

SWEET GRASS COUNTY

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

All Hazards and Emergency 9-1-1

Minutes

Date of Meeting: **January 25, 2024 11:30 AM**

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

Attendees:

J.V. Moody, SG Commissioner
Alan Ronneberg, Sheriff
Andrew Bullock, EMS Manager
Jennifer Chappell, Public Health
Dan Tronrud, Community Health
Cory Conner, SG Public Works
Kevin Langhus, SG Public Works/SAR
Kris Novotny, City Fire Chief

Greg Oyler, USFS
Zane Leonard, East Boulder
Cliff Brophy, DES / 9-1-1 Coordinator
John Wetenkamp, NWS
GUESTS:
Julie Ludwig, HRDC (Virtual)
John Rasmann, MT DEQ
Shasta Steinweden, MT DEQ

The meeting was called to order by Clifford Brophy, Chair at 11:30 AM

The pledge of allegiance to the US Flag was recited

Welcome and self-introductions: Completed

Minutes for the Meeting on December 28, 2023 were approved as submitted.

National Weather Service:

John spoke about the cold spell and the warmer temperatures. It looks like we will continue to have warmer and dryer than normal conditions. Higher temps in the next week or so could cause ice melt on the rivers and possible ice jams. Possible increase in moisture for February.

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

Election of Officers: (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary/Treasurer and Information Coordinator). Currently Cliff Brophy holds three offices and Kris Novotny holds the Vice—Chair. Floor was then opened for nominations. Kris moved to keep the same individuals in the same offices. Cory Conner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Preplan for next months TTX. Cliff invited other members to assist with the TTX for next week if they were interested. This will be an exercise to test the SGC LEPC Hazardous Materials Plan. The scenario will be a semi-truck accident on I-90 West of Big Timber.

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

Cliff announced that MLGPA will be holding some HazMat trainings around the State over the next few months. Very good training. The training is also available online if anyone is interested. Cliff has the links.

Cliff gave a brief update on the equipment installations. The Annex Generator should be shipped in next week. The dispatch consoles and the Grey Cliff repeater radios should be installed in the next few months.

John Rasmann and Shasta Steinweden with the MT DEQ presented their information that talked about their duties and how to contact them. They spoke about their limitations based on certain restrictions. The presentation included reviews of past incidences that they and others had responded to assist. They covered scenarios of events that are required to be reported and those that should be reported. They are both happy to assist when needed. A copy of their presentation will be available for those that want it.

Emergency 9-1-1 Topics:

Cliff spoke briefly about the consoles for dispatch again.

Public Health Topics:

Cliff and Jenn mentioned that the PMC was given the information for a Public Health exercise on February 15th. Just a heads up in case the PMC decided to participate in this exercise. They will send out the invites if they so choose.

Fire Topics:

Greg gave an update on the fire side of the USFS. They have some more folks moving around to other positions. This should be a positive situation. He asked about the county's CCWP update and commented that the USFS should have access to their wildland fire interface project that could be helpful with our plan and our Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) plan.

Mitigation Progress:

Task / Project updates from agencies on mitigation projects. None at this time.

Cliff reported that the regional MHMP in the final stage of public comment period. Should be released as final draft soon.

Comments from Members:

Cory pointed out that a bridge on Swingley Road in Park County has been reduced to a 5-ton GVW limit. This will affect emergency services as well as the general public in both counties. Fire services have already been in contact with one another to plan for this.

JV mentioned that the county will soon be installing new phones in the Courthouse and Annex.

Select Next Meeting Date: Thursday, February 22, 2024 11:30 AM

A Tabletop Exercise (TTX) will follow the meeting at 12:30 pm. I-90 HAZMAT spill

Public Comments: None given

Adjourn: 12:25 PM

Submitted by



Clifford Brophy, Chair/Secretary/Treasurer