

# Thurston County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

## MINUTES

July 24, 2025, 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Location: Thurston County EM via Microsoft Teams

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair, Leonard Johnson at 1:01 p.m.
2. **Attendance:** A quorum was present.

### LEPC Members:

Leonard Johnson, Chair, McLane Black Lake Fire  
Zach Heinemeyer, InterCity Transit  
Cal Bray, Chehalis Tribe  
Chris Caprio, WA EMD  
Jayson Lelli, Tacoma Power  
Alex Dingess, TC PHSS  
Jack Lane, TC Public Works  
Mike Cerovski, TC Fire Chiefs Association

Mike Buchanan, Vice Chair, City of Olympia  
Alex Sains, WA State Dept. of Ecology  
Shawn Crimmins, City of Tumwater  
Kyle Bustad, TCEM  
Ed Taylor, City of Lacey  
Lit Dudley, WSDOT  
Scott Lancaster, WSP Fire Marshall  
Mary Hobday, PSE

### LEPC Coordinator:

Brandon Cheney, TCEM  
Sarah Spearman, TCEM

### Guests:

Nathan Worthington, Tacoma Power  
Clinton Davis, Chehalis Tribe  
Carrie Gillum, City of Tumwater  
Alex Mollinedo, WA State DES  
Pothga Phillips, Ice Cold Consulting  
Larry Smith, American Red Cross  
Jackie LaVerne, Evergreen State College  
Kim Gubbe, Thurston PUD  
Yasmin Rivera, Capital Region ESD 113  
Sean Thompson, WSP  
Jennifer Schmidt, Lacey Fire Dept.

3. **Approval of Agenda**  
Ed Taylor made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Kyle Bustad seconded, and the motion carried. Agenda is approved.
4. **Approval of March 27, 2025, and May 22, 2025, Meeting Minutes**  
Kyle Bustad moved to approve the March 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes, Chris Caprio seconded, and the motion carried. March 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes are approved.  
  
Larry Smith moved to approve the May 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting Minutes, Mike Buchanan seconded, and the motion carried. May 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting Minutes are approved.
5. **Public Comment:**  
No comments from the Public

## 6. Announcements:

- i. Mass Violence Incident Planning Workshop, May 29-30
  - Thurston County EM and Public Health and Social Services are leading the development of a mass violence incident response plan. Stakeholder meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 9:00 AM. Interested agencies can contact Alex Dingess (alex.dingess@co.thurston.wa.us), Cherie Carey (cherie.carey@co.thurston.wa.us) and Brandon Cheney (brandon.cheney@co.thurston.wa.us)
- ii. Preparedness Expo, September 20<sup>th</sup>
  - The annual Preparedness Expo is scheduled for September 20<sup>th</sup>. Contact Cherie Carey (cherie.carey@co.thurston.wa.us) if you would like more information.
- iii. Fall/Winter Weather Briefing, October 23<sup>rd</sup> (proposed program for 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. LEPC Meeting)
  - This briefing will be held in tandem with the fourth-quarter LEPC meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, starting at 1:00 PM.
- iv. HELP Award | CHEMTREC®, grant applications due September 5<sup>th</sup> (\$10k award, Fire Depts Only)
  - Fire service agencies (local and state) are eligible to apply for a \$10,000 grant for hazardous materials response equipment / programs. Brandon can assist with grant writing if any fire agencies are interested.
- v. BP Olympic Pipeline Emergency Response Webinars, multiple dates July – August, register online
  - BP Olympic Pipeline is offering webinars for emergency responders in July and August, providing information on responding to pipeline releases/leaks and points of contact. A link is embedded in the agenda.
- vi. Providence Swedish at St. Peter's Hospital Decon Setup
  - On August 6<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, Providence-Swedish St. Peter's Hospital will be inventorying and setting up their decon trailer equipment in the emergency room parking lot. All are welcome to observe to learn more about the hospitals decon capabilities.

## 7. Old Business

None

## 8. New Business

- i. Discussion – Public Information, Alert, & Warning via TC Alert – Kyle/Sonya/Brandon, TCEM
  - Thurston County Emergency Management (EM) uses TC Alert as the primary system for Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) and Emergency Alert System (EAS) messages, intended for imminent life or property threats. To ensure rapid activation of alert and warning messaging, we want to emphasize early contact to the EM Duty Officer by either calling the duty officer phone number or making a request for EM support through TCOMM 911. Also want to emphasize encouraging public to sign-ups for TC Alert if they live, work, or play in Thurston County.

## 9. Subcommittees & Standing Reports

- i. Emergency Support Function #10 Oil & Hazardous Materials – Brandon Cheney, TCEM
  - Updates to the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan are awaiting adoption by the Board of Commissioners. A review of the LEPC hazmat response plan is planned for the future.

- ii. Hazardous Materials Incident & Spills Report Review – Alison Meyers, WA ECY
  - May 22<sup>nd</sup> – July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 14 oil incidents, 6 non-oil incidents, and 1 hazmat (lithium-ion battery) incident occurred.
  - Lithium-ion Battery Incident (Olympia): A small home battery system reignited. Ecology is partnering with Lacey Fire to assist homeowners with safe containment and disposal, as these incidents are becoming more common. Homeowners remain the responsible party for disposal.
  - Truck Accident (Nisqually): A truck crashed into a creek near I5, reported quickly by Washington State Patrol. A light sheen of motor oil was observed but not recoverable, no further sheen after vehicle removal.
  - Diesel Spill (Capital Lake): A significant diesel sheen was found on June 21<sup>st</sup>, originating from a semi-truck accident earlier that morning that was not reported. The incident is being investigated for enforcement.
- iii. Tier II Reporting – Diane Fowler, WA ECY
  - Representative not in attendance. Reports are due March 1<sup>st</sup> every year. Businesses storing over 10,000 pounds of any material requiring an MSDS or extremely hazardous substances above EPA-specified thresholds must submit Tier 2 reports to Ecology, their local LEPC (Emergency Management), and their local fire department.
- iv. State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Update – Chris Caprio, WA EMD
  - Casey Broom, Washington EMD representative on the SERC, has moved to a new role. Patrick Niles will be stepping into her role in the interim.

**10. Good of the Order/Closing Remarks**

- i. 2025 LEPC Meeting Schedule
  - October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1:00pm

**11. Meeting Adjourned:**

Meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.