

Richland County LEPC

Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2025

Members present:

Brandon Fetterly – Ithaca Schools
Sean Gary – Schreiber Foods
Scott Coulthard – Schreiber Foods
Scott Gald – RC Fire
Chris Kanable – RC ARES/RACES

Justin Weers – Foremost Farms USA
Wes Rogler – Schreiber Foods
John Heinen – JT Heinen Global
Steve Krueger – Richland Center Water Utility
Kerry Severson – Richland County Board

1. **Meeting called to order** at 6:01 PM by Brandon Fetterly and a roll call of all in-person and virtual participants was taken. A sign-in sheet was circulated for signatures of those who were present.
2. **Proof of notification** was provided by John Heinen. It was reported that notification was properly posted and published (Media, City Hall, Brewer Library & Courthouse, as well as via email distribution).
3. **Motion to approve agenda** occurred with Chris Kanable moving to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Sean Gary. The motion carried.
4. **Approval of minutes from the December 3, 2024 LEPC Meeting** occurred with a motion from Sean Gary and a second from Chris Kanable. The motion carried.
5. **Director's/Chairman's report:**
 - a) John Heinen provided a summary of the three (3) spills that occurred in the county in the past year: Fertilizer *AG, Asphalt and Dairy Products.
 - 1) Fertilizer *AG – 100 Gallons on 04/15/2025 at 19:40 by Alsum Farms, between County Line Rd, and Hwy 130 in the Lone Rock area.
 - 2) Asphalt – Approx. 5 tons on 07/14/2025 at 17:35 by DL Gasser, 14290 County Road C in the Yuba area.
 - 3) Dairy Products – 20 Gallons on 07/29/2025 at 14:16 by Schreiber Foods, 920 Sextonville Road, Richland Center.
 - b) John Heinen presented two articles updating PFAS/PFOS concerns:
 1. Wisconsin DNR PFAS Updates: Aug. 23 – Sept. 5, 2025
 2. Wisconsin Supreme Court Decision: PFAS are Hazardous Substances (rulemaking not required)

PFAS/PFOS – Remain on the radar. Northeast Wisconsin has become the focus of recent advisories related to groundwater and harvested game animals. Concomitantly, PFAS are now regarded as hazardous substances by the Supreme Court. Reiterating from the last two years of meetings, WDNR continues to coordinate task groups to address the issue in the State. Technical Advisory Groups are being formed to administer regulatory activities and objectives.

Committee discussion around the issue included “what-if?” questions about mitigation, water supply issues, short and long term treatment issues, costs and the feasibility of relocation private and municipal wells. These environmental contaminants are generally going to become more problematic and burdensome for rural and urban communities alike. Cost effective solutions will be hard to come by.

See <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/PFAS> & <https://www.gklaw.com/Insights/Wisconsin-Supreme-Court-Decision-PFAS-Are-Hazardous-Substances-Rulemaking-Not-Required.htm> for additional information.

6. **Public Comments and Input:** Chris Kanable asked about Communications topics that have come up before in the context of public safety overall. In particular, he raised questions about:

- a) Pagers
- b) Radio Options
- c) Facility Internal Notification systems
- d) NIXLE – Set up dispatch with NIXLE push capability
- e) Revisiting Notification Systems as they pertain to HazMat and/or Hazardous situation alerts

The discussion was reminiscent of the AARs from previous tabletop exercises in which alert & notification capabilities became central to recommended improvements. The concern is rapid notification and the goal is for planning facilities to have multiple means of communication for speed and redundancy. The committee will continue to pursue exploring options in conjunction with dispatch and first responders.

7. New Business

a) **EPCRA Plan of Work Administration**

1. **LEPC membership list** for 2025-2026, was reviewed. A number of updates are needed. The changes identified were noted and will be entered into the most recent spreadsheet. The new list is ready and will be sent out with the minutes.
2. Per the annual review requirement, the **RC-LEPC Bylaws Review** was put on the agenda so any requested changes could be identified and acted upon. Given the many changes in county government structure in the last year, the committee recommends the Bylaws be reviewed by corporate counsel for alignment. Recommended modifications can be incorporated into a new revision to be approved at the next meeting. Brandon Fetterly moves to send to corporate counsel, Scott Gald seconded. Motion carried.
3. **Four County HazMat Response Team Agreement & Addendum.** A cursory review of the agreement with minor changes that were made by Vernon County did not identify any required changes. As a matter of consistency, accuracy and alignment, the committee recommends corporate counsel review. The motion to approve and send to corporate counsel for review made by Scott Gald, seconded by Sean Gary. Motion carried.
4. **EPCRA Facility Off-Site Plans:** There were ten (10) plans in this cycle: Alcam, Allied Machinery; Foremost Farms; Richland Center Renewable Energy (RCRE); Schreiber East; Schreiber West; Schreiber RCL (warehouse); Richland Center Well #6, Well #7 and Well #8. There was some discussion about NIMS Type II team coverage for Richland Center. Historically, La Crosse was assigned to the city. But, given its equidistance from Madison

and La Crosse, listing both Madison and La Crosse in the offsite plans would be a more accurate survey of the Type II resources available. Future plans will show both. Also identified in the thresholds analysis for Schreiber's RCL plan was the reduced quantity of sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4) to below the 1,000 lb. threshold. Sean confirmed this may be the case each year moving forward. As such, RCL can be removed from the Planning Facilities list in WEM's database. Next year, a Final Update plan will be prepared for the Schreiber warehouse and the EPN modified accordingly. Other than these identified updates, there were no significant shifts in inventory for any of the facilities; there were a few minor changes in quantity and in personnel for some of them. Sean Gary made a motion to accept all ten plans as reviewed; Scott Gald seconded. The motion carried.

8. **Meeting adjourned** by Chair Brandon Fetterly at 7:58 PM as there was no further business.