



**Cumberland County
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
Meeting Minutes January 23, 2025**

The Cumberland County Local Emergency Planning Committee met on January 23, 2025, at the Cumberland County Public Health Department located 1235 Ramsey St, Fayetteville, NC with a virtual option via Microsoft Teams.

Attendance:

- See attached documents (sign in from in person attendees and the login sheet generated from Microsoft Teams attendees)

Introductions and Approval of the Minutes:

Welcomes and introductions were made at the beginning of the meeting. The preceding meeting minutes were approved by the committee. (Motioned by Commissioner Tyson, Seconded by Laura Smith)

Membership Update/Nominations:

- Recognized Commissioner Henry Tyson as the representative of the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners to the LEPC.
- Discussed reappointment of George White (Hospital) and Amy Matteo (Local Environmental) to their respective roles. Both agreed to reaffirm. (Motioned by Greg Phillips and seconded by David Richtmeyer)
- Discussed previous appointment of Daniel Davis to the role as Hexion representative, who accepted the nomination. (Motioned by Greg Phillips and seconded by David Richtmeyer)
- Addressed vacancy for the transportation representative. Discussed potential candidates to include. Representative Andrew LeGala and Deonte Watson from the airport advised they are interested and would discuss further which of them could take on this role. Andrew advised they would have an answer for the committee by next month.
- Committee proceeded with nominations for the chairperson and vice chairperson. There was discussion to confirm that ex-officio members ability to serve in these positions. Noted that there is nothing in our bylaws to bar this process, and Stefan Coutoulakis with the NCEM confirmed that other LEPCs are in similar situations, and we (NCEM) encourage all participation. Commissioner Tyson was nominated and unanimously elected as the chairperson. Daniel Davis from Hexion was nominated for vice-chairperson. Daniel was unanimously elected, contingent upon confirmation from the Board of Commissioners approval of an out-of-county resident to the board.

Notifications:

- No spill notifications were received.



- Three arrangements from Lowes facilities within Cumberland County, simply advising they have hazardous material and are agreeing and in accordance with our policies here within the County and State.

2025 Meeting Dates

- Confirmation of the 2025 dates as follows:
 - April 24
 - July 14
 - October 23.
- Request for facilities to host
- Commissioner Tyson requested the April meeting be held at the FTCC training facility on Tom Starling. Amanda Scheck agreed to reach out to coordinate.
- Greg (Wal-Mart), requested to discuss what host a meeting entail. Chief Richtmeyer advised that we are looking for facilities who have sufficient space to host and to present the facility emergency plan. Garry Crumpler added that a typical presentation would commonly include a review/photo of restricted areas, and an overview of information that we may need to plan for. Vicky inquired how many people typically attend a LEPC meeting. Advised 30-45 is the average attendance.
- Mikki Jones (Cargill) advise they would take the October meeting.

Brochure

- Amanda discussed the LEPC brochure has been finalized and approved by PIO. Will send the brochure out to the full committee for their input.

Training Requests/Lunch and Learn

- Still looking for ideas and topics to be sent for these meetings. Reiterate that the LEPC is a great place for facilities to run their plans through.
- Review of the Public Health Game by Greg Phillips. Presented the importance of our community awareness of hosting a reception center due to our proximity to Sharron Harris facility and in the IPZ.
- Agreed to present and play the game at the April LEPC meeting.

2025 LECP Authorization

- Confirmation that the 2025 Authorization was submitted and approved by the State.

Tier II Reporting

- Amanda discussed that reporting season is open as of January 1 and runs through midnight March 1st. Reminder to please verify the information before submission. Pay special attention to the responding fire department jurisdiction.
- Stefan (NCEM) spoke about the new Marina question added this year and that it was instated due to a number of marinas were claiming commercial gas station exemption, which they specifically do not fall under.



- Chief Richtmeyer noted that the RRT program is funded through the fees collected during Tier II submission reports. This program is celebrating 30 years so not only is filing necessary to meet SARA Title III requirements but also important to ensure that if a facility does have any type of emergency leak, spill, that we have the appropriate response capability to handle it.

Emergency Response Plan

- We need to coordinate a review this year. This is one of the primary functions of the LEPC. A hold was put on when the meeting would be held, either in conjunction with a regular LEPC meeting or if a special meeting will need to be called.
- Commissioner Tyson advised will follow up at the April meeting after having an opportunity to confer on the topic.

Lunch and Learn

- Garry presented information on interest in hosting a lunch and learn opportunity here local.
- Ask for a list of topics that committee would like to cover be sent to Amanda.
- Suggestions of using topics we already address as a joint effort, Cyber Security, Holiday Safety Preparedness, (Use of education on what we and stakeholders are doing to promote these activities). Swift water training was suggested.
- Michael Jones (NC Electric Membership Corporation) inquired about Plum modeling and the possibility of an exercise involving a battery energy storage container site and how Plum modeling can be used regarding evacuation radius.

Conferences

- Push to attend the Wake County B.E.S.T conference is January 30th and encourage anyone to attend if possible.

Open Forum

- Garry thanked all of our partners that responded to any type of incident that occurred due to our recent winter weather.
- Laura Smith pushed information regarding an upcoming airport exercise. Noted that the airport is required to host a table top each year and a full-scale exercise every three years. Offered an invitation to anyone who may want to observe.
- Stefan, offered thanks to Cumberland County for their assistance in the region, specifically support provided in the Lumberton exercises.
- Carson Walker asked to discuss the out-of-county applicant status. Garry Crumpler advised that he got clarification from the county manager on that topic. We can go ahead and process the applications. It is already established precedent that the Board of Commissioners do on a case-by-case basis, vote for members that are not necessarily a member or a resident of Cumberland County as long as any laws and statute's do not prohibit or say that that member has to live in Cumberland County. Commissioner Tyson advised that if there is a policy conflict at the Commissioner level, he can get that on the policy committee agenda and work to get those exemptions.



- Michelle Gonzalez inquired on how the community partners can assist/support the LEPC. It was discussed that one of the main ways right now we are looking at our points of distribution plans among other things. We need volunteers out in the community to help with that effort. Mention of the Community Emergency Response Team is always looking for volunteers and can help in things such as light search and rescue, fire suppressions, medical first aid and disaster response.
- Thanks, given to Chief Richtmeyer for his time serving as the Chairman. Chief Richtmeyer then thanks Garry Crumpler and his team for the support.

Next Meeting:

- April 24, 2025, 10:00 AM, 775 Tom Starling Rd, Fayetteville, NC 28306

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was unanimous. (11:22)
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Supporting materials for this meeting may be requested by contacting the Cumberland County Emergency Management department.