

Thurston County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Official Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, January 22, 2026

Location: Thurston County Emergency Coordination Center (ECC), 9521 Tilley Rd S, Olympia, WA

Hybrid: In-person and Microsoft Teams

1. Opening

The meeting was called to order at **1:00 PM** by **Brandon Cheney**, LEPC Coordinator, serving as **Acting Chair**, at the Thurston County Emergency Coordination Center.

Due to the absence of both the Chair and Vice Chair, a motion was made and approved to appoint Brandon Cheney as Acting Chair for this meeting in accordance with LEPC bylaws.

2. Attendance

Voting Members:

Brandon Cheney (LEPC Coordinator / Acting Chair), Thruston County Emergency Management

Kyle Bustad, Thruston County Emergency Management

Chris Caprio, Washington State Emergency Management

Alison Meyers, Washington State Department of Ecology

Serad, Courtney, Washington State Department of Ecology

Mike Cerovski, Lacey Fire District

Clinton Davis, Chehalis Tribe Emergency Management

Jeff Choke, Nisqually Tribe Emergency Management

Rob Carlson, City of Yelm Emergency Management / Police Department

Randy Haines, City of Olympia Emergency Management / Fire Department

Paul Brewster, Thurston Regional Planning Council

Dudley, Littleton, Washington State Department of Transportation

Shawn Crimmins, City of Tumwater Emergency Management / Fire Department

Lancaster, Scott, Washington State Patrol State Fire Marshal's Office

Alex Dingess, Thurston County Public Health and Social Services

Daphne Devlin, Thurston County Public Health and Social Services

Ed Taylor, City of Lacey Emergency Management

Zach Heinemeyer, Intercity Transit

Mary Hobday, Puget Sound Energy

Jonnica Elkins, Thurston 911 Communications (TCOMM 911)

Kim Gubbe, Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County (Thurston PUD)

Associates and Guests:

Diane Fowler, Washington State Department of Ecology

Emily Powers, Washington State Department of Ecology

Aaron Robertson, Washington State Patrol State Fire Marshal's Office

Keller, Doris T, Washington State Department of Health

Martin, Katherine, Washington State Department of Health

Kelly Sunagel, Northwest Healthcare Response Network

Pothga Phillips, Refrigerating Engineers & Technicians Association (RETA)

Mollinedo, Alex, Washington State Department of Enterprise Services

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed.

Motion: Mike Cerovski to approve as presented.

Second: Chris Caprio

Vote: Motion carried

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the **October 2025 LEPC meeting** were reviewed.

Motion: Mike Cerovski to approve as written.

Second: Chris Caprio

Vote: Motion carried

5. Public Comment: No public comment

6. Announcements

- February 9th Ammonia Safety Day Planning, point of contact Kayla.Moore@ammonia-safety.com reach out if your agency is interested in supporting or otherwise getting involved.
- WA State HazMat Workshop that was scheduled for April 2-4 has been cancelled due to lapse in federal funding. Federal funding is now in the process of being approved to resume HazMat classes. Will be planning Energy Symposium in place of workshop, more details to follow as planning goes underway.
- Washington State LEPC Conference April 14-16 at the WA L&I HQ in Lacey, WA. Lodging funds available for one person per LEPC for those outside 50 miles of event venue.

7. Business From the Previous Meeting

- **Vice Chair Vacancy and Election**
 - The committee continued business from the prior meeting regarding the Vice Chair vacancy following the retirement of Mike Buchanan.
 - **Nomination:** Michael Cerovski
 - **Motion:** Chris Caprio to elect Mike Cerovski
 - **Second:** Ed Taylor
 - **Vote:** Motion carried. Michael Swarovski elected **Vice Chair**, filling the remainder of the current term.

8. New Business

Annual Review of LEPC Membership

- LEPC Membership was reviewed and clarified as being by **agency**, not tied to a specific individual.
- Each organization designates a **primary and alternate representative** with voting authority.
- Agencies missing **two consecutive meetings without communication** may be referred to the Thurston County Emergency Management Council for review
- The Thurston County Emergency Management Council serves as the oversight committee to appoint LEPC membership.
- Current LEPC membership is published on Thurston County Emergency Management's website page dedicated to the LEPC.
- **Action Items:**
 - LEPC Coordinator to submit the current membership roster to Thurston County Emergency Management Council, Washington State Emergency Response Commission, and LEPC Members
 - LEPC Coordinator and Chair will follow up with inactive members for confirmation of designated representatives.

9. Subcommittees and Standing Reports

- **ESF #10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials Response Planning**

Presented by Brandon Cheney

- The LEPC Hazardous Materials Response Plan is currently incorporated as an appendix to the County's ESF #10 Annex.
- The plan is approaching its five-year review requirement.
- **Action:** Establish an ESF #10 planning workgroup, including Ecology and fire service representation, with the goal of LEPC approval by **4th Quarter 2026**.

- **Hazardous Materials Incident & Spill Report**

Presented by Alison Meyers, WA Department of Ecology

- Approximately **40 hazardous materials incidents** were reported in Thurston County during the previous quarter.
- Most incidents involved petroleum products; **11 required field response**.
- Multiple semi-truck crashes near Capital Lake resulted in repeated stormwater contamination.
 - Actions have been discussed with WSDOT and WSP to help mitigate semi-truck accidents in that specific area such as stormwater infrastructure improvements and/or adjustments to speed limits / zones in the area.
 - Brandon Cheney and Chris Caprio will investigate eligibility of HMEP or other funds that could fund potential spill mitigation projects in that area.
- A notable residential heating oil spill in Eld Inlet highlighted risks associated with aging home heating oil tanks.
 - One key takeaway was learning the **Pollution Liability Insurance Agency (PLIA) program** no longer offers insurance to homeowners and has transitioned to a grant-based cleanup model, which may affect response timelines.

- **Tier II Hazardous Materials Reporting**

Presented by Diane Fowler, WA Department of Ecology

- Tier II reports are due **March 1, 2026**, covering chemicals present during calendar year 2025.
- **160 facilities** reported Tier II information in Thurston County during the previous reporting cycle.
- Tier II data is accessible to responders via **E-Plan** and the **WA EPCRA Mobile App**.
- Thurston County Emergency Management continues to clean, geocode, and integrate Tier II data into GIS products for responder / local government use.

- **State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Updates**

Presented by Chris Caprio, WA EMD

- The **Spring 2026 WA State HazMat Workshop** has been cancelled due to federal funding constraints.
- The **LEPC Conference** will be held **April 14–16, 2026**, at Washington State L&I Headquarters in Lacey.
- SERC will fund lodging for **one representative per LEPC** traveling from outside the 50-mile radius.

10. **Good of the order / Closing remarks**

- **Administrative Update:**

- Committee was notified that administrative support staff has departed Thurston County.
- LEPC correspondence will be handled by the LEPC Coordinator until a replacement is identified.

11. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at **2:54 PM** by **Brandon Cheney**.

The next meeting will be held on **April 23, 2026, at 1:00 PM**, in a **hybrid format**, location to be announced.