

Pierce County LEPC Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2019

Attendance:

Todd Kilpatrick, PCEM
Chelsey Bell, PCEM
Donna Vitale, PCEM
Mark Murphy, Snohomish County DEM
Jayson Lelli, Tacoma Public Utilities
Marcie Hedman, Tacoma Public Utilities
Rictor Overlie, S. Thurston Fire/Former BNSF
Steven Storms, NE Tacoma Neighborhood
Council
Angela Harkins, Dept. of Ecology

Ron Holcolmb, Dept. of Ecology
Joe O'Brien, Seaport Alliance
Andy Comstock, TPC Health Department
Susan Forsyth, WA EMD
David Willey, 10th CST
Leyla Oxford, 10th CST
Dione Mazzolini, Seattle FBI
Josh Shelton, Tacoma EM

Meeting Information:

Start Time: 13:30 Adjourn: 14:53
Location: 3600 Port of Tacoma Road, Tacoma, WA 98424

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions:

The Vice Chair, Todd Kilpatrick welcomed everyone, and introductions were made. The Chair, Jay Summerlin, was unable to attend the meeting.

Approval of October 9, 2018 Meeting Minutes:

The meeting minutes for October 9, 2019 were reviewed. Rictor Overly made a motion to accept the minutes as they are. Andy Comstock seconded the motion. All voted to approve the notes. None opposed. Motion carried.

AristaTek's PEAC-WMD Software Demo by Snohomish County:

Mark Murphy gave a presentation of the AristaTek - PEAC-WMD system used by the LEPC in Snohomish County. This is the same software that was presented by the AristaTek company in October. The presentation seen here will also be given at the State LEPC Conference. The fixed facilities consist of the reported Tier II companies. The rail data in the system comes from Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF). Snohomish County did a commodity survey of trucks traveling through the County. The survey was done in three locations, three times of the day for several days and gave them quantities of trucks moving through and whether or not they had hazmat placards on the truck. There are three sections in the system:

- Technical Reference: research chemicals. Can look up individual chemicals (Descriptions, effects, flashpoints, parts per million, exposure levels, symptoms, PPE and more.)
- Tier II facilities – Lists all the fixed facilities in the county that have submitted reports. This includes a map view. You can look it up by address or facility name. You can do plume modeling with current weather as well. Also shows schools, fire stations, etc.
- Worst Case Scenarios – Projection of worst-case scenarios. Good for planning and exercises. You can also do this for a spill from a fixed or rail car location. The system will even give you evacuation times. Models are built into the system, so you don't have to learn multiple systems.

The Snohomish County Hazmat Team uses this system frequently and successfully. It is easy to use and doesn't take very long to set up during an incident. Mark would like to see the State purchase this system for all the counties. Susan Forsyth said that although the requesting period is closed this year, the HMEP grant would be a good one to apply next year to get this system.

Capability Assessment Brief-Out:

Chelsey Bell gave a briefing on the Capability Assessment that was done on a regional scale that included King and Snohomish Counties as well. This a new requirement that FEMA has put on particular grant programs this year. This tested our ability to collect information and data on a large scale in a short timeframe. The handouts distributed show the results pertaining to core capabilities that are related to this group for hazmat. The information was pulled from the trainings and exercises, after action reviews from real world incidents and from a large workshop that brought in stakeholders from local, state and federal resources. When looking at this data, we need to ask ourselves: Is any information listed still true for our region? Is any information missing? Are there industry standards or state laws that change or create new targets for us to reach that we need to assess or add into this process?

Another product being developed is a scenario to supplement this assessment, then look at the impacts and critical targets so we can better understand what our capabilities are. One of the core capabilities on the list is to be able to measure our ability to assess, obtain and begin to clean up hazmat releases. The scenario at the time was for one hazmat scenario. We are working with the fusion center to develop additional scenarios and realized that a lot of them were Seattle based which is a gap for us. We are working on a scenario that will be sent out to everyone with some specific questions and details to look over. Last year, a virtual survey was done, but they didn't get as much input as desired. A different regional survey is being developed so folks can participate throughout the year, at their own pace. If you have any feedback or comments about this, please contact Chelsey Bell at Chelsey.bell@piercecounitywa.gov.

Susan Forsythe said that the State Emergency Response Commission is working on updating the CBRNE report which may have a lot of information to use for next year.

New Business:

The LEPC Tribal Conference will be April 30 – May 2, 2019. Jay Summerlin and Todd Kilpatrick will be attending. Mark Murphy will also be there talking about the Snohomish County Software Demo. Information will be brought back to the next LEPC meeting. An interesting focus this year is hazmat incidents caused by natural hazards. There will be a presentation on an early earthquake warning. A speaker from Hawaii will be talking about hazmat issues that came about during the Kalawao incident.

There is a public comment opportunity for the NuStar Tacoma prevention Plan. It started March 25th and ends April 25th at 5:00 PM. To review all the plans and comment, visit the Department of Ecology website. <https://ecology.wa.gov/Events/Spills/spill-prevention-plans/NuStar-Tacoma>

US Coast Guard District 13 and Washington State Department of Ecology are co-hosting a Best Achievable Protection (BAP) Technology Workshop on May 14th and 15th at the Federal Building in downtown Seattle.

This workshop is open to the public and free to attend and will focus on current technology developments and spill response issues. As the workshop hosts are still developing the agenda, contact either Scott Knutson at 206-220-7219 or scott.r.knutson@uscg.mil or Sonja Larson at sonja.larson@ecy.wa.gov or 360-407-6682, if you are interested in presenting. For registration, please contact Erica Bates at erica.bates@ecy.wa.gov.

North Dakota may sue Washington over the oil train safety bill. The Washington State Legislature has additional regulations of transport of crude oil through the State of Washington by rail to make it safer for transportation. The North Dakota attorney general's office is going to sue due to it being unnecessary. No bill has been passed yet. It keeps getting amended.

Dionne Mazzolini mentioned something to be aware of, especially with the securing of chemicals. Flammable gas is being used to break into ATM machines. We have seen several of them in Pierce County, one of which was on the news this morning.