



Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2025

VIA TEAMS/TELECONFERENCE Attendees

Trice Burgess, Fairfax County Fire Marshal's Office (FRD)
Kristi Bartlett, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department (FRD) & Vice-Chair
Michael Cronin, Quest Diagnostics
Erik Peterson, Inova Fairfax Hospital
Courtney Lee, The Aero Space Corporation
Michelle Cechowski, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue (FRD)
Barry Goldman, Fairfax Connector
Joseph Colein, Inova Fairfax Hospital
John Haneklau, Quest Diagnostics
David Kennedy, Fairfax County Police Department
Larry Zaragoza, EQAC
Nathaniel Murray, Colonial Pipeline
Bart Routh, Chairman, SICPA Securink Corp.
Johna Gagnon, Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC)
Fire Chief John O'Neal, Fairfax City Fire Department
Liza Sabine, Fairfax County Health Department
Laurel Shultzaberger, Fairfax County DPWES
Greg Zebrowski, Fairfax County DEMS
Bowman Olds, Prince William County LEPC
Michelle Cechowski, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Special Ops
Robert Jelf, Fairfax County Health Dept.
Umar Qudosi, Fairfax County Public Schools
Tashi Sharngoe, Fairfax County Connector
Robert Wells, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Special Ops

STAFF SUPPORT

Trice Burgess, Fairfax County Fire Marshal's Office (FRD)

FJLEPC MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Bart Routh, called the October 9, 2025, meeting of the Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee to order at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Routh welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting. Roll call was taken by Trice Burgess. (See above)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Bart Routh asked everyone if there were any suggestions or comments to the August 14, 2025, meeting minutes before motion to approve. Bowman Olds made a motion to approve the minutes. Erik Peterson seconded the motion. Motion carried and was approved.

REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Communications:

Greg Zebrowski advised public communications is ongoing. DEMS is looking to expand their messages through social media and traditional media. They are working with their community engagement division.

Business Outreach:

Greg Zebrowski stated they are also using their community engagement division to work with the private sector and local Chamber of Commerce and civic organizations.

HMERP Exercise Subcommittee:

Trice Burgess stated we had our HMERP exercise on August 20th with Williams Pipeline. The exercise was conducted on August 20, 21, and 22 with all three Fire and Rescue department shifts. We had 11 FJLEPC members attend the drill on the 20th. A presentation on the drill will be provided at the December meeting. We will be holding a second plan exercise on November 20, 2025, with Inova Fairfax hospital. This will be a decontamination drill. Inova is looking for FJLEPC members to participate in the Sim Cell. Please contact Trice, Erik Peterson or Adrian Nelson with Inova Fairfax hospital if you are interested in participating. The drill will run from 07:00 – 11:00 on November 20th.

Ways and Means:

Erik Peterson had nothing to report.

Liaison with other LEPC's:

Bowman Olds advised Prince William County LEPC will be holding a meeting on December 10th. Bart Routh reported he was unable to attend the Alexandria LEPC meeting. Loudoun LEPC will be having a meeting on October 28th at 10:00 am. It will be a hybrid meeting so you can attend online. We will try and stay informed when we hear of other LEPC meetings.

SUBCOMMITTEES REPORTS:

HAZMAT RESPONSE TEAM (HMRT) UPDATE

RECENT INCIDENTS

Battalion Chief Kristi Bartlett advised the Hazmat team continues to run lithium-ion battery incidents. Most of them have involved small batteries. The Hazmat team recently responded to a large ethylene glycol leak in Herndon. The leak was reported to VA DEQ on Sunday but not to the fire department till Monday. It was estimated that approximately 18,000 gallons of antifreeze leaked into the ground. The ethylene glycol was used in the cooling system of a data center. Cleanup and repair contractors were on site to recover the antifreeze and repair the system. No product had been found in any storm drains or waterways at this time. Trice Burgess advised he was working with the business to bring them into compliance with EPCRA as they had not been reporting Tier II information in the past.

Bart Routh advised there was a small natural gas leak at the SICPA facility earlier this week. He was quite pleased with the fire department's response to the incident. Bart was very appreciative on the response.

HMRT TRAINING

Chief Bartlett stated there is a Hazmat Technician school that just started on Monday. That school will finish next Friday. There is also Hazmat team training coming up in November with Fairfax Connector because they are getting some new EV buses for the fleet.

FJLEPC COORDINATOR UPDATE

Tier II Manager Update and HMERP

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

EPCRA Tier II Report

Online Tier II Manager Program Stats	
587	Total facilities in system
423	Active Facilities
164	Inactive Facilities
160	Critical Hazard Facilities (CHF)

- For 2025 Reporting cycle (2024 Data):
 - 424 reports submitted and approved
 - 1st Due app is update for each approved report
 - 100% submittal rate

FJLEPC Website:

- Updated with June meeting minutes attached.
- Stats for August: 72 visitors and 100 views
- Stats for September: 52 visitors and 60 views
- Looking for suggestions to add to the webpage and presentations for future meetings.
- Hazconnect implemented multi-factor authentication at the end of July. A second email was sent out to all Hazconnect users in September as a reminder. Please log in to the system to verify your email address. If you run into any log in issues, please contact me and I will send you an email through Hazconnect that will have a code to get you logged into the system.

Old Business: Old Business:

2025 Plan Exercise was held on August 20, 21 & 22 with 11 LEPC members attending on the 20th. We partnered with Williams Pipeline for a full exercise at their #10 valve setting in Chantilly (13916 Poplar Tree RD). All 3 FRD Shifts participated in the drills.

Inova Fairfax Decon Exercise will now be November 20th. Inova is looking for LEPC members to participate as part of the Sim cell.

New Business:

Vote on new member Larry Zaragoza with EQAC. Johna Gagnon made a motion and Erik Peterson seconded to accept Larry Zaragoza as a new LEPC member. Motion carried.

Battalion Chief Kristi Bartlet and Barry Goldman with Fairfax Connector Bus provided a presentation on an electric vehicle fire involving a Fairfax Connector bus that occurred in December of 2024. (Slide presentation will be placed on FJLEPC website when provided). Questions were asked by the LEPC members and answers were provided. Excellent presentation on response to the incident and after-action activities to remove and dispose of the damaged batteries. This was a long and expensive process. The County expects to see more EVs being added to the County vehicle fleet in the coming years. Currently there are only two battery recycling plants in the US.

Roundtable / Member Updates

Trice Burgess called for roundtable/member updates.

- Trice Burgess stated that Bart Routh, BC Bartlett and Trice met with Richard Machelback on September 3rd for lunch. A plaque was presented for appreciation to Richard for his service and chairman of the FJLEPC for the last two years.
- Johna Gagnon advised this was her last official meeting as the representative from EQAC. She was also very appreciative of today's presentation and the safety she feels with living in Fairfax County. She will still be around as a citizen and we may see her again at the online meetings.
- Larry Zaragoza was very pleased with the presentation also. He would like to see EPA streamline the process for getting a large quantity generator permit for when such battery incidents happen in the future to help expedite the disposal process.
- Courtney Lee requested the slide presentation be made available. Trice will try and put the presentation on the FJLEPC website.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Chairman Routh requested a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Johnna Gagnon and seconded by Erik Peterson. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:59.

***The next meeting of the Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee
will be held on December 11, 2025.***