

SWEET GRASS COUNTY

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

All Hazards and Emergency 9-1-1

Minutes

Date of Meeting: **5/26/2022 11:30 AM**

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

Attendees:

Melanie Roe, SG Commissioner

Greg DeBoer, BT Mayor

Corey Austin, Superintendent SGHS

Rob Farnum, Ambulance Manager

Cory Conner, SG Public Works

Kris Novotny, City Fire Chief

Bob Culbreth, USFS

Gunnar Hanson, Phillips 66 (virtual)

Matt McManamen, Sibanye-Stillwater

Casey Driscoll, MT Healthcare (virtual)

Bill Racicot, Red Cross

Linda Racicot, Red Cross

Cliff Brophy, DES / 9-1-1 Coordinator

Dan Borsum, NWS (virtual)

Robert Pleninger, Triangle Comm. (virtual)

Jason Castillon, Triangle Comm. (virtual)

Jeff Kogelmann, Triangle Comm.

Logan Holmquist, JKL (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 4/28/2022 were approved as submitted.

Welcome and self-introductions:

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

Emergency Communications with private company in Boulder River Valley.

Members of the Triangle Communications and their subcontractor were invited to the LEPC meeting to establish contacts and protocols for communications in the event of an emergency during their construction period this summer. The concern was the lack of reliable communications and the narrow roads in that area. If an event such as a wild fire were to occur, we would need fast communications. Otherwise it could take hours to have a responder drive that distance. Contact information was documented and a simple protocol

was established. That info will be reduced to writing and distributed to the individuals named as contacts.

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

Update on Multi Hazard Mitigation Regional Plan – Cliff reported that the Western Region just had their first stakeholders meeting that morning. All interested individuals for Sweet Grass Co. are welcome to attend future meetings. Sweet Grass just finished compiling our 5-year plan. Our participation in this regional group will assist in working our plan in with the Western Regional plan that is currently underway. We should not have to redo ours.

Tabletop Exercise set for June 16, 2022 from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm; ambulance hall.

Emergency 9-1-1 Topics:

Remote monitor for repeater sites. Cliff reported that we have experienced two generator exercise failures at the Grey Cliff repeater site. The only way to know of a problem up there is to physically visit the site. We are looking into the possibility of installing remote monitors to warn us immediately if there is a failure.

Cliff reported that Stillwater Co is replacing their Motorola MCC5500 radio controllers. If possible, we will pick them up as spares in the event ours fail. The 5500s have reached end of life service and we may need to replace them in the next few years. Approximate cost of replacement will be about \$300,000.00.

Public Health Topics:

Tabletop Burn Exercise. Rob reported that the exercise that the PMC signed up for went well. It showed that our facility would be easily overwhelmed with a lot of burn victims.

Fire Topics:

Kris reported that he and Cliff attended the Fire Wardens conference in Helena. They had some good speakers. There is a push to ask counties to update their wildland fire plans.

Bob announced that someone from USFS will be at the Tabletop next June.

Public Works:

Cory announced that the county will be replacing the bridge on Bridger Creek Road from June 5th to the 8th. Public service announcements will be sent out. Info will be sent to dispatch as to locations and detours. The county may be looking at replacing bridges on the East Boulder later this fall.

Kris announced that there will be paving taking place on Rail Road St. this summer. It will be difficult for travel. Keep this in mind for emergency services.

National Weather Service:

Dan reported that we could see about 2" of rain this weekend. Be cautious about backcountry travels, as people could be stranded. We can expect moderate temperatures for June.

Comments from Members:

Corey reported that the school kids will be done this Friday.

Staff with Triangle Comm. reminded everyone that they and JKL will be in the area this summer running fiber up the Boulder Valley.

Linda reported that the ARC had an exercise for the newer volunteers. They had them practice some drills such as setting up cots and other related tasks.

Casey also reported on the Tabletop Exercise for burns. She also reported that there are lots of training events going on around the area.

Select Next Meeting Date: June 23, 2022 11:30 AM

Public Comments: None given

Adjourn: 12:30 PM

Submitted by



Clifford Brophy
DES/911 Coordinator