

May 25, 2023 – Meeting Minutes  
Story County Emergency Operations Center

**Attendees:**

Amanda Bottorff – Ag Leader Technology	Tom Hackett – Ames FD
Kyle Thompson- Story County Sheriff's Office	Paul Richmond- Iowa State University
Kyle Vander Molen-Syngenta Seeds	Geoff Huff-Ames PD
Melissa Spencer- SCEMA	David Cooper – SCEMA
Kimberly Grandinetti – SCEH	Gary Backous – Story County Sheriff's Office
Ryan Jansen – Key Cooperative	Brad Azeltine – Iowa DOT
Jason Ziph – Ames FD	

**Call to Order:**

Meeting called to order at 1:30 PM by Spencer with a welcome and introductions

**Approval of Agenda & Minutes:**

Approval of May 2022 minutes and August Tentative Agenda. Motion by Richmond, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Huff. MCU

**East Palestine Incident Overview:**

Spencer covered statistics surrounding the East Palestine train derailment in February 2023. The incident called for the evacuation of 2,000 residents within a one-mile area from the incident for 5 days until five train cars could be drained or burned off. The EPA has established a website that shows the ongoing cleanup efforts showing that as of May they have hauled away 39,000 tons of soil, and 16 million gallons of water. The economic impact to the government and households is over \$11 million dollars.

The chemicals spilled at East Palestine are on the rails in Story County. The 2022 Union Pacific Commodity flow study shows 204 cars of Isobutylene, 68 cars of Ethyl Glycol, and 3 cars of Vinyl Chloride passed through Story County.

The top chemicals that Union Pacific ships on the rails through Story County are alcohols, to include anhydrous and denatured petroleum, assorted hazardous material shipments, ethanol related products, and sulfuric and hydrochloric acids.

If East Palestine would happen here are we ready for a prolonged recovery coordination period, emergency sheltering & feeding for 5 days, public information management, and economic impacts to the community and businesses. What can we do to be prepared? Ensure first responders have appropriate training. Increase coordination with Union Pacific in order to determine how to support them locally.

**Old Business:**

**Planning Committee Overview and Discussion**

Spencer informed the group of the planning meeting that took place in March. The planning committee wants to focus on public outreach, Tier 2 facility outreach, and wants assistance from other LEPC partners to assist with the outreach.

## **Planning and Training**

The committee also wants to host a risk management planning session in August to facilitate requirements for certain companies and cooperatives to do the planning. The committee recommended doing a commodity flow study to know what hazardous materials travel through Story County by rail and road.

## **Future Meeting Schedules**

Spencer proposed standardizing the LEPC meeting schedule topics starting with the next calendar year. February meetings are general LEPC related presentations, May is the approval of ESF 10 and Emergency Response Planning Workshop, August is another general LEPC related presentation, and November is an Emergency Response Planning Workshop.

## **New Business:**

### **EPA RMP Planning Requirements**

The group authorized Spencer to begin coordinating an RMP workshop in August where the LEPC will bring businesses and cooperatives which have RMP requirements together with their local first responders to work on the risk management plans. Spencer will attempt to schedule this for August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

### **Approval of ESF 10 – Hazardous Materials**

The new ESF 10 had only minor adjustments. Motion by Hackett, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ziph to approve ESF 10 as presented. MCU. Hackett mentioned they should update the ESF once Ames FD receives new radiation detection equipment. Spencer agreed, and stated the SCEMA will make the changes to the next iteration.

### **Future Commodity Flow Study**

Spencer advised the last commodity flow study was conducted in 2018. It is time to look at another one. There is grant funding available because we have an active LEPC that could pay for the study. The next grant should open in January. Motion by Ziph, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Azeltine to apply for the grant when it opens.

### **Region 6 LEPC Visit Overview**

Spencer and the Boone County EM Coordinator visited Iowa Region 6's LEPC. Region 6, which is comprised of around 12 counties, has an award-winning program. A lot of the EMs do the LEPC work. Spencer was able to get some ideas for public outreach. They conduct tours of facilities in their region – we may consider doing this in Story County. Boone and Story Counties may look into combining LEPCs in the future need to look at how and when.

## **Training:**

### **Business Continuity Planning**

Spencer presented the group with the idea of conducting business continuity training. She found a 1-day course from RDPC which would be free and could be delivered in person or through Zoom. The group decided in person would be best. Spencer may open this training up to other businesses after the LEPC members have the chance to register.

### **Hostile Intruder**

Spencer offered the idea of having Story County Sheriff's Office provide hostile intruder training. The group asked for train-the-trainer training so they could take it back to their organizations. The group

suggested a training event no longer than a half-day. Spencer is going to work with the Sherriff's Office to coordinate the training. Spencer may open this training up to other businesses after the LEPC members have the chance to register.

### **Union Pacific Response Process & Integration**

Spencer proposed having Union Pacific come talk about what an emergency response would look like from their perspective and how they would plan to work with first responders. The group was open to this idea as part of a future LEPC meeting

### **Iowa DOT & Traffic Management Center for I-35 Closures**

Spencer proposed having the Iowa DOT and Traffic management Center talk to the group about the impacts of closing I-35, and maybe a tour of the Traffic Management Center in Ankeny. The group was open to this idea as part of a future LEPC meeting.

Other training topics brought up were a PIO for businesses. Polk County hosted one provided by Patrick Dix. Training on suspicious packages and people would be welcome.

### **Exercises:**

Spencer reported on the EOC/ICC exercise conducted in late April. She stated there were lots of new EOC staff and the ICC was a new concept for Ames. The exercise was terrorism based and because of this, was funded through a grant. There were lots of lessons learned and she has a draft After Action Review – she will share the final AAR when she receives it. Hackett added that during the exercise some of the Ames ICC sections were busier than others and they also had lots of lessons learned. One of their bigger issues is better coordination with the EOC. He also asked if SCEMA plans to staff the EOC for RAGBRAI – currently, SCEMA does not.

### **IDNR reported spills:**

- November 25, 2002- Barilla- 5 Gallons of Diesel Fuel
- November 29, 2022- Danfoss- Water & Chemical from Cooling System
- January 6, 2023- Kum & Go Ames- 5 gallons of diesel fuel
- February 24, 2023- 13<sup>th</sup> St & Stange Rd- CyRide Radiator
- March 19, 2023- Kwik Star, Story City- 5 gallons of diesel Fuel
- April 9, 2023- Kwik Star, Story City- 100 gallons of diesel fuel

Hackett noted that the list above does not include a mercury spill which was reported to IDNR.

Spencer and Azeltine both mentioned recent incidents which are not on the list, but that we can expect to see at the next meeting. Spencer's was of an anhydrous ammonia release and Azeltine's was the discovery of a pool of hydraulic fluid in an elevator shaft which was released years ago.

**Next meeting:** August 24<sup>th</sup> 2023 (tentative) RMP workshop

Motion by Spencer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ziph to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM