



## PENNINGTON COUNTY LEPC

130 Kansas City Street, Ste. 130, Rapid City SD 57701

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# LEPC MEETING MINUTES

**Thursday, May 16, 2024**

**Present:** Matthias Barton, Tyler Brown, Ray Bubb, Adam Davis, Kyle Dengerud, Deb Hadcock, Damon Hartmann, Jerome Harvey, Tyler Jacob, Shawn Jefferds, Michael Klopfer, Trapper Lappe, Brent Long, Brooke Love, Doug Parrow, Pat Roseland, Buck Schiley, Jacob Sichler, Cathy Strudle, David Switzer, William Wasserburger, Alexa White, Dustin Willett, Michael Wollman.

**1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** at 12:01 by R Bubb.

**2. INTRODUCTIONS**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**4. AGENDA:** Motion to approve May 16, 2024 Agenda by T Brown, second by Switzer. **Motion carried.**

**5. MINUTES:** Motion to approve February 15, 2024 Minutes, with typographical changes, by D Willett, second by B Long. **Motion carried.**

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Budget Report (Action Item): Motion to approve the budget by D Hancock, second by T Brown. **Motion carried.** A White reported that we spent \$229.80 on today's lunch which leaves us \$250 (per lunch) left for the rest of the calendar year. It is unknown at this time what the award for next year will be. White reported that higher amount of funds are being set aside for the commodity flow study.
- b. Haz-Mat Team Report: T Lappe reported 27 calls for service which included gas leaks tied to construction projects; department is considering changing run cars with dispatch for uncontrolled gas leaks; they have yet to get the gas meters that were grant purchased (they are supposed to arrive by the end of the month); their detectors are working good; responders attended a hazmat conference in Chicago and have another hazmat conference in Baltimore soon; they had hazmat team training at the fair grounds; their homeland security grant was awarded and they will be purchasing gas monitors and explosive detectors.
- c. Citizens Corps Committee Reports
  - i. VIPS: D Switzer reported that they have 20 kids in the reserve/explorers' program, and that the explorers will have joint training with police, fire and national guard responders.



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- ii. CERT: White reported that 21 people completed the 7-week Spring CERT. Attendees from Wall and 7 from Custer were part of the class. A Davis reported that CERT went well, that they had dedicated students and good support from the community. He further reported that he'll be taking the CERT train-the-trainer program in July.
- iii. Fire Corps: J Harvey reported that North Haines and Black Hawk both supported the recent Rushmore Fire Conference.
- d. Preparedness and Education Events from LEPC Entities. White reported that EM had a booth at the Home Show where LEPC informational handouts, goodies, and gloves for handling hazardous waste were available to the public. EM also participated in the Kids' Fair. At least 1,500 attendees navigated through the maze. Willett reported that feedback from both the CERT program and the kids' fair remains positive, and he gave kudos to A White and A Davis for putting so much effort into these community programs.

B Schiley reported that the Hazardous Waste Department has also been participating in public education programs, and that they completed training plans for approximately 50 employees for their annual hazmat training.

Willett reported that the South Dakota Solid Waste Management Association reached out and requested a representative from Rapid City-Pennington County attend a conference to provide input regarding EV batteries and their disposal. Willett reported that while he did not attend, he did do some internet research on the subject and is of the opinion that this topic is a huge gray area, especially when it comes to the disposal aspect. He reported that there are many unknowns, including not knowing what even happens to an EV battery when it's damaged in an accident. It has been reported that there have been problems with the batteries catching on fire anywhere from the time of the accident up to many weeks out. He reported that he had read one method of disposal in which salt water is used to destroy/disintegrate the batteries; however, then the water waste is left which may contain hazardous materials.

Willett reported that the EPA has published their rule making which has been enshrined into law. It contains rules such as, if there is a facility near waterways that has the potential of an accidental release within a certain distance of those waterways, there must be additional EM preparedness and that there must be exercises with surrounding fire (VFD) departments. The group inquired about Rapid Creek and wondered if there were any concerns associated with hazardous materials making their way into the creek; Willett's opinion was that he didn't feel that there was anything currently in Pennington County that would be cause for concern.

- e. 2024 Commodity Flow Study
  - 1. Contract with the Blue Cell, \$10k (LEPC fronts the funds, 5k reimbursed through HMEP Grant) Project completion by 9/30/24.



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Willett reported that the first half of the study (phone calls and conversations) is complete. The full cost for the study is \$10,000; however, it is broken down into two parts. The LEPC has been invoiced for \$5,000. The second half includes point in time counts, field work, roadside surveys and analysis. The LEPC will pay the second half after we have the report in hand. Willett explained to new members of the group what the commodity flow study is; it's a study of what and how much hazardous materials are coming into and through Pennington County. It gives us an idea on the emergency response side how we need to mitigate and respond if there are any spills or releases. The last study was done in 2011.

- f. Other items by members: None.

### 7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Hazmat Informational Ops – Rapid City Landfill. B Schiley gave a presentation on solid waste that makes its way into the landfill and reported on how hazardous it can be (fires, explosions, biohazard materials contaminants, etc.). He reported that they typically do research on items that come in, especially if they receive inquiries from the public and that the waste disposal event was successful. Willett added that the grant dollars that support the waste disposal event come from LEPC. Schiley concluded his presentation with the following contact information: please contact Buck or Ria or visit their website at [www.rapidcityrecycles.org](http://www.rapidcityrecycles.org)
8. **ADJOURN:** Motion to adjourn at 1:00pm by D Hancock, second by D Switzer. **Motion carried.**