

Sgt. Logan Keeton – Chairperson
Steve Sabine – Vice Chairperson
Tiffany Nash – Information/Emergency Coordinator

County Commissioners
Jay Wippel
Harold Henson
Gary Scherer

LEPC Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 8, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order / Introductions

The meeting was led by Steve Sabine. Call to Order occurred at 09:00am. The Pledge of Allegiance was said, followed by a moment of silence for retired Captain Jon Rhoades.

Introductions were made around the room. A sign-in sheet representing those in attendance is attached.

2. Review & Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes*

Director Nash sent the meeting minutes after the last meeting. Steve Sabine asked if there were any questions. There was no discussion:

Motion to Approve: Asst. Chief Spencer Bennett

Second: Chief Brian Thompson

Result: Pass

3. Approval of LEPC Financial Report*

Director Nash shared that the account has \$31,000 in it. This sum needs to be spent down.

Director Nash is working with Bad Day Training to schedule training discussed in previous meetings.

Director Nash also shared that the 2025 Financial Audit for LEPC needed revised. She worked with the State SERC and Pickaway County Auditor and found the error. That report has been corrected and formally accepted by the SERC.

Motion to approve the financial report: Greg Myers

Second: Sheriff Matthew Hafey

Result: Pass

4. 2026 LEPC Grant Application

Steve Sabine shared that there are two resolutions that need passed.

a. Resolution 2026-1 – Application for Grant*

This resolution is to apply for the 2026 LEPC grant. Director Nash read the resolution to the group. A motion was requested for consensus to apply.

Motion to approve the grant application: Sheriff Matthew Hafey

Second: Chief Brian Thompson

Result: Pass

b. Resolution 2026-2 – Contract Services for EMA Admin Support*

This resolution is needed for bookkeeping and documentation. Steve Sabine stated that this resolution is for the administrative work that EMA handles for the LEPC including

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grant applications, meeting minutes, scheduling, and communicating with the SERC. He stated there is no change in this resolution from past years.

Motion to approve the grant application: Lt Shad Caplinger

Second: Chief Deputy Jimmy Brown

Abstentions: Director Tiffany Nash & Deputy Director Ed Warner, EMA

Result: Pass

5. Reports

a. Spill Responses

Director Nash shared that there were two notable responses since the last meeting in early October.

- i. 10/22/2025 – Milk Release at Five Points Pike by Davis and Adkins culverts. Approximately 1400 gallons of milk were released after a fill alarm failed. The milk went into the drainage tile, down a ditch, and into the creek bed. The spill has been mitigated.
- ii. 12/10/2025 – Gasoline in a field in Darby Township from a fatal accident; Approximately 100 gallons were released. The landowner was contacted in California and contractors were cleaning up the site.

b. Compliance

i. Tier II Reports

Tier II reports should start coming in soon. Ed will be working with the reporters to ensure they send their information to LEPC (EMA), the correct fire jurisdiction, and the SERC.

ii. Compliance Report

No new updates.

c. Training

Director Nash is working with Bad Day Training to get training dates scheduled for “Hazmat for Law Enforcement” and air monitoring and detection. The Sheriff’s Office asked to hold Hazmat for Law Enforcement over the summer so that their SROs can help backfill staffing. The fire departments present stated there was no better or worse time to have the air detection and monitoring class.

As part of the LEPC grant application, it asks what trainings would the group like to have for 2026. Director Nash asked those in attendance what other classes for hazmat wanted or needed. Chief Deputy Jimmy Brown offered that they were still very interested in Public Information Officer trainings and that the Ohio State Highway Patrol had a free class in media relations that was very good. Director Nash also stated that she has put in training applications through Ohio EMA for L-105 Public Information Officer and G-191 EOC/ICS Interface which was cancelled last period.

6. LEPC Exercise

Steve Sabine shared that the LEPC Tabletop Exercise is scheduled for February 12, 2026. It will be held at South Bloomfield. Those who are players have already been informed that they are requested to attend. If others want to observe, let Director Nash know so that the seating is arranged. This exercise is a combination of two real-world events that happened close to us and should be a good exercise.

Director Nash shared that the next two exercises – the functional and full scale – will be a continuation of the tabletop.

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7. Old Business

a. HMEP Grant Application Update

Director Nash stated that the Pickaway County LEPC was awarded the full amount requested. The HMEP grant deals with training for hazmat and items purchased cannot be used for operations. The Hazmat for Law Enforcement classes were approved under this grant as well as one 4-gas meter, the associated tablet, and training. The HMEP grant does have a 20% match and the LEPC funds can be used for that match.

b. SERC 2025 Submission Update – SERC approved the “no change”

SERC had its meeting recently. The packet for Pickaway County was approved for a “no change”. This was the third and final consecutive “no change”. Director Nash stated she is in process of updating the Hazmat Plan with the assistance of Jackson Township Fire and others. She intends to bring the new Plan to the group for approval in March or July to get ahead of the October deadline and keep the approval in that timeframe each year.

8. New Business

No new business.

9. Round Table Discussion

Director Tiffany Nash, EMA

A Communications Technician has been hired. He will start mid-May at the earliest due to finishing his tour with the Marines. Director Nash stated he will be taking the work that Assistant Chief Spencer Bennett has helped with and expressed appreciation for his time, effort, and assistance.

Brigitte Bouska, Ohio EMA

Funding for training is still an issue as monies have not been released by FEMA. Ohio EMA is taking it small chunks at a time to see if classes can continue or if they need to be cancelled. Ohio EMA is also working to get internal people trained to teach classes. Brigitte shared that she is retiring June 1, 2026.

Laura Wright, ODOT

OTEM Quick Clear training will be held January 13th in Chillicothe for anyone interested. There will be one session each month in different locations through 2026 and 2027. Laura asked about the signal timing at 752 and 23. There is a camera coming to that site but it is not there yet. She is applying for funding for additional cameras. She brought up a question from a previous meeting on preemption gear and stated that jurisdictions would need to talk to each other regarding what to use.

Scott Rice, ODOT

Scott brought up the explosions under the bridge at 23 by Maple and Houston. U.S. 23 had to be shut down for a period of time because explosions took place under the bridge in an unsheltered persons camp. Small LP tanks are what caused the explosions. The bridge had to be inspected for stability afterward. Scott expressed concerns about jurisdiction and the condition under the bridge. He has talked to his leadership about possible funding to get heavy equipment to clean it up.

Sheriff Matthew Hafey, Sheriff's Office

The Sheriff's Office has a new email domain - @pickawaysheriff.gov. Please make sure your contacts are adjusted. They are currently forwarding the old emails, but are uncertain how long that will occur.

10. Meeting Adjournment*

Motion to adjourn: Chief Brian Thompson

Second: Greg Myers

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Result: Pass
Adjourned at 09:45

2026 Meetings

- January 8, 2026
- April 9, 2026
- July 9, 2026 – Breakfast and meeting at PPG, group discussion and tour to follow
- October 8, 2026

Respectfully Submitted:

Tiffany X Nash
Name

1/13/2026
Date