



**Cuyahoga County
Local Emergency Planning Committee
September 14, 2026, Meeting Minutes**



1. **Roll Call** – Scott Broski conducted roll call and led the meeting.
 - **LEPC Members in Attendance:** Wade Balser, Scott Broski, Dan DeRoos, Tim Draves, Piet Hagenaars (Jane Duncon, proxy), Rob Howerton, Jacqueline Jackson, Mike Kehl (Hans Weekley, proxy), Bryan Kloss (Mark Christie, proxy), Sheldon Lustig, Troy Onesti (Don Appelgate, proxy), Tracy Pate, Matt Schneider, Fred Szabo, Dave Telban, Mark Vedder, Ingrid Wagner
 - **Non-Voting Members in Attendance:** Greg Laurenson – CCOEM, John Rhoades – NEORS, Michelle Sowers – Ohio EMA
 - **Guests in Attendance:** Greg Fondran – USCG, Tim Forthofer – IMCD US, Brendan McNamara – Cleveland FD, Matt Reinke – Cleveland OEM, Alexa Roemke – SESCO Group, Michael Stewart – CCPO
2. **LEPC Member Spotlight Series** – Alexa Roemke – SESCO Group
 - Alexa Roemke provided an overview of the recently completed Commodity Flow Study for our LEPC.
 - CCOEM will maintain all digital files from this study and distribute a copy to all LEPC members. If any non-members would like to review the data, please send a request to LEPC@cuyahogacounty.gov and we will review your request.
3. **July Meeting Minutes Approval** – Scott Broski asked for a motion to approve the July 13, 2026, minutes.
 - Sheldon Lustig made a motion, Ingrid Wagner seconded. Minutes approved.
4. **Financial Report:** Greg Laurenson provided the financial report for August 2026 on behalf of Nancy Veley.
 - Three changes since the July meeting. The LEPC transferred \$106,743.88 to CCOEM from the SERC fund to cover personnel expenses. The LEPC also paid \$309.92 from the HMEP fund to cover expenses for Alan Finkelstein to attend the NASTTPO Conference. The FY2027 SERC grant was awarded to the amount of \$138,190.00 and has been added to the LEPC SERC fund.
5. **Resolutions:**
 - Approved:
 - ❑ #09142026-1 Accept & File Financial Report Period ending August 31, 2026
 - Dave Telban made a motion, Mark Vedder seconded. Resolution approved.
 - ❑ #09142026-2 2026 Hazmat Plan Submission
 - Mark Vedder made a motion, Dave Telban seconded. Resolution approved.
 - ❑ #09142026-3 RCRA DOT Training Course SERC FY27 Grant
 - Dave Telban made a motion, Matt Schneider seconded. Resolution approved.
 - ❑ #09142026-4 CAMEO for Planning Training Course SERC FY27 Grant
 - Matt Schneider made a motion, Dave Telban seconded. Resolution approved.

***7) EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY BE HELD PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE (ORC) 121.22(G)**

ORC 121.22(G)(5), a public body may hold an executive session to consider "matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations or state statutes." ORC 121.22(G)(6) provides that consideration of "[d]etails relative to the security arrangements and emergency response protocols for a public body or a public office, if disclosure of the matters discussed could reasonably be expected to jeopardize the security of the public body or a public office." Under this exception, both conditions must be met:

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6. Subcommittee Reports:

- Management- Scott Broski
 - Met on August 17, 2026.
 - Discussed membership changes.
 - One member has changed employers and may be vacating their seat on the LEPC. Once confirmed, we will work to fill the vacated spot.
 - SERC's August meeting was canceled, so Mark Christie could not be confirmed as the replacement member representing CCOEM. Bryan Kloss is still the listed representative for CCOEM until this change is processed.
 - Discussed the Spotlight Series presentations.
 - Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) was originally scheduled to present at this meeting but agreed to push back to our November meeting to accommodate the presentation by SESCO today.
 - We have reached out to FirstEnergy to present in early 2027 and are awaiting response and confirmation.
 - We do not currently have any presentations scheduled for our 2027 meetings. If you are interested, please reach out to Scott or Greg.
 - Discussed bylaws revisions. The SERC finalized their LEPC Handbook, so we can now move forward with the update to our bylaws. A draft copy will be distributed to all LEPC members for final review and comments. After that, it will be sent to the county legal department for final review, and the brought forth for formal adoption by the committee.
 - There are a handful of ongoing spill incidents that have been referred to the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office and are pending further legal action.
- Facilities- Greg Laurenson provided the Facilities Subcommittee update on behalf of Ellen Dempsey.
 - The Facilities Subcommittee is looking to bring in three sessions of a DOT class before the end of the year. This class was our most requested class by facility personnel based on previous surveys and outreach, so we anticipate strong interest and enrollment.
- Transportation- Sheldon Lustig
 - Norfolk Southern has been in the news recently for blocking crossings for extended periods of time on the west side of Cuyahoga County and for ongoing issues related to the East Palestine incident.
 - There was recently a significant track tie up due to an undesired application of the brakes which shut down the lines for 6-8 hours. This occurred on the line from Sandusky to Bucyrus to Columbus to Ironton.
 - A review was done of conditions of various right-of-way points along tracks and revealed ongoing issues regarding inaccessibility for emergency responders. These issues are often due to tracks significantly above or below street level which makes emergency response difficult.
 - Matt Reinke requested the LEPC assist with a joint inquiry to railway operators regarding access point options for emergency response.

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- Spills- John Rhoades & Dave Telban
 - Met on September 14, 2026, immediately preceding the main LEPC meeting.
 - Seven outstanding spills from 2023-2025 have been referred to the prosecutor.
 - 13 new spills from July/August 2026.
 - Six reportable spills
 - Five completed spill reports were received.
 - Seven non-reportable spills.
 - Three completed spill reports were received.
 - Three spills from early September
 - Two reportable and one non-reportable.
- Training and Exercises- Greg Laurenson provided the Training and Exercises update on behalf of Alan Finkelstein and Brendan McNamara.
 - Westshore Hazmat will be involved in the next LEPC exercise. Greg Laurenson will reach out toward the end of 2026 to begin planning the meetings for this exercise.

7. Office of Emergency Management Report- Greg Laurenson provided the Office of Emergency Management report.

- Records Requests- 27 since last meeting, 108 total for 2026.
- Tier II Reports- 880 filed.
- The EM Supervisor position has been posted and was closed on 9/13 with an initial batch of candidates.
- Sam Hudik has published the new ReadyMaps dashboard for public safety partners. Anyone with interest in learning more can reach out directly to Sam Hudik (shudik@cuyahogacounty.gov).
- Our office is holding our annual National Preparedness Month event at the Parma-Snow Library on Saturday, 9/19, from 10a-2p.
- We have scheduled a series of one-hour presentations with NWS regarding Severe Weather Safety ahead of the winter season:
 - ❑ Thursday, 10/8 @ 6p-7p – Garfield Heights Library
 - ❑ Tuesday, 11/10 @ 6p-7p – Brooklyn Library
 - ❑ Tuesday, 11/17 @ 6p-7p – South Euclid-Lyndhurst Library
 - ❑ Tuesday, 12/15 @ 6p-7p – North Olmsted Library
- Our office is in the process of updating our All-Hazards Mitigation Plan. This is updated every five years with the help of a vendor.
- We continue to conduct ReadyEx Prep workshops and TTXs across the county with two scheduled at schools in October.
- Training
 - ❑ OH138: Master Scenario Events List (MSEL) Development Training – 9/15 @ 8a-5p at Harvard Garage
 - ❑ L1301: Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) Training – 9/22-9/23 @ 8a-5p at JJC

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- ❑ ICS300 – 9/28-9/30 at Cleveland Fire Training Academy
- ❑ OH289: PIO Awareness – 10/14 at Harvard Garage
- ❑ OH139: Exercise Design and Evaluation Training – 10/20-10/22 at Harvard Garage
- ❑ AWR331: Winter Weather Hazards, Science and Preparedness – 10/26 at Harvard Garage
- ❑ ICS400 – 10/26-10/27 at Cleveland Fire Training Academy
- ❑ G270: Expedient Flood Training – 12/16 (Virtual)

8. New Business

- Matt Reinke requested to be added to the mailing list for the LEPC meeting and materials.

9. Next Meeting: November 2, 2026

Chair Scott Broski asked for a motion to adjourn. Fred Szabo motioned, Dave Telban seconded. Meeting adjourned.

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