

LEPC Meeting 5-28-25

Transcript

The Tooele County LEPC meeting covered several key points. Tal from UTA presented on UTA's emergency management, highlighting their extensive transit services and the challenges of responding to incidents. The meeting also discussed a hazardous materials assessment study for Tooele County, identifying gaps in interagency coordination, zoning, permitting, and reporting. Recommendations include forming a hazmat coordinating council and improving community preparedness. The study emphasized the need for local independence in emergency response, given the likelihood of external assistance being unavailable post-disaster. Upcoming events and training opportunities were also mentioned.

Attendees: Tal Ehlers, Graig Warner, Kendall Thomas, Amanda Crump, Tracy Frailey, Dustin Brewer, Brandon Foil, Cavett Eaton, Ben Creelman, Robert Curfew, John Jorgensen, Kathleen VonHatten, Shar Manzione, Christy Montierth, Braden Davis, Jed Colovich, Regina Nelson, Scott Johnson, Zac Smith, Peter Clegg, Glenn Reinicke, Amy Lyman, Scott Horrocks, Bucky Whitehouse, Beckie Boekweg

Action Items

- [] Schedule a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) training class on September 13th.
- [] Bring the findings of the hazardous materials assessment study to the Council of Governments.
- [] Recruit members for a Hazardous Materials Coordinating Council to work with local jurisdictions.
- [] Explore potential changes to the permitting process for hazardous materials.
- [] Promote the use of PEAC modeling software for hazardous materials planning and response.

Outline

Introductions and Meeting Agenda

- Bucky Whitehouse welcomes everyone to the meeting, representing Tooele County Emergency Services and the Tooele County LEPC.
- The agenda includes presentations from Tal and findings from the hazardous materials assessment study.
- Bucky requests participants to identify their agencies and roles for the public record.
- Participants introduce themselves, including representatives from various agencies and departments.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Bucky asks if there are any questions or comments regarding the April 30 version of the LEPC minutes.
- No comments or questions are raised, and a motion to approve the minutes is made and seconded.
- The motion is approved unanimously.

Introduction of Tal's Presentation

- Bucky introduces Tal, who has been with UTA for six years and is a counterpart in emergency management.
- Tal discusses the expansion of UTA services, including light rail, commuter busses, and paratransit services.

UTA's Role and Responsibilities

- Tal explains the role of UTA's police department, which includes responding to accidents and incidents involving UTA vehicles.
- He shares statistics on the number of accidents UTA has responded to in recent years.
- Tal discusses the challenges of covering a large area and the importance of having a mature and experienced police department.

Emergency Management and Incident Command System

- Tal emphasizes the importance of the Incident Command System (ICS) in managing emergencies.
- He explains how UTA's ICS is used to coordinate responses and ensure effective communication with other agencies.
- Tal highlights the need for clear communication and understanding of UTA's capabilities and limitations.

Challenges and Myths in Emergency Management

- Tal addresses common myths about UTA's capabilities, such as the idea that UTA can evacuate large numbers of people in an emergency.
- He explains the limitations of UTA's resources and the importance of realistic planning.
- Tal shares examples of how UTA has responded to emergencies, including a hazmat spill and a large-scale evacuation.

Coordination and Planning for Emergencies

- Tal discusses the importance of coordination with other agencies and the need for clear plans and procedures.
- He shares examples of how UTA has worked with other agencies to respond to emergencies, including exercises and training.

- Tal emphasizes the need for continuous improvement and adaptation in emergency management.

Hazardous Materials Assessment Study

- Bucky Whitehouse provides an update on the hazardous materials assessment study conducted in Tooele County.
- The study identified gaps in interagency coordination, zoning, permitting, and reporting.
- Recommendations include developing a vocal group for hazmat coordination through the LEPC and increasing community preparedness.

Community Engagement and Training Opportunities

- Speaker 1 encourages participants to get involved in the review and endorsement process of the hazardous materials assessment study.
- The importance of community engagement and training opportunities is highlighted.
- Upcoming events and training sessions are announced, including a fire station open house and a community emergency response team class.

Final Remarks and Adjournment

- Bucky thanks everyone for their participation and contributions to the meeting.
- The meeting is adjourned, and participants are encouraged to stay engaged and involved in future activities.
- The next meeting will be held June 25th, 2025.