

Teton County WY Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, January 15, 2026

Time: 8:30 a.m.

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



Attendance

Name	Agency / Affiliation	Attendance
Rich Ochs	Teton County Emergency Management (Chair)	In Person
Anna Day	Teton County Emergency Management	In Person
Chief Brian Coe	Regional Emergency Response Team (RERT) 8 / Jackson Hole Fire-EMS	In Person
Riclyn Betsinger	Teton County Sheriff's Office Dispatch	In Person
McKinnley Robinson	Teton County Health Department	In Person
Tom Izzo	Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT)	In Person
Jeremiah Peery	Jackson Police Department	In Person
Kristen Waters	Teton County Public Information Office	In Person
Chris Neubecker	Teton County Planning and Building	In Person
Cody Fisher	Teton County Building Official	In Person
Johnny Ziem	Jackson Public Works	In Person
Jason Moller	Wyoming Highway Patrol	In Person
Todd Baxter	Wyoming Highway Patrol	In Person
Carlin Gerard	Teton Conservation District	In Person
Russell Nelson	Teton County Coroner	In Person
Alton George	Jackson Hole Airport	Online (Microsoft Teams)

Name	Agency / Affiliation	Attendance
Brian Carr	Jackson Hole Fire/EMS and RERT 8	Online (Microsoft Teams)
Quentin Johnston	Teton County & Town Radio Coordinator	Online (Microsoft Teams)
Talon Stephens	Town of Jackson IT	Online (Microsoft Teams)
Tracey Trefren	Teton County Victim Services	Online (Microsoft Teams)
Wanna Johansson	Town of Jackson Public Information Officer	Online (Microsoft Teams)
Heather Overholser	Teton County Public Works	Online (Microsoft Teams)
Josiah Nash	Teton County Facilities	Online (Microsoft Teams)
Rafe Cordell	Teton Village Facilities	Online (Microsoft Teams)
Tanya Anderson	Town of Jackson Ecosystem Stewardship Administrator	Online (Microsoft Teams)

Attendance reflects sign-in sheets, Microsoft Teams records, and the meeting transcript. Titles and affiliations are listed as reported at the meeting.

1. Call to Order

Chair Rich Ochs called the meeting to order. Participants were advised that AI-assisted transcription was being used to support preparation of the meeting minutes.

2. Approval of November 2025 Meeting Minutes

The November 2025 LEPC meeting minutes were approved as presented, with no changes requested.

3. Introductions

Introductions were completed for both in-person and virtual participants. Attendees represented emergency management, fire/EMS, law enforcement, public health, public works, planning and building, conservation, transportation, dispatch, and partner agencies.

4. 2025 Tier II Reporting Year Update

An overview of Tier II hazardous materials reporting requirements under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) was provided. Facilities storing reportable quantities of hazardous materials during calendar year 2025 are required to submit Tier II reports by **March 1, 2026**. The Teton County LEPC distributed an electronic notification to all known reporting facilities on January 13, 2026, and posted the letter to www.tetoncountywy.gov/lepc.

Approximately 48 facilities are expected to report in Teton County. LEPC staff will review, process, and distribute submitted reports to response agencies, with a consolidated summary scheduled for review at the March 2026 LEPC meeting.

5. Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan (HMERP) – 2026 Updates Seminar

Chair Ochs delivered a comprehensive seminar outlining proposed updates to the Teton County Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan (HMERP). Originally adopted in 2018, the plan is being revised to align with the 2025 Teton County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and current national best practices.

Key discussion points included:

- **Purpose of the HMERP:** The plan establishes a coordinated framework for preparedness, response, and recovery related to hazardous materials incidents, while fulfilling EPCRA planning requirements and protecting public health, responders, and the environment.
- **Roles and Responsibilities:** Clear delineation of authority was emphasized. Incident Command maintains control of on-scene operations; the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) provides coordination and support when activated; and the LEPC's role is limited to preparedness, planning, coordination, and community right-to-know functions—not operational response.
- **Incident Command System (ICS):** All hazardous materials incidents utilize ICS, including development of an incident action plan, which may initially be verbal but must be established.
- **Plan Integration:** The HMERP is fully integrated with the TC-EOP, Emergency Support Function (ESF) #10 (Hazardous Materials), and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- **2026 Plan Updates:** Revisions include removal of personal contact information in favor of agency- and role-based contacts; updated public alerting systems (including Teton WY Alerts/Everbridge, Emergency Alert System, and social media); and clearer separation of regulatory notifications from operational response actions.

- **Hazard Profile:** Common hazardous materials in Teton County were reviewed, including fuels, propane, chlorine used in water treatment, anhydrous ammonia, sulfuric acid (battery systems), oxygen storage, and emerging risks associated with lithium-ion batteries.
- **Community Right-to-Know:** Procedures for handling Tier II information requests were discussed, including documentation of requests and coordination with the Wyoming State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) to balance transparency with security considerations.

Public comments on the draft HMERP will be accepted through **January 30, 2026**, and may be submitted to lepc@tetoncountywy.gov. A tabletop exercise based on the updated plan is scheduled for the March 2026 LEPC meeting.

6. Regional Emergency Response Team (RERT) 8 Update

RERT 8 reported no recent activations. Updates included continued readiness efforts and challenges related to securing grant funding for hazardous device and specialized response training.

7. Training and Exercise Updates

Training and exercise updates included:

- Disaster preparedness workshop and exercise for Town and County elected officials on February 2, 2026, focusing on leadership roles, responsibilities, and coordination during emergencies. Contact Rich Ochs with TCEM for more info.
- Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) tabletop exercise scheduled for February 27, 2026. Contact Tracey Trefren with TC Victim Services for more info.
- LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan tabletop exercise planned for the March 19, 2026 LEPC meeting. Contact Rich Ochs with TCEM for more info.
- Planning for the Jackson Hole Airport triennial full-scale emergency exercise scheduled for April 15, 2026 (evening exercise). Contact Alton George with JH Airport for more info.
- Upcoming training opportunities through FEMA's National Disaster & Emergency Management University, including mitigation and building-code-related courses. Visit [NDEMU | Training Announcements | Monthly Highlight: NDEMU Course Availability for January and February 2026](#) for course availability.

8. Public Safety Radio System Update

The Public Safety Radio Coordinator provided updates on communications infrastructure improvements, including:

- Progress at the **Pritchard Pass** radio site, including completed power installation and anticipated construction timeline.

- Relocation of **backup radio systems** from the old courthouse to Teton County Dispatch.
- **Antenna replacement and maintenance** at Station 6 to address paging and coverage issues.
- Testing and limited deployment of new **Motorola portable microphone and body-camera equipment**.

9. Roundtable / Partner Updates

Partner agencies provided the following updates:

- **Public Health:** Regional healthcare coalition coordination efforts, monitoring of measles activity in neighboring counties, and continued influenza and respiratory illness surveillance.
- **Public Works:** Updates on water system projects, thaw well implementation, stormwater system improvements, roadway projects, and long-range infrastructure planning.
- **Teton Conservation District:** Water quality monitoring capabilities, availability for emergency water sampling, Flat Creek thaw well operations, and coordination on surface water and flooding concerns.
- **Airport:** Emergency exercise planning, backup power readiness for extended outages, and environmentally responsible glycol collection and disposal practices.
- **Law Enforcement:** Staffing and recruitment updates for the Jackson Police Department and Wyoming Highway Patrol.
- **Transportation (WYDOT):** Staffing challenges, winter operations coordination, and upcoming roadway and signal improvement projects.
- **Planning and Building:** Development activity updates, infrastructure coordination, and ongoing code enforcement efforts.
- **Public Information:** Interagency public information coordination, website modernization efforts, wayfinding and emergency signage planning, and upcoming PIO training opportunities.
- **Coroner:** Continued pursuit of a dedicated coroner facility and monitoring of increased case volume trends associated with population growth.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately **10:15 a.m.** The next LEPC meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.**, at the Teton EOC and via Microsoft Teams.

Created with AI assistance (ChatGPT GPT-5.2, 01/2026) with final editing and review by Teton County Emergency Management.