

**Cumberland County  
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)  
Meeting Minutes October 31, 2019**

The Cumberland County Local Emergency Planning Committee met on Thursday, October 31, 2019 at VA Medical Center.

**Members in Attendance:**

James Bullard, Chair LEPC, Cape Fear Valley Emergency Medical Service  
Calvin Bishop, At-Large  
Gene Booth, Cumberland County Emergency Services  
Hendrix Valenzuela, Cumberland County Emergency Services  
Robert Melvin, Eaton Corporation  
Mark Ingram, Chemours  
Brett Chandler, Fayetteville Police Department  
Ronnie Willet, Fayetteville Fire Department  
Robert Brinson, Fayetteville Fire Department  
Johnathan Morgan, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office  
Dean Demark, Ft. Bragg  
Henry Eisenburg, At-Large  
Fred Williams, Fayetteville Veterans Affairs  
Ray Jackson, Fayetteville PWC

**Others in Attendance:**

Scott Bullard, Fayetteville Fire Department  
Freddy Johnson, Cumberland County Fire Chief Association  
Adam Buehler, Ft, Bragg  
Josh Langdon, NCEM  
Reid Southerland, NCEM  
Rod Jenkins, Cumberland County Public Health Department  
Trevin Taylor, First Call Environment  
Chris Lance, First Call Environment  
Alan Byrd, First Call Environment  
Isaac Harms, Cargill  
Wayne Randolph, NC DEQ  
Kevin Lowther, Cumberland County Emergency Services  
Jason Faragoi, Cumberland County Emergency Services  
Marc Baker, Cumberland County Emergency Services  
Marsha Lunt, CIVI  
Christina King, Cumberland County Emergency Services  
Dan Fields, FNC VA  
Teddy Goggard, FNC VA

### **Introductions:**

Welcomes and introductions were made at the beginning of the meeting. The preceding meeting minutes were approved and accepted by members.

- Fred Williams with the Fayetteville VA gave a brief overview of their facility. He also introduced their Interim Associate Director Dan Fields who is also the Assistant Director of the Durham VA Medical Center. Mr. Fields shared with the group his personal experiences in Emergency Management and informed the group that they have a new Medical Center Director name Dan Ducker.

### **Membership Update:**

- James Bullard is leaving the LEPC and has accepted a new position as the Chief of Hoke County EMS. He thanked everyone that hosted the meetings and who participated in the HazMat exercises.
- Calvin Bishop was voted in as the Chairman for the LEPC.
- Dean DeMark was voted in as the Vice Chairman for the LEPC.

### **HAZCOM Class:**

- Gene Booth informed the group that bids had went out on who might be hosting the HazCom class. He stated that we're planning to host the class in either December or early January of next year. Gene also stated that Jason Faragoi will send out an email to everyone with the dates and times for the class when it is scheduled.

### **HazMat Exercise:**

- Jason Faragoi informed the group that we had applied for an extension for the Competitive Grant. The extension was approved and goes through March 31, 2020. Jason stated that we are in the process of sending out bids to different companies on who will be conducting the exercise. He also stated that we have received our next HazMat Competitive Grant and plans to discuss the next exercise we are going to do with the new grant moving forward.
- Hendrix Valenzuela shared with the group that we will inform everyone when we know which vendor is going to host the exercise. Hendrix stated that we have applied for the next fiscal year's grant and hopes to receive additional funding in the future to host more exercises.
- Calvin Bishop stated that they had a planning meeting and Cargill is still interested in conducting the HazMat exercise.

### **Toxins in Water:**

- Ray Jackson with PWC informed the group that there were no reports or new updates on the toxins in the water other than what has been reported in the Fayetteville Observer.
- Calvin stated that at an LEPC standpoint we need to find out why we have not received any new updates on this issue that is affecting our water. We will have more discussion on this topic at our next LEPC meeting.

### **Update on Foam:**

- Calvin Bishop informed the group that the State of North Carolina has taken a definitive action on the Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) that all the fire services are using to put out major fires. The state has drafted a legislative bill known as House Bill 560. He distributed a copy of the drafted legislation to everyone in the meeting. Calvin stated that the bill is sitting in the courts environmental committee for review. He also informed the group that the bill could have a dramatic effect on our emergency responders. Calvin stated that the bill can change the way the turnout gear is look at for firefighters and can be a very costly expensive for anyone in the fire service if it goes through.
- Calvin also shared with the group that the bill will have some exemptions for our industrial partners. He stated that it will allow for certain applications to continue to use these types of foams. Calvin informed the group that if the bill is passed it will cost the state a significant amount of money for the disposal of the foam.
- Dean DeMark stated that it cost Ft. Bragg a total amount of \$370,000.00 to dispose 20 truck loads of the foam.

### **Open Discussions:**

- First Call Environment was in attendance and informed the group that they are an environmental clean-up company based out of Virginia. They have a local office in Raleigh and in Hope Mills. Their team has HazMat technician capabilities to service emergency response spills and facility clean ups. Chris Lance is their regional representative and will be our local point of contact.
- Gene informed the group to sign up for the free critical training and infrastructure class to assess threats and vulnerability. The class is in January and will be held at the FTCC – Spring Lake campus. He stated that Jason will send out an email with more information about the class to the group.
- Gene also shared with the group that the Hazard Mitigation kick-off starts on November 14<sup>th</sup> and an email was sent out to those participants.
- The Local EM position is still vacant and we are going to look back into the requirements of that position again to see if we can get it filled.

**The next meeting will be held on January 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at Hexion.**