LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
THURSDAY, October 29, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.
BARRON COUNTY JUSTIC CENTER (EOC)
1420 WI-25, Barron, WI 54812

MINUTES:

Present: Louie Okey, Barron County Board. Mike Judy, Barron County Emergency Management. Nate Dunston, Emergency Management – Medical Examiner. Melissa Miller, Mayo Clinic Health System. Jamie McCready, Barron County Supervisor. Neil Shipley, Barron School District. Matt Feeney, Cumberland EMS. Patricia Wickman, Barron County Health Officer. Tyler Gruetzmacher, Barron County Soil & Water. Joshua Miller, Saputo Cheese. Gabby Thomspon, Mosaic Telecom. Dale Hanson, Community Representative. Paul Brooten, Barron County 911. Sue Dau, Barron Electric Cooperative.
Absent: Jodi Kummet, Nate Nelson, Michael Hover, Mike McElmury, Steven Roux, Jenny Legaspi, Barry Kuenkel, Brian Cockerham, Jeff French, Dave Paulson, Greg Martin, Brittany Fry, Brian Kaczmarkski, Dillon Palmquist, Bob Zientara, Travis Klukas, Rebecca Ekenstedt, Katt Murphy, Jade Merrill, and Mathew Heath.
Members Attending Virtually: None.
Others Present: Luong Huynh, Red Cross.

Call Meeting to Order: Chair Louie Okey called the meeting to order at 09:00 am.

Public Meeting Notification: LEPC Secretary Dunston stated the meeting complied with Wisconsin Open Meeting Laws.

Approve Agenda: Motion: (Judy/Feeney) to approve. Carried.

Approve Minutes of July 30, 2026: (Wickman/Shipley) to approve. Carried.

Public Comment: None.

Spill Reviews: Emergency Manager Judy reviewed two spill reviews: 8-5-2026: Caustic (Base) at Saputo and 9-3-2026: Sewage in Cumberland.

Response Reimbursements: None.

Business Review: None.

Emergency Management Updates:

- Review of Bylaws: Reviewed the LEPC Bylaws. Louie recommended adding under Section 4(d) – Public

Opportunity: "Members of the public can only make public comments on meeting agenda items." Motion made to approve the LEPC Bylaws as reviewed with the addition of the "Members of the public can only make public comments on meeting agenda items." (McCready/Wickman). Carried.

- Review of Compliance Officer: Compliance Officer will remain the same as stated in the LEPC Bylaws.
- Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP) Planning (Workgroup): Nate / Mike gave background on the IPP Plan. Looking for input with the LEPC for training and exercises for 2027-2029. Mike has some planned for the end of 2026 and 2027. The group collectively provided recommendations on scenarios, exercises, and training they would like included in the IPP for 2027-29.
- Review of the EM Quarterly Report: Mike highlighted the quarterly report and answered any questions.

LEPC Member Updates:

- Miller: In August, Mayo Clinic had name changes to include locations: Mayo Clinic Health System Barron. Mayo Clinic Health System Bloomer. The parking lot resurfacing should be completed soon.
- Luong Huynh: The Wisconsin Red Cross is piloting enhanced identification verification processes and is currently training about 500 volunteers.
- Judy: LEPC Resilience & Engagement Training at Wisconsin Governor's Conference in Middleton on March 22, 2027.

Set Next Meeting Date: Thursday, January 28, 2027 at 9:00AM at the Justice Center (EOC) located in Barron.

Suggestions for Future Agenda Items: Future site visits to Barron Fire and Rice Lake Fire Departments in 2027.

Adjournment: By Unanimous Consent at 10:01AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nate Dunston, LEPC Secretary.

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE AT THE NEXT MEETING.

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