

# SWEET GRASS COUNTY

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

### All Hazards and Emergency 9-1-1

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#### Minutes

Date of Meeting: **May 27, 2021 11:30 AM**

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

#### Attendees:

Bill Wallace, SG Commissioner  
J.V. Moody, SG Commissioner  
Alan Ronneberg, Sheriff  
Rob Farnum, Ambulance Manager  
Dan Tronrud, Community Health

Cory Conner, SG Public Works  
Kris Novotny, City Fire Chief  
Cliff Brophy, DES / 9-1-1 Coordinator  
Levi Duncan, USFS

**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 April 22, 2021** were approved as submitted.

#### **Welcome and self-introductions**

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

Report on the tabletop for the mine tailings storage facility went well. Several members identified action items to follow up on.

Cliff reported that two items that he took from that exercise was the ENS needed some pre-defined messages and an upgraded ENS system for the county. With that, Cliff drafted several messages for: Flood, Fire and Hazmat. If anyone wished to review those and give input, they were welcome to do so.

Cliff then distributed a list of recognized vendors for ENS programs and a list of criteria that we may want to use when reviewing those vendors. Cliff will schedule vendor demonstrations for us as a group. The consensus was that we should review vendors that are currently used by neighboring counties and the state.

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

Rob reminded the group that the PMC is due for a full-scale exercise. Previously the group had discussed having a community drill and an evacuation of the PMC. Rob, Kris, Alan and Cliff will work on the schedule for that event.

For the next exercise topic, the group agreed to use the above-mentioned evacuation of the PMC.

Rob inquired about the status of the lighted signage on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave for the ambulance when it pulls out of the barn. Commissioner JV will follow up with the MT DOT. Cliff has the contact info for the state.

Cybersecurity updates. In light of the recent and continued events in the world, cybersecurity is encouraged by most offices and required in other areas. The sheriff's office is moving to a multi factor authentication for all users. The county has implemented a training program for the county employees that are not currently required to complete training in other departments. Draft policies are being reviewed for implementation in the county offices.

Cliff gave a brief update on the 2020 SHSG projects. Vendors were selected for the base station radios and the civic center generator. Equipment is now being ordered.

Cliff just received notice that the State accepted our application requests for the Annex generator and the Tin Can Hill repeater replacements. Those will go to the Federal level for review and consideration. We should hear in September if those are approved.

Review and update SGC EOP annex 16 (Direction, Control and Warning): The group reviewed the annex and made some modifications. The first change is 16.2.1 (2) "... this is channel 3 at a frequency of..." will be changed to: "this is ~~channel 3~~ Sweet Grass County (SGC) West at a frequency of.....". Second issue is: 16.2.1. (3b) "EAS plan" will be located and reviewed. Third issue is: 16.2.1. (3c) "The siren" is inoperable and needs to be repaired.

### **Emergency 9-1-1 Topics:**

Cliff reported that the two radio consoles in dispatch are MCC5500's and they have reached the end of service. These are about \$125,000 to \$150,000 each to replace. Those

will be looked at over the next year or so. Currently, we have the parts to repair these if they break down.

The server for the Sheriff's office and dispatch is also due for replacement. That will cost about \$10,000.00. It is due this fall.

Ryan Olson of Third Signal LLC has sent a proposal to SGC to assist with "Wireless Operations Management. Ryan has worked before as a consultant for Sweet Grass County.

**Public Health Topics:**

Rob reported that approx. 1100 people have been fully vaccinated in SGC. There are few more that are in the process of being vaccinated.

**Fire Topics:**

Kris suggested that the two new county public works employees attend the basic fire training. He and Cory will work on the scheduling for that training.

Levi reported that FS will continue to work in the SGC area. There will be some changes in personnel duties but the duty officer phone will be monitored.

**Public Works:** No updates

**National Weather Service:**

Due to tech. difficulties, Shawn with NWS was not able to make contract when he logged in. Shawn sent an email with the weather update. Snow pack is down in our drainage and they expect warm and dry this summer.

**Comments from Members:** None

**Select Next Meeting Date:**

June 24, 2021 is the next scheduled meeting. However there may be a conflict with the mine's public meeting for the tailings storage facility.

**Public Comments:** None given

**Adjourn:** 12:30 PM

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Clifford Brophy", with a large loop at the end.

Clifford Brophy  
DES/911 Coordinator