

Des Moines County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2024, 4:00 PM

Burlington Fire Department or zoom, 418 Valley St. Burlington, IA 52601

I. Opening Protocol

A. *Welcome and Call to Order*

The meeting was called to order at 1602.

B. *Introductions*

1) New members complete “Nomination” form

C. *Approval of the Agenda*

Motion to approve the agenda by Christa Poggemiller with a second by Jim Mehaffey.

Motion Passed.

II. Approval of previous meeting minutes – May 6, 2023

Motion to approve the previous meeting minutes by Ken and second by Chief Adam. *Motion Carried.*

III. Old Business

A. *Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grants Report, Prado*

1) 2023 HMEP Grant –

i. *Commodity Flow Survey- completed June 2024 by Michael Morlan, Two Rivers Emergency Management, Prado*

i. *We went over a broad list of the study itself and looked at incidents that were reordered over the last 20 years via railcar, tanker truck, waterways and spills for each of those. We also looked at what is moving through the county on a regular basis for commodities.*

1. **It was stated that some information was missing about what was moving for commodities on roadways (it is listed for waterways and for railways). *Shannon said she would reach out to Michael to see if we could receive further information.*

2. *Shannon felt the study for waterways was very generalized information and that it needed to be more in depth. Again, Shannon will reach out to Michael.*

ii. *It was interesting to see what kind of spills we see more frequently in the county. It was also interesting to see the timeline of the majority of spills (May, June and July).*

iii. *There has been a decrease in spills in DMC since 2019.*

iv. *Went over recommendations from study.*

b. *We also discussed the issues with wind turbines around the state of Iowa and how it has become a Hazmat nightmare for many counties in Iowa. The county has been discussing tightening its land ordinances because of this. Ken said another piece of this is because the materials are very hard to dispose of especially in Iowa. There are only two places in Iowa that take those kinds of materials.*

ii. *Training*

- iii. *We were unable to send any Hazmat technicians this year to the conference so in lieu of that Shannon will be attending a few trainings over the course of the next few months to better familiarize herself with Hazmat and her role in the LEPC.*
- 2) 2024 HMEP Grant
 - i. *Training- Four hazmat technicians will be going to the International Hazardous Materials Symposium in Baltimore, MD to attend sessions related to hazmat transportation. (June 2025).
**** If this CANNOT happen, please let me know in advance and we may be able to send a few other folks from the LEPC. I will also be attending this training!***
- 3) 2025 HMEP Grant – Prado/Howard
 - i. **NOI due November 29, 2024-** *We discussed a few ideas and discussed what could be used for this grant and what the cap was for cost. I stated that it had to be training related (learning new techniques, equipment, conferences, etc.) One idea that was thrown out was asking about training hospital staff for the handheld gas meter for decontamination. Currently they are just using paper strips and they are not very accurate. There was some discussion on whether this would be possible to train on- what level of training they were looking for-4 gas meter? 5 gas meter? If it were necessary?*
 - ii. *Region 6 uses training for volunteer operations level (Lynn Co.) if we want to check into that?*
- 4) *Des Moines County Spill Response Ordinance Report – Howard/Wilson*
 - i. *This was tabled since neither were in attendance.*

IV. New Business

A. *Election of Officers for 2024*

- 1) It was motioned by Jim Mehaffey and seconded by Christa Poggemiller to keep officers as they are for the next year election year. *Motion Carried.*
Shannon Prado- Chair, Ken Morris- Vice Chair, Ray Wilson- Secretary

B. *Reports Submitted – Review*

- 1) Only report I received was from IAAAP.

C. *Incidents Reported* <https://programs.iowadnr.gov/hazardousspills/Introductory.aspx>

- 1) April 22, 2024 / West Ave./Roosevelt Ave.- Truck dropped unknown substances from tank and continued driving. (Ammonium Phosphate- 700 gal)
- 2) June 4, 2024 / Iowa Fertilizer Plant- 100 Lbs. of Anhydrous Ammonia was released into the atmosphere from a safety valve on a pool reactor.
- 3) September 25, 2024 / Circle K Gas Station- Contractor damaged a gas line at one of the pumps causing a spill (5 gal. gasoline)

The incidents were discussed and one stuck out as it is in Lee County- the June 4th account. I agreed to reach out to correct this. Otherwise, we were aware of the West Ave. incident (spoke about it at the last meeting) and then the September 25th incident was a small response.

D. *Exercises/training available*

- 1) Security and Emergency Response Training Center- Pueblo, CO
<https://sertc.org/courses/>- Fully Funded

DRAFT

- B. Rail Car Incident Response for Crude, Ethanol & Other Flammable Liquids-
 - 1) **When: July 30, 2025, Where: Burlington Fire Department**
- C. BNSF- Community Responders Training
 - Applied for Des Moines County
- D. Center for Disaster Preparedness: FEMA: <https://cdp.dhs.gov/>

Reports/Schedule

- i. ESF-10 TTX, Prado

V. Adjournment Protocol

- A. *Future Meetings* (minimum requirement of two meetings per federal fiscal year)
 - 1) May 2025
 - a. Review of ESF-10 and Tier II Reports
 - 2) November 2025
 - a. Officer Elections

Meeting Adjourned at 1646.