

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
REGULAR MEETING: August 28, 2023 1:00 p.m.
Room 005 Chippewa County Courthouse

1. CALL TO ORDER

John Andersen called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Note
John Andersen	Chairperson, Media Rep.	Present	
Tyler Thibodeaux	Emergency Management Director	Present	
Jerry Clark	UW Extension	Absent	
Eric Goebel	Transportation	Present	
Rick Bowe	Citizen Representative	Present	
Amanda Lierman	Industry Representative	Present	
Chip Eckardt	Citizen Amateur Radio Representative	Present	
John Bowe	HazMat/Fire Dept. Representative	Present	
Tamee Foldy	Emergency Communications Center Dir.	Present	
Brittnay Fortuna	Public Health Officer	Present	
Travis Klukas	Mayo Clinic Health System	Present	
George Rohmeyer	County Board Representative	Present	
Marcy Trubshaw	Emergency Management	Present	

Also present: Allie Isaacson, Public Health; Joan Miller, ReadyTeam-CV, Lisa Olson-McDonald, WEM

Introductions

3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO BE HEARD

Joan Miller, ReadyTeam-Chippewa Valley spoke about her organization, Ready Team-CV. ReadyTeam-CV is a disaster response and Critical Incident Stress Management Team whose members prepare for and respond to critical incidents such as tornados, flooding, fires, to assist the community and individual property owners. Joan supplied us with written information that contains the contacts for the team.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve the Agenda
- B. Approve the Minutes of **April 24, 2023**
- C. Upcoming Meeting Dates:
 - October 23, 2023**
 - December 18, 2023**

Motion by Rick Bowe to approved the consent agenda with second by Eric Goebel.
Motion carried unanimously.

5. REPORTS

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A. Chairman's Report – John Andersen

John has been fielding calls about wildfires and our readiness for notification. One of the requests was to use sirens for alerting the community. The reasons why the sirens can not be used are that the emergency is not defined if the sirens are used for multiple emergencies. Currently there are two sets of sirens, municipal and river-rise. The sirens are not heard in the rural areas where wildfire would be prevalent. Other methods can be used to alert the public such as reverse 9-1-1 or emergency broadcast.

B. Hazardous Materials Events –John Bowe

John Bowe discussed the difference between the Type I and Type III Hazardous Materials teams. In Chippewa County we have the luxury of having Chippewa Falls Fire and Emergency Services respond as a Type I and Type III team. The fee schedule for services with CFFES has not been increased from \$5,000 for almost three decades. Marcy had increased the budget for 2024 to \$6,000.

John B. has completed comparisons from across the state for Type III (county) teams. The contract costs for the Type III teams vary drastically with the average around \$16,000. Some of the costs for the Chippewa County Type III team, such as annual physicals, are absorbed by Type I team. That amount is \$9,600 annually. Other expenses include \$2,500 per year for sensor replacement. The state requires the team to have training. There are up to 24 people that can fill the ranks for the haz mat team. The members typically go to Volk Field for an 80 hour class. Tamee Foldy also mentioned that dispatch is receiving more hazardous materials calls than previously and the calls are more difficult.

Not including calls for Carbon Monoxide and other potentially minor incidents the calls per year for the Type III team follow.

2020 – 31 calls 2021 – 25 calls 2022 – 39 calls 2023 – so far 23 calls

At this point the cost is part of the Emergency Management budget. John B. mentioned that the cost should not come out of the Emergency Management budget. John is going to research comparable teams to determine the other Type III teams are funded. George Rohmeyer will research the county budget for the line item regarding the payment to the Haz Mat team.

The topic will be placed on the October agenda with all involved reporting out. A motion was made by Tamee Foldy with a second by Amanda Lierman to support an increase in the funding of the Type III Hazardous Materials team if justification warrants. Motion carried.

John also discussed the "natural gas" leak the caused the YMCA to evacuation. It was found to be a freon leak. Contractors came and repaired.

C. Emergency Management Report – Tyler Thibodeaux

- Tyler introduced himself and his background in both public service response and emergency management.
- Tyler shared a listing of upcoming meetings and responsibilities. Of special interest and necessary to publicize are the Ace Ethanol Tour (Stanley) on September 13 starting at 10:00 am, WEMA Conference September 19-21, IPP Workshop September 26 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, and Survey 1-2-3 October 18 in the afternoon and evening.
- Anyone interested in attending the Ace Ethanol Tour please let Marcy know by September 8. Anyone interested in attending the Survey 1-2-3 class on October 18, please indicate if you want the afternoon session from 1:00 to 4:30 or the evening session from 6:00 to 9:30 pm.
- Tyler covered other topics that the office will be addressing including WiCams, an Emergency Operations Center, ESF/Annexes, the grants and large assembly meetings.

D. Community Partner Reports

Eric Goebel mentioned that Hwy 53 at Hwy 00 will be closed in the very near future.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS:

Motion by John Bowe with a second by Tamee Foldy to approve the new members on the LEPC Membership list, Tyler Thibodeaux, Emergency Management and Brittney Fortuna, Public Health. Motion carried.

7. ADJOURN

Motion by Rick Bowe with a second by Eric Goebel to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcy Trubshaw, Admin Asst.
Chippewa County Emergency Management