On December 15, 2023 at 1 PM we had an Aleutian and Pribolof Islands LEPC meeting.  The meeting took place in the Library Community room.

In person attendees were as follows:  Peter Gurney, Cameron Dean, Rachel Alinsunurin, Greg Peters, Lauren Adams, Heidi Lucking, Ben Knowles, Peggy McLaughlin, Noel Rea

Attendees via Zoom were as follows:  Kathy Shea, Aviva Braun, Ferdinand Lopez, Lynn Crane, Erica Aus

Agenda:

1)    Introduced new LEPC Members Aviva Braun and Erica Aus.  We are very excited to have Aviva and Erica as part of our committee.  Aviva Braun is a Warning Coordination Meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Anchorage and has a great deal of experience in the emergency preparedness realm.  Erica Aus is an Environmental Health Officer with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.  Erica also has experience with the State of Alaska Incident Command where she was a member of the Protective Plans Task Force.

2)    Kathy Shea with DEC spoke to the group regarding Tier 2 reporting and her role with SERC and LEPC’s:  Kathy gave the group some good information regarding Tier 2 chemical reporting guidelines.  Kathy is in charge of Interagency Coordination with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and she is the go to person for the hazmat side of SERC (State Emergency Response Commission) as DEC’s primary representative.  Ms. Shea plans to be a regular at our meetings and we are happy to have her as a resource for our committee!

3)    Tier 2 Chemical reporting compliance and Community Right to Know Discussion

·         With the help of Kathy Shea with DEC, got setup on E-Plan database as a first responder.  Fire Department also gained access and we can now see all Tier 2 reports submitted by local businesses since 2018.

·         Obtained a list of all of the businesses that submitted their 2022 tier 2 reports via e-plan to the DEC in 2023.  They included:  American Seafoods, CMA Terminals, Delta Western (2 sites), GCI, Petro Star (4 sites), Unisea, Westward, Alyeska, Kloosterboer, and Matson.  These companies were advised via email of the Tier 2 reporting period for 2023 and referred to the Tier 2 Chemical Reporting<<https://aleutian-and-pribilof-islands-lepc-unalaska.hub.arcgis.com/pages/tier-2-chemical-reporting>> section of the LEPC website.

·         Companies that applied in past years, but not last year include:  City of Unalaska (Pyramid Water plant, Well house 1, well house 2), Northern Victor.   Parties have been sent a reminder of the upcoming Tier 2 reporting period and provided information as to how to submit their report via the Tier 2 Chemical Reporting<<https://aleutian-and-pribilof-islands-lepc-unalaska.hub.arcgis.com/pages/tier-2-chemical-reporting>> section of the LEPC website.

·         Any businesses that weren’t listed above that we think probably should be filing tier 2 reports?  Resolve Marine, welding companies, Dutch Harbor Fuel, and Alaska Propane were named as potential local companies who may need to file.  Emphasis was also placed on getting the word out to fishing vessels and fishing companies who operate out of Unalaska.

·         Emergency Plan—Got template/checklist for Emergency Plan pertaining to Hazardous Materials from Kathy Shea with DEC.  This is something that LEPC will need to work on over the coming months.  Once we have completed, we will need to review annually.  Template for the emergency plan is attached to this email.

4)    State Homeland Security Grant Program—2024 Grant application became available on December 8, 2023.  The deadline to submit is 11:59 PM, Monday, February 12, 2024.  See SHSP website<<https://ready.alaska.gov/Grants/SHSP>> for all 2024 application materials.  Please email me if you would like to assist with the completion of the Grant application.  Some financial items that we could receive funding for include:  House numbering project, emergency kits, etc.

5)    Aleutian & Pribolof Islands LEPC website update:  In the meeting we went through all of the Aleutian and Pribolof Islands LEPC website<<https://aleutian-and-pribilof-islands-lepc-unalaska.hub.arcgis.com/>>.  Since last meeting we have filled out the Weather section of the Ready, Set, Go page, added a Tier 2 Chemical Reporting tab at the top of the site and added links to sign up for NIXLE and access important sites like the Unalaska Public Safety Facebook page.  We are in the process of working with Alaska Volcano Observatory personnel to complete the Volcanoes section of the site and we got some good information from NWS rep/LEPC member Aviva Braun regarding links to add to the weather section.  We also plan to add a Hazmat Incident section to the “Ready, Set, Go!” page.

Attached are 2 Tsunami related flyers that we have made that have QR codes that lead to the Tsunami page<<https://aleutian-and-pribilof-islands-lepc-unalaska.hub.arcgis.com/pages/58d4035221964437bbdce1294426eaaf>> of the Aleutian and Pribolof Islands website.  I would like to make flyers for all different hazards that will be informative and help connect community members to the website.  If you are interested in helping with flyer creation, please send me an email and I will forward you some templates that could be used.

6)    Project Gabe:  LEPC member Ferdinand Lopez (Ferdie) spoke to the group about Project Gabe and how Unisea Inc. has taken advantage of the program.  Project Gabe uses the existing DHSS program, Project Hope, to distribute naloxone, a medication that can reverse an opioid overdose, and fentanyl test strips, which can test for the presence of fentanyl in drugs, to working Alaskans.   See attached Project Gabe press release for further information.  Heidi with APIA is very familiar with this program and actually had a Project Gabe kit in her car which she provided to LEPC member Greg Peters to be used at Alyeska.  We discussed making an effort to get the word out regarding this project to local fishing companies so that they can get the kits on their vessels.  Click the Project Gabe Link<<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/projectgabe>> to access the Project Gabe contact and order form.

7)    National Weather Service presentation:  Aviva Braun with the National Weather Service provided a PowerPoint Presentation to the committee in which she discussed resources that are currently available to us.  See attached PDF version of the presentation.  Additionally, I have attached several 1-page how-to handouts that Aviva was nice enough to provide.  The how-to documents are for Emergency preparedness partners only and not for the general public.

Our Next LEPC meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, January 26, 2024 at 1 PM.  I will send a meeting invite a few weeks in advance of the meeting with an accompanying agenda.  I hope that everyone has a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year!

Sincerely,

Peter Gurney
Chairperson
Aleutian & Pribolof Islands LEPC
(907) 359-3219