



Aleutian & Pribilof Islands Local Emergency Planning Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, December 18, 2025

Time: 12:15 PM

Location: Unalaska Library—Community Room

1. Call to Order

Chair Peter Gurney called the meeting to order at 12:20 PM.

2. Attendance

In person: Peter Gurney, Greg Peters, Erica Aus, Shari Coleman, Kerry Mahoney

Via Zoom: Rachel Alinsunurin, Kathy Shea

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the December 18, 2025 agenda, with the August 27, 2025 minutes moved to the next meeting.

- **Moved:** Erica Aus
- **Second:** Greg Peters

Motion carried.

Meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the About LEPC section of www.api-lepc.org.

4. Approval of Minutes

Draft minutes from the August 27, 2025 meeting were deferred to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

5. Regular Reports

Treasurer's Report

- Financial update reviewed. Currently we have \$9,309.59 of available funds.
- Business license valid through **December 31, 2026**.
- LEPC sweatshirts continue to sell at **\$35**. Ten were sold at the Fire Department Open House with volunteer support from Shari Coleman, Rachel Alinsunurin, and Rose Sevilla.
- A **\$2,500 donation request** was submitted to PSEA. Expected turnaround is approximately 3–4 weeks.
- Erica Aus will submit a **\$250 donation request** to ASEA.
- Greg Peters suggested submitting a donation request to the **International Association of Fire Fighters – Unalaska Chapter (IAFF)**.

6. Business Items

a. Tier II Hazardous Chemical Reporting

Greg Peters provided an update. The committee is currently between reporting periods. Regulators have requested follow-up on past Tier II reporters, and outreach will occur in **January 2026**.

- Reporting opens **January 1, 2026**.
- Approximately **30 facilities** reported last year.
- The City of Unalaska did not submit a Tier II report last year.
- LEPC has no enforcement authority but can provide guidance and coordinate with **ADEC and FDA**.
- Public Tier II information is subject to redaction.
- Outreach reminders and ePlan submission guidance will be distributed.

b. Outreach Activities

- **Fire Department Open House (October 12):** LEPC distributed reflective house numbers and preparedness materials.
- Upcoming outreach opportunities discussed, including a **USCG Cutter event (December 19)** and potential spring events.

c. Western Alaska Flooding – Lessons Learned

Chair Gurney summarized key takeaways from the **Fall 2025 Western Alaska flooding events**, highlighting impacts to evacuation capacity, communications, fuel systems, and sheltering (See attached).

Discussion points included:

- Shelter capacity and the need for **multiple strategic shelter locations**.
- Vulnerabilities related to flooding, mudslides, and access to off-road areas.
- Reliance on **personal boats** and community-owned resources during flooding events.
- The potential benefit of developing a **community resource list** (boats, ATVs, equipment).
- CERT program considerations. CERT certifications do not expire. We currently have 8 people certified in CERT on the island. CERT has had a few meetings and each member was given a backpack with necessary supplies. The need for a sponsor was noted, and outreach to City leadership and Council was discussed.
- Coordination with the **Emergency Operations Center (EOC)** on shelter planning and advisory documentation.
- Review of the City's **new Hazard Mitigation Plan**, with the possibility of developing a supporting Emergency Response Plan.

d. House Numbering Project

- Reflective house numbers have been distributed to several locations, including East Point (Mark Chisum) and UniSea, though some installations remain pending. Numbers have also been put up on numerous residences throughout the island.
- Address database issues were noted for certain Alyeska facilities.
- Several residents have requested numbers but have not picked them up.
- A potential **pickup event** (e.g., Burma Road Chapel) was discussed, along with how to address unclaimed numbers.

e. Senior Citizen Preparedness Initiatives

- Past Life Alert distribution through APOA was discussed as a reference model.
- Chair Gurney proposed exploring **Alexa Emergency Assist** as a modern alternative (approximately \$50/year).
- Accessibility concerns were raised, particularly for hearing-impaired residents.
- Grant opportunities and optimal solutions will be researched.

f. Digital Outreach and Communications

- The LEPC Facebook page posting frequency and content were discussed.
- Members were encouraged to share LEPC content with their networks.
- Chair Gurney will explore a **text message reminder system** for meetings and outreach.

g. National Weather Service (NWS) Update

Written comments from **Aviva Braun, Warning Coordination Meteorologist**, were shared with the committee. Key points included:

- Increasing frequency of extreme weather events and NWS availability for **briefings and EOC support**, both virtual and in-person.
- Ongoing support to DOT and lessons learned from previous deployments.
- Upcoming **forecast zone changes effective March 2026**, including clearer naming and the creation of a dedicated **Unimak Pass marine zone**.

h. Roundtable

- Interest in hosting a **summer survival class**. Should get in contact with Albert at the PCR to discuss.
- Idea for a community event focused on building **personal emergency kits**; potentially school outreach.
- Update that the school received grant funding for security cameras and door locks, they are installing the cameras this week. LEPC facilitated the Grant application and was instrumental in making this a reality. The school was awarded \$169,350.00 in grant funds.
- LEPC also facilitated a Grant for the City of Unalaska of \$100,000 for a security framework at City Hall and security cameras at Unalaska Public Safety. The money has been awarded and is now available, the City just needs to do a few things prior to finalizing.
- NWS documentation will be distributed with the meeting minutes.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at **1:24 PM**.