



**PINAL COUNTY
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
POST OFFICE BOX 727 – FLORENCE, ARIZONA 85132**

**MEETING MINUTES
May 4, 2023**

Pinal County Emergency Operations Center
31 North Pinal Street, Bldg. #F
Florence, Arizona 85132

I. Call to Order.

The Local Emergency Planning Meeting convened at 2:00 p.m. on this date. Members could attend in-person or virtually. A roll call of voting members was made by Chair Rodriguez. A quorum was present and the meeting was called to order.

Voting Members Present: Jane Fillmore, Group V; Jim Walter, Group II, Chair-Elect.

Voting Members Attending Virtually: Eddie Rodriguez, Group II, Chair; Richard Mooney, Group II; Allen Kirksey, Group IV.

Voting Members Absent: Tara Walter, Group I; one seat from Group III is vacant.

The total number of voting members, including vacancies, is seven (7).

The total number of members required for a quorum is four (4).

Non-Voting Members Present: Wade Brannon, LEPC Coordinator; Alaric Laney, Pinal County Air Quality.

Non-Voting Members Attending Virtually: Ken Drozd, National Weather Service Tucson; Dan Coody, Avra Valley Fire Department; Kelly Weddle, Eloy Fire District; Camille Nehls, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), Chris Pittman, Arizona Department of Military and Emergency Affairs; Rikki Sechrist, ADEQ; David Varela, ADEQ; Arcangel Barragan, ADEQ.

II. Roll Call.

III. Approval of March 3, 2023, Meeting Minutes.

Jim Walter motioned to approve the March 3, 2023, meeting minutes.

Jan Fillmore seconded the motion.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Item Action: The March 3, 2023 meeting minutes were approved.

IV. Special Presentations.

- Hazardous Materials Response Plan, Wade Brannon. *Discussion only.*
- Hazardous Materials Exercise, Wade Brannon. *Discussion only.*

Presentation by Wade Brannon. LEPC Coordinator. The presenter stated that the Hazardous Materials Tabletop Exercise is scheduled for June 22, 2023, at the Pinal County EOC. If you did not receive an invitation, please let us know and we will send one to you.

A contractor will be hired to complete the Hazardous Materials Response Plan using information gained at the tabletop exercise.

David Varela, from ADEQ asked if this exercise was being conducted to meet the biennial exercise requirement. He stated that it may not meet the requirement because the Committee does not have a SERC approved plan. The presenter stated that he will bring the question to the Pinal County OEM Coordinator.

Item Action: Information Only.

V. Chairperson's Report.

Eddie Rodriguez, Committee Chair reported on Tier 2 electronic reporting training that he attended with ADEQ. He highly encouraged responders to review the material available through the Tier 2 website.

Item Action: Information Only.

VI. LEPC Coordinator's Report.

- None.

Item Action: Information Only.

VII. Subcommittees' Reports.

- None.

Item Action: Information Only.

VIII. New Business.

- Membership Application:
 - Terri Yost, Group V, Safety Coordinator at Florence Copper. *Discussion and Action.*

Terri Yost introduced herself and gave a brief biography.

Jim Walter motioned to approve the membership application.

Jane Fillmore seconded the motion.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Item Action: Terri Yost's application to be a voting member of the Pinal County LEPC representing Group V was approved.

- Notice of Resignation:
 - Jane Fillmore, Group V. *Discussion and Action.*

Jane Fillmore announced her retirement and gave notice of her resignation from the Committee. She was thanked for her service to the Community and the Committee and presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Jim Walter motioned to accept Jane Fillmore's resignation.

Terri Yost seconded the motion.

The motion passed on voice vote.

Item Action: Jane Fillmore's resignation from the Pinal County LEPC was accepted.

IX. Members' Open Forum (information only).

Chair Rodriguez led a roundtable discussion by committee and meeting attendees.

The following comments were heard:

Allen Kirksey reported that he recently attended a very informative school safety and security summit in Glendale. He will forward the 2024 registration information to first responders when it is available.

Interim Fire Chief Jim Walter, Florence Fire Department, reported a Hazardous Materials incident. On Saturday, April 29, 2023, Florence Fire Department, Coolidge Fire Department, Eloy Fire Department, the DPS Hazardous Materials Team, and PCSO responded to S.R. 287 near Attaway Rd. for a tanker trailer fire. The tank was initially thought to be carrying fuel. However, it was later determined that it contain a rubberized asphalt material. The fire was extinguished. A hazardous material clean-up was not required. The responsible party was a contractor for the Arizona Department of Transportation. Chief Walter stated that the trailer was being prepared to be moved to another location when the fire was discovered. The fire investigation has not determined a cause. A number of agencies are participating in the investigation including Florence Fire, PCSO, and ADOT. The fire occurred in an unincorporated County area with no fire coverage.

Chief Kelly Weddle, Eloy Fire District, reported that the Hazardous Materials Technician class graduated five (5) new Hazardous Materials Technician for Eloy Fire District, and at least two (2) for Casa Grande. The new technicians are a much needed resource for the area. Chief Weddle thanked the LEPC for helping to set the class up.

Captain Dan Coody, Avra Valley Fire District, thanked the LEPC for its role in helping to set up the Hazardous Materials Technician training.

Ken Drozd, National Weather Service, stated that weather briefings are scheduled for the San Manuel Chili Cook-off. He also stated that temperatures are expected to warm up at the end of May. Predictions are for warmer than normal seasonal temperatures and a drier than normal monsoon. Storm spotter training is on-going and Pinal County has several new storm spotters.

Arcangel Barragan reported that the AZSERC will be holding a hybrid meeting on May 30. The LEPC workshop will be held the following day, May 31st. No virtual option will be available for the workshop. The Colorado State Emergency Council will be presenting at one of the sessions.

Item Action: Information Only.

X. Public Comments.

- Review and Invite Public Comment on Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Hazardous Materials Plan.

Chair Rodriguez, asked that any members of the public present in the audience who wished to comment on the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Hazardous Materials Plan to please come forward at this time. No comments were heard.

- Call to the Public.

Chair Rodriguez asked that any members of the public present in the audience who wished to address the Committee to please come forward at this time. No comments were heard.

Item Action: Public Comments.

XI. Next Meeting Date/Location.

Wade Brannon read that the next meeting will be held:

*August 3, 2023 at 2:00pm
Pinal County Emergency Operations Center*

Item Action: Information Only.

XII. Meeting Adjournment.

Chair Rodriguez adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m. on this date.

Item Action: Meeting Adjourned.