

SWEET GRASS COUNTY

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

All Hazards and Emergency 9-1-1

Minutes

Date of Meeting: **December 22, 2022 11:30 AM**

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

Attendees:

Greg DeBoer, City Mayor

Alan Ronneberg, Sheriff

Andrew Bullock, EMS Manager

Cory Conner, SG Public Works

Kris Novotny, City Fire Chief

Cliff Brophy, DES

Julie Arthur, 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 November 17, 2022 were approved as submitted.

Welcome and self-introductions:

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

Cliff reported on the information sent out by the State that they will be looking into the S.E.R.C. and perhaps moving the extra duties from that commission over to the MT DES. The idea is that they would reduce the size of the SERC membership. Updates will be provided as they are disseminated.

A reminder that LEPC election of officers will be held next meeting (January 26th)

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

Cliff and Cory gave an update on the FEMA PA project. Cliff announced that the county is considering it again. Cory was at the meeting with the County contracted engineer Great West, FWAP and the railroad. It appears that the Federal Funding may be used after all.

Cliff reported that the Western Region of the Hazard Identification and Risk Management plan is drafted and available for review on-line. The link is provided on the agenda.

The Western Region will offer three meeting locations (Kalispell, Helen and **Livingston**) on January 17th, 18th and 20th. There is a signup link for those that can make it. This meeting has a required attendance status for each jurisdiction (County and City).

Emergency 9-1-1 Topics:

Cliff reported that the computers for the county radio system were scheduled to be replaced this week. Due to emergency communications issues in other counties, the techs could make the scheduled time. They will get back to us on January 5th.

Cliff reported that a company called Third Signal was doing an audit of our wireless towers and emergency calls. At least one sector has been identified as incorrectly routed. A tower just inside of Park County has sector reaching into Sweet Grass. Those calls are being routed into Park County but will be changed to re-route in to Sweet Grass PSAP.

Cliff reported that the battery backup in the E 9-1-1 answering equipment had failed. It took several weeks for the company to locate another one and send it here. It has been replaced and should be up and running now.

Public Health Topics:

Sweet Grass Ambulance personnel are needing additional pagers. Kris reported that Fire department is set and doesn't need any. We will look for possible funding sources for those.

Fire Topics:

Cliff reported that he and Kris have been working on the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) update. We have the invitation for bid document drafted and almost ready to publish. There are about 7 vendors who may be interested in bidding. This project is scheduled to be completed in spring of 2024.

In connection to this project, the DNRC staff will be in Big Timber for a meeting to discuss this project. That meeting will be January 12, 2023 at 10:00 am held at the ambulance hall.

Kris reported that there have been no fire calls lately.

Public Works:

Cory reported that the bridge near Melville has been installed and hopefully completed next week during warmer temperatures.

National Weather Service:

Julie gave us an update. We experienced two arctic fronts that came in one after another resulting in the sub-zero temps. Warmer weather will be blowing in this Friday. Possible chance of moisture next week.

Mitigation Progress: Cliff reported that the county continues to work on the cybersecurity. The county is setting up DOT GOV emails for those offices that require more security.

Comments from Members: None

Select Next Meeting Date: Thursday, January 26, 2023 11:30 AM

Public Comments: None given

Adjourn: 12:05 pm

Submitted by


Clifford Brophy
DES/911 Coordinator