

SWEET GRASS COUNTY

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

All Hazards and Emergency 9-1-1

Minutes

Date of Meeting: **January 28, 2021 11:30 AM**

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

Attendees:

Bill Wallace, SG Commissioner
J.V. Moody, SG Commissioner
Melanie Roe, SG Commissioner
Alan Ronneberg, Sheriff
Ian Peterson, CEO Pioneer Medical Center
Rob Farnum, Ambulance Manager
Jennifer Chappell, Public Health
Dan Tronrud, Community Health
Cory Conner, SG Public Works
Kris Novotny, City Fire Chief

Cliff Brophy, DES / 9-1-1 Coordinator
Ashley Sites, USFS
Matt Wolfe, Sibanye Stillwater Mine
Corey Austin, SG High School
Josh Brown, Phillips 66 Pipeline
Glenn Madler, Phillips 66 Pipeline
Tom Frieders, NWS
Joan Mainwaring, American Red Cross

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

The pledge of allegiance to the US Flag was recited

Minutes for the Meeting on October 22, 2020 were approved as submitted. The meetings for November and December 2020 were cancelled, no minutes composed.

Welcome and self-introductions

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

Cliff asked for ideas for exercises for the next few months. Several ideas were presented.

- 1) Matt Wolfe with Sibanye Stillwater Mine reported that they would like to set up a tabletop with the LEPC group this year. They would like to test their action plan for the tailings pond. The last one that they held was in 2018. We will plan on **May 2021** for the exercise. The mine will then hold

a meeting with residents in the area of the East Boulder to inform them of the plan.

- 2) Corey Austin advised that he would like to have a crisis exercise for the High School but it would be perhaps next year.

Cliff gave a report on the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) update process. We are still working on updating the plan. Most of the contacts have been updated.

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

Cliff inquired as to if there were any training requests. Training for Public Information Officer (PIO) was brought up. A former employee attended last year. Sheriff Ronneberg is planning on sending his new administrative assistant when that position is filled.

Joan Mainwaring with the American Red Cross introduced her self and gave a presentation as to what the ARC could provide for us. A single page handout was provided.

Cliff reported that he attended the recent MLGP online training. The pipeline group has more training dates if anyone needs that training.

Cliff then gave a report on the progress of the HSG 2020 projects. We are writing out the bid specs now for the request for bids. We are still waiting for approval from FEMA on the environmental and historic preservation review form before we can proceed on the Civic Center generator.

Projects for the 2021 Homeland Security Grant cycle were reviewed. The top three choices were: 1) Radio repeater updates, 2) Generator for County Annex, 3) Update Command trailer. Other projects included the possible repeater site out in the Northern part of the county. Members will decide on the priority list of each project next meeting.

Update on the Pre-disaster Mitigation project (AKA Multi-hazard assessment). The attendance was greatly appreciated. We had a lot of folks in attendance and some great input. Some members suggested that we send invites to local utility companies.

Emergency 9-1-1 Topics:

A request was made from some of the local responders to have the local wrecker company crew members check in with the PSAP dispatch. All agreed that it would benefit

everyone. Sheriff Ronneberg and several other responders will reach out to the wrecking company and work on that project.

Cliff reported that there is proposed legislation this year that will divert hundreds of thousands of 9-1-1 funds over to the State Library to be used for GIS upgrades. This has caused some controversy amongst folks as it will deplete 9-1-1 funds used by PSAPs.

Cliff also reported that the State 9-1-1 Commission has been approving additional standards directed at PSAP's and related emergency service companies. They have been doing this through the administrative rule process.

Public Health Topics:

Jenn reported that we are still in the 1B category for COVID-19 vaccinations. She anticipates that scheduling the recipients will continue to be a huge challenge. We anticipate that we will continue to receive more dosages. As those dosages arrive, recipients will be scheduled. She hopes to streamline the process as that occurs.

Fire Topics:

Kris reported that DNRC experienced several people retiring since the last fire season. DNRC will be filling those positions soon.

Public Works:

E Bridger Creek bridge is back in place and all bridges are open.

National Weather Service:

Tom with NWS service reported on the short-term and long-term weather patterns. This area is a little short on moisture but that may pick up again this spring.

Comments from Members:

Cliff reported that the County Commissioners were participating in a cybersecurity project funded by MT Association of Counties (MACo). That project will help address cybersecurity for the county offices. Cybersecurity is a huge concern across the nation. It is also one of the threats identified in our THIRA assessment. Commissioner Roe pointed out that one of the services provided in this project will fulfill our requirement to have an annual cybersecurity assessment to fulfill our obligation in grant funding.

Select Next Meeting Date:

February 25, 2021; 11:30 AM at the Ambulance Hall.

Public Comments: None given

Adjourn: 12:45 PM

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Clifford Brophy", is written over a circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Clifford Brophy
DES/911 Coordinator