



## MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** September 23, 2015  
**Time:** 9:05 am to 10:10 am  
**Location:** 4 Dana Road, Valhalla, NY

### Attendees

Peter McDonough	Chairperson	Josh Klein	ICL
Kevin Ryan	WCOEM	Dennis Delborgo	WCOEM
Pete Pitocco	WCDES	Dan Olmoz	WCOEM
Anthony Gruerio	WCDOC	Heather De Matteo	Con Edison
Nyle Salley	WCDES/EMS	Chris Crane	Board of Legislators
Jeff Newell	ICL	Chris Lalak	WCDOH
Brian Anderson	Pace University	James Luciano	WCPD
Marwan Fanek	US VA	Pete Pitocco	WCDES

### Technical Presentations

Presentations began at 9:05 a.m.  
*Anthony Gruerio, WCDOC*

### Statements by Chairperson

Meeting was held at the FTC, 4 Dana Road, Valhalla, NY.  
Meeting was called to order by Peter McDonough at 9:05 a.m.

Members were requested to sign in.

### Minutes

Minutes from the June 2, 2015 meeting were read by Peter McDonough who made the motion to accept the minutes. It was seconded by Pete Pitocco and approved with none opposed..

### County Report

The County deals with minor releases on a daily basis, most of which are handled by local fire departments and spill contractors. Occasionally, there are significant incidents that would be of interest to the group.

There was an incident involving a nursing home with a petroleum spill related to a malfunctioning valve from a large underground tank to a small “day tank” located on the roof. The spill in the basement caused fumes throughout the facility, however no evacuation was ordered. The event resulted in a several thousand dollar clean-up. Facilities with day tanks should be aware of possibility of this type of event.

At Mercy College during a fuel tank upgrade resulting in a leak in one of the facility’s two 20 thousand gallon tanks of heating oil near an aqueduct.

In Larchmont there was an incident involving construction debris containing asbestos that had been thrown in a garbage truck. The incident was managed by local responders who worked to decon the workers.

There was a HazMat incident that occurred when a local fire department responded to a fire alarm at a residence and a search of the unoccupied home revealed hundreds of containers of flammables. DEC and health departments officials were called in and it was determined that the homeowner who had a background in chemistry had collected the materials over time.

### **Old Business**

LEPC Schedule – The next meeting will be scheduled at the conclusion of this meeting.

LEPC Website – Website has been updated and improved.

Correspondence/Communications – No new correspondence at this time.

Weapons of Mass Destruction Drill – Westchester County conducted a full scale drill to test the Emergency Response Annex on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

Spill Drills – No drill dates were given at this time.

### **New Business**

Tier II Forms – Reports from 2005-2013 are being archived. Chair commented that a reminder letter may be needed to go out to entities reminding them of the need to file Tier II reports. The LEPC is not a regulatory body however it can offer reminders to Tier II facilities. Marwan Fanek suggested that this letter include the requirements for Tier II reports and stress the importance of the availability of information for first responders. It may also be useful to include that there are enforcement powers that can be leveraged by the EPA that could result in significant financial penalties. If letters are not effective, the LEPC may want to consider seeking county legislation of some sort to establish an enforcement capability.

LEPC By-Laws – The Bylaws revision is a work in progress and requires input and participation. Chair expects this as a discussion for the next quarter.

LEPC Website – The minutes of the June 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting will be posted to the website as so as the webmaster is able to post them.

Correspondence/Communications – The Chair received a letter of inquiry from Chris Crane,

attorney for the Westchester County Board of Legislators (BOL). Chris Crane attended the meeting and discussed items of interest to the BOL (see Open Discussion). No other correspondence was received.

HazMat Municipal Tabletop Exercise – This exercise was conducted by the county for municipal officials on September 17 and 18 that relied on the same scenario developed for the full scale exercise held this past summer. Chair McDonough and Dennis Delborgo commented that the exercise revealed some interesting discussions about dealing with HazMat incidents specifically regarding communications, incident command, and mutual assistance. Delborgo commented that the exercise also provided insight about what future training is needed. He expects changes to be forthcoming for the Hazardous Materials Response Annex which will require a public comment period. He suggests a discussion take place in this regard.

Spill Drills – No drill dates were given at this time.

Election of Officers – The Chair requested that an election of officers be conducted to fill vacant officer positions. Brian Anderson from Pace University expressed his willingness to serve as Vice Chair. A motion was made by Dennis Delborgo and seconded by Pete Pitocco and the nomination was approved. The Chair thanked Brian Anderson for agreeing to assist and mention that the regular election of officers will still be scheduled.

#### **Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

A request for future meeting topics was made by the Chair. Suggestions included a vendor demonstration of available HazMat detection equipment, a summary of the HazMat table top exercise, and a discussion of the Metro-North train incident in Valhalla.

#### **Open Discussion**

Attorney for the WC Board of Legislators, Chris Crane presented some items of interest for the BOL for consideration and review by the LEPC. Mentioned was the recent transformer oil spill that occurred at the Indian Point Energy Center. The Spectra-Algonquin pipeline was mentioned as the BOL had received concerns expressed by the public about potential public safety related issues. The pipeline will pass through Blue Mount Reservation (county property) in two phases beginning this winter. It was suggested that the LEPC consider inviting representatives familiar with the pipeline project to a future LEPC meeting to learn more about the project. There is also some information regarding a grant related to pipeline safety that Chris Crane would be willing to pass along.

Pete Pitocoo commented that he recently responded to a call along the Connecticut border where equipment was used to inspect and clean a pipeline overheated causing a potential hazard. The equipment was wet down and cooled by the local fire department and transported to a remote location for repair.

#### **Meeting Close**

Peter McDonough motioned to close the meeting and the meeting of the LEPC was adjourned at 10:10 am.

The date for the next LEPC meeting was scheduled for December 9, 2015 at 9:00 am. The technical presentation will be determined at a later date.

