
- Bart Routh: It's been a great meeting; appreciate everybody's input.
- Jason Taylor: If you could add me as well to the Prince William LEPC and I'm going to reach out to you about another issue as well.
- Mercury Payton: Nothing to report and I'm wondering if we should have our police chief or someone else on this. I got these invites, and I don't know if I'm the appropriate person who should be on this or not. Trice noted that we do send out an invite to your police chief, but just haven't heard from him in a while.
- Trice Burgess: The Fire and Rescue Department and the Police Department participated in active violence training exercises throughout the month of May at Fort Belvoir; we do this joint training every three years, so pretty much every operational police officer and firefighter attends this training just to be ready for things that could happen in the future that we pray that don't happen.

**ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

Chairman Michelback called the meeting to be adjourned. Bowman Oulds so moved the meeting and James Sager seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

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