

Local Emergency Planning Committee
Mailing address; 1121 W. Gardner. Spokane, WA 99201

Minutes

Quarterly Meeting Wednesday – June 16, 2021 Time 9:00 – 10:00

Welcome: Vice Chair – Sharon Colby

Barring some unforeseen event(s), the September 15th, will be our first in-person meeting since the pandemic started.

New Business – Pipeline presentation from March meeting:

On Hold until September.

Carl Weimer, from the Bellingham based Pipeline Safety Trust, provided an overview of the pipelines in Spokane County with some basic information about the different types of pipelines, the products they carry, how they are regulated and by whom, past incidents, and ways to consider the risks they pose to our local communities. He also spent time talking about what authority local governments have regarding such pipelines, and the types of programs and ordinances that local government can implement to provide greater protection for their citizens and the environment.

The Pipeline Safety Trust has been working with the Governor-appointed Washington State Citizen Committee on Pipeline Safety to provide these presentations to local government entities around the state to increase understanding of our pipeline network and give local governments the knowledge, tools, and opportunity to further increase pipeline safety if they decide that is necessary in their community.

NWS update on regional fire season, drought situation, and general weather conditions.

Andy Brown

Overview of the Seasonal Outlook. Drought monitor, wildfire issues, and how this is ramping-up. Always review current information at: <https://www.weather.gov/otx/>

Elected Officials – Sharon Colby

Serious situation with fires season this year – again. Always opportunities for volunteering with your local Fire District.

FD3 training – look at prior fire seasons and future. Sharon gave a report on Team Rubicon and how they assisted the Town of Malden. If you live in a rural area or in the W.U.I. for pine needles in gutters, roofs, and be aware of risk. FD3 is working with rural fire districts with more urban on the West Plains. Pandemic waning and the district is looking forward

State Officials – Pete Hartmann, Sean Thompson, John Geppert, Moody Harmon

Emergency Management – Gerry Bozarth

September LEPC meeting will be in-person. FD10's Training room would be ideal and I will be checking in August to insure it's available. Marathon Pipeline would like to sponsor a breakfast and present for those who attend. I will keep everyone up to date on location progress and will ask for an RSVP for the September meeting.

Water Resources - Shane Sheppard, Kelly Williquette, Todd Henry

Fire Services – Mitch Metzger

Hospital – Darrell Ruby

COVID numbers down, vaccination rates are steady, E. WA lag Western WA. Encourage those to get vaccinated. Variants are problematic and this is why everyone needs vaccinations. Capacity is challenging in healthcare, people delaying care, trauma increasing due to seasonality. Staff are tired, travelers (Medical professionals) are in short supply. WA medical coordination center (similar to our local DMCC) - state system has assisted with coordination from last summer throughout the state. Vaccine incentives continue.

Joe Fields is the new EM at VA Hospital in Spokane.

Media – Vacant

Health – Mike LaScuola

Smoke Ready Week, spread the word to make those more resilient to this issue. Trying to make this more equitable for low income and those with pre-existing health issues.

1st Aid/EMS – Vacant

Transportation – Mike Toole

Law Enforcement – Lt. Chuck Arnold, Jeff Sevigny (WSP)

Community Groups – C.J. Gribble: Team Rubicon – Malden tree removal (burnt trees from Babb Road Fire on Labor Day 2020). Chipping/removed 800 trees in 10 days earlier this month. Team Rubicon will be coming back to Malden in the near future to remove more trees.

Facilities & Pipelines – Chris Church, Ron Dowers, Amy Smith

Chris: Fire Services need to watch for pipelines while cutting fire lines. Always call for a locate when in doubt.

Sally Arnet: Marathon Pipeline would like to sponsor a breakfast and presentation.

Sean with Ecology: call if there is any spills or hazmat issues. Successful mitigation in Pend Oreille County in a wetland of an overturned vehicle recently and diesel spill. Call 509-329-3400.