

**MINUTES OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING  
JANUARY 21, 2026**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairperson Jake Simkins, Alex Hegeman, Dustin Madlung, Terri Hook, Michael Dassler, Jeff Paddock, Rob Deede and Dawn Robinson, Program Assistant.

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** Duff Damos, Rob Swearingen and Brian Tonnancour.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Adam Johnson (Interim Chief/Rhineland Fire).

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Simkins called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m. at the Oneida County Law Enforcement Center, in the Community Room, stated the meeting notice had been properly posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law and accommodations would be made for handicap accessibility.

**INTRODUCTIONS** were conducted.

**APPROVE AGENDA/MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**MOTION:** To approve the Agenda (Deede/Hegeman, PASSED 7-0).

**MOTION:** To approve the February 5, 2025 LEPC Committee Meeting Minutes (Hook/Paddock, PASSED 7-0).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) OVERVIEW**

An overview was provided; designate LEPC Committee to administer program, identified LEPC membership, oversees HazMat, maintains a countywide emergency response plan, develop/maintain facility offsite response plans, etc.

No action needed.

**RESIGNATION/APPOINTMENT OF LEPC COMMITTEE MEMBER(S)**

Tonnancour/Rhineland Fire Chief resigned January 16, 2026. The Chairman suggested appointing Adam Johnson to the LEPC Committee and stated Rhineland Fire provides primary HazMat operations.

**MOTION:** To appoint Adam Johnson to the LEPC Committee replacing Brian Tonnancour (Hook/Hegeman, PASSED 7-0)

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Vice-Chairperson)**

This is a two-year term.

Hegeman is the current Vice-Chair and is interested.

The Chairman called for nominations. Hook nominated Hegeman.  
The Chairman called for nominations #2, none were said.  
The Chairman called for nominations #3, none were said.

MOTION: To close nominations and cast unanimous ballot for Alex Hegeman as Vice-Chairperson for a two-year term (Simkins/Hook, PASSED 7-0).

## **HAZMAT TEAM REPORT/TRANSITION**

### *2025 Report*

Contracts remain the same with counties.

Johnson reported the following: the Team is confirming inventory at the HazMat building, distributing grant equipment purchased, discussed locations for equipment, scheduled MedCompass physicals, scheduled trainings and has been in touch with the State regarding a HazMat Exercise.

The Chairman shared hazmat operations transitioned to the Rhinelander Fire Department last year and stated the County and the Fire Department continue to work together.

## **STATE HAZMAT TEAM CONTRACT**

The Chairman noted there are no changes, stated the HazMat Team continues to be a Type II Team with funding as part of the Marathon County Team.

## **2026 COMPUTER-EQUIPMENT HAZMAT GRANTS**

The Chairman explained this is an annual grant to purchase HazMat equipment and requested LEPC to authorize the Captain of Emergency Services to apply for and accept the annual grant.

MOTION: To authorize the Captain of Emergency Services to apply for and accept the 2026 Computer HazMat Response Equipment Grant (Johnson/Hook, PASSED 7-0).

The Chairman addressed funding and equipment.

## **ITEMS FOR AND REPORT FROM EMERGENCY SERVICES**

### *Annual Review/Approve Designation of LEPC Compliance Inspector*

This is a grant requirement. The Chairman recommended appointing the state as the compliance inspector.

MOTION: To appoint the State/WI Emergency Management as the LEPC Compliance Inspector (Johnson/Hegeman, PASSED 7-0).

### *Annual Review/Approve LEPC Rules of Operation/Bylaws*

Updated and approved in 2025, no changes.

MOTION: To approve the LEPC Rules of Operations/Bylaws (Simkins/Hegeman, PASSED 7-0).

*Annual Review of the EPCRA County Wide Hazardous Materials Plan-Strategic Plan Update as needed incorporating new facility information.*

Review, no action needed.

*Review List of Planning Facilities*

The Chairman explained the County is required to update ten-facilities and identified which facilities may be updated. The Program Assistant explained the facilities to update may change depending upon planning requirements for new facilities.

Review, no action needed.

**REVIEW/APPROVE BILLING FOR SPILLS**

The Chairman noted Rhinelander Fire Department bills for response, etc. Johnson referred to a minor incident with equipment used by a local fire department for containment, did not require a full hazmat team response.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Contact the Emergency Services Office for agenda items.

**SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be scheduled in January 2027. The Committee will be notified in advance of the meeting date to ensure there is a quorum.

**ADJOURN**

**1:26 p.m.** MOTION: To adjourn the meeting (Dassler/Paddock, PASSED 7-0).

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Jake Simkins  
Chairperson

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Dawn Robinson  
Program Assistant

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Alex Hegeman  
Vice-Chairperson