

Teton County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Meeting Minutes



Date: Thursday, September 18, 2025

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Location: Teton EOC, 3240 S Adams Canyon Dr, Jackson, WY and via Microsoft Teams

1. Call to Order

Chair Rich Ochs called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees.

2. Approval of July Meeting Minutes

The July 2025 meeting minutes were approved without changes.

3. Introductions

In-person and virtual participants introduced themselves. Attendees included representatives from public health, emergency management, transportation, public works, law enforcement, dispatch, planning, Red Cross, facilities, airport, and regional partners from Idaho.

Attendance:

In Person:

- Rich Ochs – Teton County Emergency Management
- Tom Izzo – WYDOT
- Brian Coe – JHFEMS and RERT 8
- Charlotte Frei – TC Public Works
- Kristen Waters – TC PIO
- Johnny Ziem – Jackson Public Works
- Anna Day – TCEM
- Riclyn Betsinger – TCSO Dispatch
- Russell Nelson – TC Coroner

- Rebecca Sullivan – TC Planning and Building
- Chris Neubecker – TC Planning and Building
- Rafe Cordell – TVA Facilities Director
- McKinnley Robinson – TC Public Health

MS Teams:

- Josiah Nash – TC Facilities
- Greg Adams – Teton Idaho Emergency Management
- Mike Estes – TC Search and Rescue
- Dee Buckstaff – American Red Cross
- James Phillips – JPD and RERT 8 Bomb Squad
- Alton George – Jackson Hole Airport
- Dave Arentz – TVA Public Works Director
- Erik Kimball – TC Sustainability Coordinator
- Sandy Buckstaff – Flat Creek Watershed Improvement District
- Mike Moyer – JHFEMS

4. 2025 THIRA/SPR Update

Rich Ochs reviewed the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) survey process. Three scenarios were developed for analysis: a wildland fire in East Jackson, a regional long-duration power outage in December, and a complex coordinated attack during the July 4th parade. Agencies were reminded to complete their surveys by September 19. THIRA is due to Wyoming Office of Homeland Security by 10/31/25.

5. Teton County Commodity Flow Study

Preliminary results from the University of Wyoming study showed fuel and propane as the most common hazardous materials transported through the county. Counts were completed at Moran and Hoback in May and August. Data will be used to guide hazmat training priorities. A full report will be issued later.

6. RERT 8 Update

Chief Brian Coe reported no major activations. The team is working on a SHSP grant and participating in THIRA.

7. Training and Exercise Updates

Upcoming activities include CERT basic training, a transportation evacuation tabletop exercise on November 14, and the Jackson Hole Airport's full-scale FAA triennial drill scheduled for April 22, 2026. TCEM has several games that can be delivered to groups of about 8-10 and one for groups up to 24 that focus on crisis decision making, cybersecurity, and emergency response. If your agency is interested in hosting a session, contact Rich or Anna.

8. Public Safety Radio System Update

Quentin Johnston provided an update via email. The Pritchard Pass WyoLink site has been approved and infrastructure work will begin this fall. Recent programming added Idaho channels for interoperability. Work continues deploying fire detection cameras.

9. Roundtable / Partner Updates

- Airport: Preparing for the April 2026 FAA triennial drill.
- Teton Village: Sewer plant upgrades completed; new cross-dock project and heated sidewalks underway.
- American Red Cross: Recruiting volunteers for sheltering and feeding operations.
- Public Health: Senior Center flu and COVID vaccination clinics scheduled for late September and early October; anticipating a difficult respiratory season.
- Teton Conservation District / Flat Creek Watershed: 2 new thaw wells drilled at 810 West and Elk Run; expected operational by November. Leadership transition upcoming.
- Planning and Building: Staff changes and new code compliance officer introduced.
- Teton Idaho EM: Completing Emergency Action Plan project; starting alert and warning SOP project. Offering cybersecurity defense training in Idaho Falls.
- Search and Rescue: Hosting the International Commission for Alpine Rescue Conference in October with ~500 attendees.
- Jackson Police / RERT 8 Bomb Squad: Upcoming demo of drones-as-first-responder program; new bomb suit and trailer in development.
- Coroner: Routine updates provided.
- Public Works: Gregory Lane and Stilson projects underway; parking lot paving scheduled for early October. Ongoing lead/copper rule work.
- WYDOT: Preparing for winter operations
- Dispatch: Systems stable with no major issues reported.

- Fire/EMS: Fire restrictions lifted but conditions remain high. New type 3 engine deployed in Wilson. Strategic plan and standards of cover drafted.

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.