

SWEET GRASS COUNTY

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

All Hazards and Emergency 9-1-1

Minutes

Date of Meeting: **August 26, 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
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
Bob Culbreth, Fire USFS
Matt McManamen, Sibanye EB Mine
Linda Racicot, volunteer Red Cross
Bill Racicot, volunteer Red Cross
Kyle Sturgill-Simon, MT DES (virtual)
Casey Driscoll, MHA (virtual)

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 July 22, 2021 were approved as submitted.

Welcome and self-introductions

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

Cliff announced that THIRA/SPR assessment and NIMS survey are due soon. We will have a committee work on those before the September meeting. Once the membership has approved the report and assessment, then they will be sent in.

After action review of the Trout Creek Fire on 8-8-21. Stillwater notified Sheriff Ronneberg that the fire may cross over into Stockade and W. Bridger Creek. Sheriff sent deputies door-to-door to notify residents of the subsequent "Pre-evacuation Notice". Cliff Brophy sent out the notice on our old notification reverse 9-1-1 system. He also posted the notice on the Sheriff's Office Facebook page and the County's FB page. The fire status changed shortly thereafter and the notice was rescinded. Stillwater sent out an evacuation

alert for the same fire that carried over into Sweet Grass County. Once they look into that situation, Cliff will contact them to see if this an issue we can avoid if at all possible.

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

Cliff provided an update on the HSG projects for the generator and radios. Most of the equipment is being delayed due to shipping issues faced by many companies. An extension request for each of the projects was submitted to the State.

Cliff gave a short update on the pre-disaster mitigation (PDM) project. The information has been gathered by the consultant and they are compiling the info. A draft copy will be sent out to us this fall for our review. A final version will then be sent to the State and the Feds.

Cliff has finished the hardcopy manuals of the recently updated Emergency Operations Plan (EOP for the city and County. We have submitted the plan to the State for their review. The manuals are ready for distribution, they just won't have the States signature included.

Cliff gave an update on the CodeRED installation. The program is ready for us to use. Most of the dispatchers have been trained for CodeRED launches. The county website has links on the emergency alert page that will assist residents to register their information to ensure that they receive notices. We are working with CodeRED to work out an address issue with W 1st Ave. The program is not recognizing it for some reason. We are still working on the IPAWS program. That takes several months to complete that project. We will continue with public updates and Facebook announcements.

Kyle Sturgill-Simon gave an update on the State activities. The State is still activated for COVID-19 pandemic. They are busy with fires but that is slowing down now. The COVID-19 status dashboard is still up and running. The form stack for ordering resources is still operational.

Emergency 9-1-1 Topics:

The county signed an agreement with Voice Products to continue with 9-1-1 support. They did not send out the invoice when it was due several months ago.

Public Health Topics:

Jenn reported that she has several cases of COVID-19 in the county. No known Delta variant at this time.

Jenn spoke about the COVID-19 response after action review (AAR) that we will have on September 2, 2021. Invitations to key people have been sent out.

Fire Topics:

Bob Culbreth gave a great update on the American Fork fire in the North part of the county. The local team will be taking it over this weekend. He reported one other fire in Sweet Grass County but it was a small one due to a transformer.

Kris reported that he had several small lightening caused fires. They were able to get right on those and extinguished those.

Public Works:

Cory reported that the Sate road project is almost completed on the Rapelje Rd.

National Weather Service: No report

Comments from Members:

Linda with the MT ARC gave a report for the Red Cross. There were no house fires reported for Sweet Grass County this month. They have been busy in other parts of the State however. Linda and Bill will leave newer cots for our emergency shelter.

Matt commented that the mine has seen issues with deliveries also. So, we were not alone in the struggle with equipment delivery.

Select Next Meeting Date: September 23, 2021 11:30 AM same location

Public Comments: None given

Review of "Evacuation P&P" from EOP:

Those that stayed for the review of the plan made some suggestions for changes. This was done in response to the acquisition of the CodeRED alerting program. It was also determined that a different guide would need to be drafted for users because of the functional differences between the two alert programs.

Adjourn: 12:45 PM

Submitted by: Clifford Brophy, DES/911 Coordinator

