

SWEET GRASS COUNTY

Local Emergency Planning Committee (L.E.P.C.)

All Hazards and Emergency 9-1-1

Minutes

Date of Meeting: **October 22, 2020 11:30 AM**

Location: **Ambulance Hall, Meeting Room; 220 W 1ST AVE; Big Timber MT**

Attendees:

Bill Wallace, SG Commissioner
Melanie Roe, SG Commissioner
Rob Farnum, Ambulance Manager
Dan Tronrud, Community Health
Kris Novotny, BT Public Works/Fire

Corey Austin, SGCHS Superintendent
Ken Rockman, SG School bus Coordinator
Cliff Brophy, DES / 9-1-1 Coordinator
Pat Leary, Fire Dept. Member

The meeting was called to order by Clifford Brophy DES / E9-1-1 Coordinator at 11:30 AM.

*Rob was paged out with the ambulance. We were unable to log into the virtual meeting access during the beginning of the meeting. He was able to join us later. EMS and Fire were paged out again before the close of the meeting.

The pledge of allegiance to the US Flag was recited

Minutes for the Meeting on September 24, 2020 were approved as submitted.

Welcome and self-introductions: Cliff welcomed Superintendent Corey Austin and Ken Rockman.

Local Emergency Planning Committee (L.E.P.C.) Topics:

Cliff announced that he was reviewing the membership list for the LEPC. This is an annual process. Because of the roads and weather, our attendance was low. We would review the list at another time. Corey and Ken were invited to serve on the LEPC. They both agreed.

Cliff reported that the annual LEPC report was sent to the State as required. Our LEPC met 10 times. Our membership represents most of the positions required and

suggested. We don't have many chemical factories in this area, so it's difficult to find those representatives.

The local railroad companies and the pipeline companies have been offering on-line virtual training opportunities. It has been reported that these are very good. If anyone is interested in taking these classes, please contact Cliff.

Disaster and Emergency Services (D.E.S.) Topics:

Cliff reported on the two HLS grants. We were awarded two grants for the emergency generator and the base station repeater radios. Cliff has begun the environmental impact and the historical review study for each project site. Once those have been completed, then we will start on the cyber security study for the county computer systems.

Cliff gave an update on the Monument Mtn. repeater. The equipment has been ordered. Hopefully the weather will break this fall and they can get the equipment up there. Industrial was also asked to look at repairing the link from Big Timber to the Monument Ridge repeater.

Cliff opened the discussion on a request that the county received from the Sweet Grass County School system. They want to expand their bus communications from a simplex frequency to a repeated channel. They were asking to use some space in the county's building on the Tin Can Hill site. The officials and department heads all agreed that we would work with them. It was recommended that they consider using the Greycliff site instead. Everyone agreed that in their experience, the Greycliff site gives better coverage and there is more room to place the equipment. Cliff will forward a copy of the user agreement that is used for that building.

Emergency 9-1-1 Topics:

Again, Cliff reported that nothing significant has happened with E9-1-1. We have had a few computer related issues as usual. Those are being addressed.

Public Health Topics:

Rob gave a brief update on the COVID-19 pandemic response. Our count is back up as it is all over Montana. Rob reported that the Billings hospitals are barely keeping up. This

increase has taken a toll on staff. Cliff reported that during his DES Coordinators conference call, the state is looking to the Feds for more personnel because those in the State are all maxed.

Fire Topics:

End of season report was good. We have had some fires but no large ones.

Public Utilities Topics:

Cory reported that the Old Boulder bridge replacement is going well. The beams are in and the side wings on the South side have been poured.

Weather Service:

No report because the remote access was down and NWS was unable to log in.

Comments from Members: None.

Select Next Meeting Date: next scheduled date is November 26, 2020 1130 hrs. Because this is the Thanksgiving Holiday, the meeting was canceled for the month of November.

Public Comments: None.

Adjourn: 12:30 PM

Submitted by



Clifford Brophy
DES/911 Coordinator