

SWEET GRASS COUNTY

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

All Hazards and Emergency 9-1-1

Minutes

Date of Meeting: **1/27/2022 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
Greg DeBoer, City Mayor
Alan Ronneberg, Sheriff
Jason Ferguson, Deputy Sheriff
Corey Austin, Superintendent Schools
Ian Peterson, CEO PMC (virtual)
Diane King, PMC DON (virtual)
Rob Farnum, Ambulance Manager
Jennifer Chappell, Public Health
Dan Tronrud, Community Health (virtual)

Cory Conner, SG Public Works
Kris Novotny, City Fire Chief
Nadine Stosich, City Clerk
Bill Racicot, Red Cross (virtual)
Linda Racicot, Red Cross (virtual)
Cliff Brophy, DES / 9-1-1 Coordinator
Justin Webster, MT DES (virtual)
Angie Matos, USFS
Gene Madler, Phillips 66
Tony Bacino, MRL
Nick Vertz, NWS (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 11/18/2021 were approved as submitted. The **12/23/2021** minutes document that no meeting was held.

Welcome and self-introductions: All of the attendees introduced themselves.

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

Cliff reported that our mitigation plan should be sent back to us soon for final approval by the County Commissioners and the City Council. The mitigation plan has been passed by the State DES office and is now being reviewed by the Federal Government. We should have the plan back to us by the end of February or first of March.

Cliff reported on the MLGPA pipeline training that was put on Jan 19, 2022. It was great tabletop exercise. Several people were unable to attend due to a “high risk” call in our area and some because of illnesses.

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

Cliff reported that we are finalizing the closeout of the base radio replacement project. The radios have been installed and we have received the final payment.

Cliff reported that the civic center generator is about finished. Just waiting for the final hookup.

The Tin Can Hill repeater replacement and the Annex generator projects are just getting started.

Cliff gave a brief update on the State-wide trunking system project. Originally, we were hoping to get a repeater site placed at the North end of the county. The State is facing funding issues now so they are looking at maintenance only on these systems and not new installation. It would cost us thousands of dollars per radio to hook into the trunking system.

Cliff reported that we have one last phase of our radio project. This project would consist of replacing the repeaters at Greycliff. Kris Novotny moved to apply for the State Homeland Security grant to complete this project. Sheriff Alan Ronneberg seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Emergency 9-1-1 Topics:

Cliff reported that CodeRED emergency notification system has been used once in Sweet Grass Co. We sent a public announcement about the Bridger Creek Bridge being shut down by the State inspector. Continued training will be setup for dispatch. Melanie announced that the Sibanye – Stillwater Mine reimbursed Sweet Grass County for the cost on the annual maintenance fee of almost \$5100.00. We are very grateful for that generous donation.

Cliff reported that we are making plans to replace the two radio consoles that are in dispatch. The current ones are Motorola MCC5500. Motorola has announced that the MCC5500 have reached end-of-life status and they will no longer support them. We can still

obtain parts and radio technicians can still repair them for now. New ones will cost around \$150,000.00 apiece. They should be replaced in 2-3 years. The current ones have reached end of life.

Public Health Topics:

Jenn reported that we are seeing a rise in active COVID-19 cases. This is keeping her very busy. We have about 27 active cases.

Jenn announced that she will schedule a 4.5-hour block to hand out home test kits and to give shots. This will be at the Ambulance Hall on February 1st, 2022 from 1:00 PM to 5:30 PM. She will be sending info out on social media.

Fire Topics:

Kris reported that they will have some fire training coming up. Their DNRC training will be pushed out to April. They will be training the Road Crew during that one. They also have an extrication training scheduled in March. Kris will reach out to other local responders to invite them to the training.

Angie reported that Bob Culbreth will be taking over Ashley Sites position. This will take place later in February and should be announced.

Public Works:

Cory gave an update on the Bridger Creek bridge. The state has given it a 5-ton weight limit and rescinded its directive to close the bridge. This should last about 2 years.

National Weather Service:

Nick with NWS reported that we had a warm and dry start to the new year. There was a cold snap for a brief period. Snow pack in the Crazy Mountains is about 80%. He stated that we may see above normal snow fall in February.

They have selected Cory to takeover Tom's position at the NWS.

Comments from Members:

Rob reported that he has about 10 people taking an EMT class at this time.

Linda with ARC reported that they did not have any calls in Sweet Grass County. They did respond to a fire in Madison County recently.

Select Next Meeting Date: February 24, 2022 11:30 AM. (We may not have a virtual connection at that meeting).

Public Comments: None given

Adjourn: 12:10 PM

Submitted by


Clifford Brophy
DES/911 Coordinator