

LEPC MEETING

4/20/17 7:00 PM

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONER'S ROOM

MINUTES

In Chairperson Sue Hansen's absence the meeting was opened by Lindy Walker of Beaverhead County Public Health at 7:00. The meeting was turned over to DES Coordinator Tom Wagenknecht.

Siren Update: Tom began the meeting with an update on the new Siren/ Mass Notification System. There was, as many people in the community heard, a malfunction of the new siren on Wednesday 4/19/17. The dispatch pressed the button to initiate the old siren at noon, but apparently Univision had linked the new siren in to the dispatch interface causing the new siren to be set off. However, the siren couldn't be shut off the same way and dispatch was unable to open the ASC software to override and shut it down. Sheriff Kluesner had to manually shut the siren off in the server shed. Tom stated that the new siren hasn't been officially commissioned yet, there is still some more training and testing required before it can replace the old system. For some new faces at the meeting Tom reviewed the locations of the new siren.

Todd Hazelbaker stated that for future testing he would like to be notified and stated that the community should be notified because the testing caused a lot of confusion and a lot of phone calls in to City Hall. He requested that a notice be put in the paper. Tom stated that we would accommodate that and would do that in the future.

PDM Update: Tom turned the meeting over to Zac Collins from RESPEC to discuss the most recent draft copy of the new PDM. Zac brought several print copies as well as digital copies and passed them out to attendees that wanted to review them. Zac stated that sometime mid to end of May there will be public meetings in the outlying communities to discuss this draft and get any feedback from residents in those areas. Tonight is considered the public meeting for the Dillon area. Zac requested that anyone that had concerns or changes to the document get that information to him by the end of June. He noted that the time frame for completion was September, at that time FEMA should be putting the final stamp of approval on it and then the document will stand, unless amended, for five years.

Tom wanted to discuss, because Todd Hazelbaker was present, the section of the PDM regarding water systems. One of the hazards listed in the PDM is the volatility of the City of Dillon's water system. If that water system was compromised there is a possibility that the water in the tanks would be lost and the city would not only be without potable water but also water for fire suppression. Todd stated that the city is working on replacing the lines, burying the lines that cross Erb's and Weeks' properties, removing the old tanks just off of ten mile road, and adding 2 shut off valves to stop the tanks from draining if the lines were broken. Todd also noted that the city is currently using GIS technology to map all of the valves and shut offs in the city in light of the line breaking last summer that

the city had difficulty in stopping. Todd will look at the current language in the PDM draft and let Zac know if there is any information that could be changed or added that could possibly help the City down the road in obtaining funding for updating the water system.

Carl Miles asked if there was any information in the PDM pertaining to the Wisdom area and, if so, where it was. Zac explained that the PDM is organized by potential hazards rather than geographical area, but that there was information pertaining to Wisdom because, as a FEMA document, the PDM is required to address hazards for the entire county. Zac advised he would check the electronic copy and let Carl know specifically where Wisdom is mentioned.

Mitch Staley inquired about what information is considered for a growth policy and where the information for that was obtained. Tom explained the process of developing a growth policy.

Upcoming Function Exercise: Tom stated that there would be some sort of functional exercise on 7/7/17 for HAZMAT in conjunction with BEMS. Carol Kennedy noted that the hospital is very interested in being included in that; they would like an opportunity to do some decon training. Carol also noted that Parkview Acres would probably be interested because any facility accepting Medicare payments is now required to participate in a functional training every year.

Tom stated that they would form an exercise committee and get together for a tabletop exercise and some planning sometime in May or June. Lindy Walker noted that we would need to round up some live volunteers for the exercise and that would be something to think about for the tabletop.

Member Updates:

Carol Kennedy: There will be a Community Health fair at the Hospital on 4/29 from 9am to 6pm.

Tom Wagenknecht: The grant for the radios has been approved, but has not yet been funded.

Lindy Walker: Public Health had a HAN phone call today. There is a case of drug resistant Shigella in Montana.

Mitch Staley: The local LDS Church is working with a group of other LDS Churches in SW Montana in developing a plan for what to do in the event of a major disaster in the area. Mitch was attending the LEPC meeting to get an idea of how to organize such a plan to help the Church.

Frank Kluesner: The Sheriff's Office, in collaboration with DPD is working on developing the Sierra Site Repeater for the 966 and Dillon Sheriff channels within the Beaverhead Valley. They're hoping that a new local repeater would help law enforcement communication within the Dillon Valley. This project is still in the planning stages and is being estimated to cost approximately \$14,000.00. Frank also noted that the Montana Sheriff and Peace Officers conference is coming up and they're going to be working on developing a state wide protocol for evacuations. He believes they'll probably decide to go with a 3 stage evacuation and disaster notification system. This will help to streamline evacuations across jurisdictions and between different agencies. This is particularly important in Beaverhead County with the coming wildfire season.

Adjourn: Tom motioned to adjourn, Lindy seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Secretary Date

Chairperson Date