

Talbot County

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Minutes

January 30, 2025, 10 AM, Easton Airport

Attendees: Geneva Schaffle (DES), Madison Loker (DES), Micah Risher (ESN), Eman Popal (HD), Megan Greenwood (HD), Karine Ireland (HD), Geoff Searle (ARC), Bob Luff (RACES), Erin Smith (HD), Ben Pittsley (DSS), Josh Weber (HD), Rich Taylor (HD), Dr. Fahmi Fahmi (HD), Craig Cohoon (Suburban Propane), Mark Cohoon (DPW), Trevor Cantwell (DHS/CISA), Jeff Lankford (ESN), Trey Haddaway (ESN), Chip Kennedy (ESN), Matt Spence (Forever Media), Nick Greenhawk (EU), Stephen Weddell (ESN), Bruce Secrist (Dixon House).

Welcome and Introductions

Geneva Schaffle, Emergency Management Division Chief, Talbot County Emergency Services, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance. She reiterated the federal requirements and importance of the Local Planning Committee. Schaffle explains the relevance of today's topic of Easton Airport and aircraft emergencies, and how it relates to the purpose of the LEPC and potential hazardous materials incidents.

Easton Airport Modernization Project and Aircraft Emergency Response

Micah Risher, Easton Airport Manager, presented to the group about the Easton Airport's current modernization project. Risher also went over aircraft emergency procedures and protocols at the Easton Airport, how ESN and local public safety agencies work to prepare for aircraft emergencies, and how the new modernization project will enhance preparedness for any potential incidents. He answered questions regarding the history of the airport and current airport operations.

Emergency Services Report Out

Emergency Management

Tier 2 report submission deadlines are approaching. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your facility, please contact MDE or Geneva Schaffle. Talbot County is in the midst of rewriting our Continuity of Operations Plan. A draft of this plan will be complete in the coming weeks. Talbot County is working with MDEM and FEMA to apply for Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) in order to complete our Hazard Mitigation and Community Resilience Plan update. We are working to utilize grant funds to procure a vendor to facilitate and conduct a large-scale exercise for our public safety partners. We are also working to conduct an EOP/EOC exercise this summer with our Talbot County Departments in partnership with UMD CHHS. We are hosting a spring CERT course starting February 24. If you are interested in learning more or signing up, please contact Madison Loker mloker@talbotcountymd.gov.

911

Our 911 Division is soon moving to 24-hour shifts.

EMS

Is working to start a robust peer-support group for our first responders in our area. This is a partnership project with multiple public safety agencies.

DES

We are gearing up for our department move to 28640 Mary's Ct. Administrative staff will move shortly, with our dispatch center to follow later in the year once all redundancies and technologies are in place.

Roundtable

We forwent roundtable report-outs for the sake of time and to allow for more Q&A for the Airport presentation.