

SWEET GRASS COUNTY

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

All Hazards and Emergency 9-1-1

Minutes

Date of Meeting: **August 28, 2025 11:30 AM**

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

Attendees:

J.V. Moody, SG Commissioner
Pat Dringman, SGC Attorney
Andrew Bullock, EMS Manager
Jeremy Countryman, EMS
Jennifer Chappell, Public Health
Heidi Baker, DON PMC
Dan Tronrud, Community Health
Kevin Langhus, SG Public Works/SAR
Kris Novotny, City Fire Chief

Zac Krohn, USFS
Levi Duncan, USFS
Cliff Brophy, DES / 9-1-1 Coordinator
Nick Vertz, NWS (virtual)
GUESTS:
Guests: Jessica Wilson, ARC (virtual)
Pat Patterson, GM - Beartooth Electric
(virtual)

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 July 31, 2025 were approved as submitted.

National Weather Service:

Nick spoke about the recent weather patterns. (The conference link failed shortly after he started. Nick was unable to conclude the presentation).

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

Cliff presented the "1 Pager (#8)" distributed by the SERC. It spoke about Facilities under EPCRA. Handouts were available.

Cliff reported that he was still working on the research needed to complete the annual LEPC report due by November 1st. It will be presented at a future meeting.

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

Cliff submitted the draft copy of the THIRA/SPR form. The contents were reviewed by the members present. Kris made a motion to approve it as submitted. JV seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The THIRA/SPR document will be forwarded to the MT DES for their approval.

Cliff reported that the NIMS report was completed and will be presented at the next LEPC meeting for review and action.

Emergency 9-1-1 Topics:

None

Fire Topics:

Beartooth Electric Cooperative recently submitted their Wildfire Mitigation Plan to the LEPC and various other agencies. Public comment is open until mid-September. Pat Patterson, General Manager joined in virtually and spoke about the plan and the process that they followed. He would be available for any questions and encouraged us to review it for any comment.

USFS reported that they were on a fire located on Sweet Grass Creek. Assisted by BTVFD.

Law Enforcement Topics:

None

Public Health Topics:

Andrew announced that he would be retiring in a few days. He would be around to assist if needed. Jeremy Countryman will be taking over.

Virtual exercise will take place at the ambulance Hall on September 3rd, 2025. It will center around a "Highly Infectious Disease".

Public Works:

Kevin reported that the county is grading roads because of the recent moisture.

He reported that the Elk Creek bridge will be replaced soon by a culvert. There will be an emergency detour in place for emergency responders.

Flemming Bridge will be an extended project but there will be a bypass available for that bridge.

Bainter Bridge will be closed later this month for repairs. He doesn't expect a huge impact on that one.

Mitigation Progress:

No reports

Comments from Members:

Jessica with American Red Cross reported that they are busy updating agreements with local agencies on the use of facilities designated as shelters. Jessica reported that they had a shelter set up for a brief time around Ennis, MT.

Select Next Meeting Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025 11:30 AM

Public Comments: None given

Adjourn: 12:07 PM

Submitted by



Clifford Brophy
Chair/Secretary/Treasurer