



Washoe County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Minutes

December 15, 2022 10:00 A.M.
Regional Emergency Operations Center
5195 Spectrum Boulevard, Reno, Nevada

1. CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM [Non-action item]

Chair Andy Ancho called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was established.

PRESENT: Elizabeth Kunz – RPD; Shawn Congden – SPD; Roy Anderson – WCSD; Andy Ancho - RFD; Shawn McEvers – SFD; Ryan Rizzuto – TMFPD; Chris Ketring – TMFPD; Tracy Moore – RTAA; Nick Klaich – TRIAD; Kelly Echeverria – WCEM; Jessica Adams – WCEM; Gary Zaepfel – WC Tech Services; Brian Taylor – REMSA; Zeb Nomura - NNMC; Jessie Latchaw – IHCC; Brittany Nevin – VA; Rob Reeder – RTC; Jennifer Delaney - UNR; Rebecca Knapp – RPSD; Lance Chantler – RS Indian Colony; Ian Dasmann – TMWA; and Tim Hill - NV Energy.

ABSENT: Daniel Bond - RPD; Jason Woodard - SPD; Clinte Bellamy - SPD; Marc Bello – WCSD; Bill Harvey - WCSD; Sierra Hooft - UNRPD; John Galicia – UNRPD; Seana Baker – WCSD; Michael Perry – WCSD; Aaron Wike – RFD; Chris Jones - SFD; Jim Kindness - SFD; Ryan Sommers – NLTFPD; Russell Barnum - NLTFPD; Jim Nelligan – NLTFPD; Joe Kammann – TMFPD; Francisco Vega - HD; Michelle Bays – DA; Chris Hicks – DA; John Gurriere – DA; Chris Long – WC Tech Services; Shyanne Schull – WC Animal Services; Tammy Wines-Jennings – WC Animal Services; Paul Burton – REMSA; Todd Kerfoot – REMSA; Andrea Esp – WCDH; Kent Choma - NNMC; James Riley – VA; Angela Reich – RTC; Wade Barnett – KOLO-TV; Ed Pearce - KOLO-TV; Matt Williams – UNR; Scott Alquist – TMCC; Ben Davis – TMCC; Sara Skroch - RPSD; Cody Shadle - RPSD; Ciera Sampson – RS Indian Colony; Daniel Thayer – RS Indian Colony; Don Pelt – Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; Jonathan Prichard - Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; David Paulon – Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; Elizabeth Breeden – NV Energy; and Stephanie Daus - NV Energy.

Also present: Wade Carner – Legal, Francisco Ceballos – Secretary/Treasurer, Christa Morter, TJ Buxton, Logan Dupue – NV ANG, Joe Olaciregui – CERT, Noah Boyer– WCSO, Dawn Johnson – NWS, Bren McClean, Ryan Geichman – DEM, Aleesah Campbell, Derek Breuvais – BBBSNN

2. PUBLIC COMMENT –

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of October 20, 2022, General Membership Minutes – FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Andy Ancho, Chair

It was moved by Brian Taylor, seconded by Kelly Echeverria to approve the minutes as written.

There was no public comment.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Big Brother Big Sisters of Northern Nevada- A presentation on Bigs with Badges, the mentoring-based program where the volunteer is a first responder - Aleesah Campbell, Community Development Director Big Brother Big Sisters of Northern Nevada

Aleesha Campbell introduced herself as well as Derek Beauvais, the CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters. She explained that Bigs with Badges is the program they will be discussing which connects first responders with children in need of a mentor. She explained that the Washoe County Sherriff's Office was their first official sponsor starting in August. Aleesha then played a video about Bigs With Badges. The video showed members of the Washoe County Sherriff's department talking about their experiences working with mentees.

Aleesah continued her presentation explaining that the goal of the program is to create one-to-one mentoring relationships. The organization believes that every youth has potential. Littles are between 6-12 years old when they enter the program and are usually with their mentor until graduation, sometimes beyond. Families who qualify are at or below the poverty level. She said the goal is to create a consistent presence in the child's life and provide stability and guidance.

She explained that there is a background check and training for anyone who volunteers and it is at least a one-year commitment. The average match-length is over three years. Mentors are asked to spend 4-6 hours a month with their mentee.

She said the matches are made based on interests and mentors are always supported by the program. Bigs with Badges is for anyone who works in Fire, EMS, state/federal departments, corrections, and law enforcement. The program already has five agencies involved even though it only launched in August. It is expanding to anyone interested in Northern Nevada. She said the goal is to expose Littles to first responders outside of a stressful situation which they may have been part of or are likely to be exposed to. It is also meant to be a break from their lives which are often full of adult responsibilities.

She explained that the idea is to do activities in the community and explore new things. The schedule is flexible. Aleesah also said partner matches are possible within a family or an agency.

The Lunch Buddies Program is at the Little's school and allows Bigs to help with activities at the school on a regular basis.

Derek Beauvais continued by saying the effects of the program on Littles is positive. Students have a 100% graduation rate, compared to 82% in Washoe County. Littles are provided academic support and tutoring in addition to mentoring. The program creates a support system of adults which many of these students wouldn't usually have. 99% of Littles avoid the juvenile justice system.

Kids who have gone through the program are more likely to attend college, more likely to have a household income of \$75,000 and are more likely to be satisfied with their lives. Derek talked about his own relationship with his Little. He described some of the activities he did with him and the support he has provided. He said he was able to also support his Little's parents as another adult figure that can talk about important topics that are sometimes uncomfortable between family members.

Aleesah explained that there are 150 Littles waiting for mentors on their waiting list. She encouraged anyone listening who may be interested to get involved as well as share the program with those who might be.

Andy Ancho thanked Aleesah and Derek for their presentation.

5. Review and Approval of Annual LEPC Updates – FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Yearly approval of the updated LEPC Plan including form NRT1A, membership list, equipment lists, letter of promulgation, training/exercise schedules, Level of Response Questionnaire, Exercise Report, and By-Laws – Kelly Echeverria, Washoe County Emergency Manager

Francisco asked that anyone speaking please introduce themselves for the record.

Kelly Echeverria said that every year they need to update the NRT1A, membership list, equipment lists, Letter of Promulgation, training/exercise schedules, Level of Response Questionnaire, Exercise Report, and by-laws. She said that many of these don't end up changing but they need to be reviewed yearly. She explained that there were no changes made to NRT1A, equipment lists, or Level of Response Questionnaire, but there were some changes made to the membership list. This included that there is no longer a state elected official. Previously this position was filled by Julia Ratti who decided not to run for office again. Kelly said she reached out to current elected officials about LEPC but did not hear back. She explained that the committee still meets all the membership requirements of LEPC.

The Letter of Promulgation will change as well, only to show Andy Ancho as the new Chair. All the documents are available on the LEPC website as well for further review.

Kelly explained that there is a draft of the training/exercise schedule. The Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop, which is happening right after the current meeting, will assist in finalizing the training/exercise schedule before sending it to SERC. The CBRNE exercise in March is the exercise they will be reporting on this year which included the TRIAD, LEPC and the Health Department.

There were some changes made to the by-laws. SERC last year decided that they wanted by-laws to reflect certain requirements from the Federal Government. There were four items added including: Public Comment, Public Request for Information, Distribution of the HAZMAT Plan and Dissolution. These are already outlined in State and Federal Law, but SERC asked that they be present as well in the LEPC by-laws.

Kelly asked if there were questions.

She explained that there were also changes made to the HAZMAT Plan. The main changes made were on Shelter Counsel and Alert Notification. This was to update procedures. One change in Alert Notification was that the conference call line is no longer used in Emergency Shelter Counsel. Instead there is a WhatsApp group. In section 5, Kelly said previously dispatch would make alerts and warnings however it is Emergency Management that sends out alerts and warnings primarily with backup from dispatch. The Evacuation Procedures were also changed to include the WhatsApp group.

Kelly explained that there were some recommendations submitted by Jessie Latchaw from the Health District. Those recommendations did not quite fit into the LEPC plan, but are more fitting for the TRIAD Response Plan and SOPs. Those recommendations were shared with them. Brian Taylor explained that the recommendations were reviewed and discussed in the Executive Meeting more in-depth.

Andy thanked Kelly for her presentation and asked if there was public comment.

There was no public comment.

It was moved by Tracy Moore, seconded by Rebecca Knapp to approve the updated LEPC Plan including form NRT1A, membership list, equipment lists, Letter of Promulgation, training/exercise schedules, Level of Response Questionnaire, Exercise Report, and By-Laws as written.

The motion passed unanimously.

6. Secretary/Treasurers Report – Information on existing FY 22 Operations, Planning, Training, and Equipment (OPTE), FY 23 Operations, Planning, Training, and Equipment (OPTE), FY 23 United We Stand (UWS), and FY 22 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Mid-Cycle Grants. Information and upcoming grants, member information, and trainings. – Francisco Ceballos, LEPC Secretary/Treasurer

Francisco explained that for FY 22 OPTE, LEPC has received the money and completed the grant. For FY 23 OPTE, \$28,169 of the \$28,850 was used. This was because of the USAR Task Force Kits.

For FY 23 UWS grant, LEPC used this to fund Ballistic Vests and Cyanokits. REMSA has ordered the Ballistic Vests, and they are just waiting for them to arrive. The Cyanokits have already arrived and are ready for distribution. Francisco said he is working on reimbursement for those.

The FY 22 HMEP Grant was used for the FireShows West Conference. Of the 31 members who signed up to attend, only 6 went. So LEPC has to de-obligate \$4,875 of the \$6,045 provided by the grant. Francisco explained that moving forward, LEPC will likely only apply for ten spots to attend this conference and have it available on a first-come-first-serve basis.

He said the FY 20 HSGP Program Assistant Grant has \$15,060.63 remaining. This has been allocated to replace radios which were bought with a Homeland Security Grant in the past. For FY 21 COOP, there is \$56,903.03 remaining. For the FY 21 Program Assistant Grant, the position became fully County. Emergency Management is working on using that money to purchase software. Kelly Echeverria clarified that it is a situational awareness and communication tool.

Francisco continued on to say that the FY 22 COOP at \$185,000 and Animal Trailers at \$123,948 were approved last Tuesday. The trailers are for smaller animals in the case of another fire like the Caldor Fire. Kelly added that they are getting two animal trailers and they do not require a special license to drive. Shyanne Schull from Animal Control thought two would be a good idea incase multiple regions are affected at the same time. This is because shelters don't usually allow pets so they could be kept near their owners with the help of these trailers. The trailers are climate controlled and have a waste containment system for each unit of the trailer.

7. Grant Application Review and Approval- FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Presentation and approval of the Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Mid-cycle Reno Tahoe Airport Authority– Francisco Ceballos, LEPC Secretary\Treasurer

Francisco explained that the grant application for review is for HMEP Mid-Cycle. It was submitted by Reno Tahoe Airport Authority for \$69,121. This grant is meant to be used for anything to do with the transportation of hazardous materials. Francisco explained that Tracy Moore submitted the application and invited him to speak more about it.

Tracy Moore explained that the airport is required by the Federal Airport Authority to have a full-scale exercise every three years. Tracy brought this up to his colleagues and found that there was not a budget to hold an exercise of that scale. Planning of the exercise has begun. Tracy explained that he felt that this type of exercise should fit into the HMEP grant because it is transportation in terms of airplanes, which carry a great deal of fuel, which is hazardous as well as the potential for hazardous cargo. He also said aircrafts use an FFF vault, which is used to suppress aircraft fuel systems. For that reason, it is a double HAZMAT zone. He said they want to test containment of a large amount of fuel and whether they have the ability to decon on scene as well as at the hospital.

He explained that there is a meeting for the planning on Tuesday of next week if anyone is interested in getting involved. They hope to contract Risk Solutions who specialize in these types of trainings. Andy asked for public comment.

There was no public comment.

It was moved by Roy Anderson, seconded by Brian Taylor to approve the Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Mid-cycle application from Reno Tahoe Airport Authority as written.

Lance Chantler abstained from voting.

The motion passed unanimously.

8. Update on Regional Emergency Management Events – A briefing of regional meetings, events, trainings, and exercises. – Kelly Echeverria, Washoe County Emergency Manager

Kelly Echeverria explained that they will be updating the Family Assistance Center Plan. A vendor was selected for this – Emergency Preparedness Solutions. She said the CBURNI exercise helped in concluding that an overhaul of this plan was needed.

They will also be updating the Damage Assessment Plan and selected the vendor Prestige to do that. This will include the incorporation of Survey 1,2,3 from the State.

Kelly also said they are working on getting the situational awareness and communication application approved by the state and it is out for bid. This will service Washoe, Carson and Douglas counties. The hope is to test this software at an Incline Village evacuation exercise in June.

She said they will also be reviewing the Regional Emergency Operations Strategic Plan as well as the Regional Emergency Operations Plan itself. She explained that they are diving into the planning section and who fills the seats for that section and looking at what trainings they might need.

9. Update on the Radiological Task Force – A briefing on current radiological issues within the region – Scott Alquist, Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC)

Francisco Ceballos said he received an email from Scott Alquist explaining that he could not attend but has nothing to report at this time.

10. Update of Washoe County Citizen Corps – A briefing on events and activities supported by the Washoe County Citizen Corps including, but not limited to, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) – Joe Olaciregui, Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) or Designee

Joe Olaciregui said the total volunteer hours for 2022 were 11,106 hours with 197 volunteers. They have participated in 139 events and have completed 54 airport cast missions. The CERT academy begins on January 19th. The CHSE program is running. There is a speaker on January 17th and there are two academies in February. He said in March, there is the Western State Sheriff's Conference and another academy in April. He said they are looking for experts on any of topics that CERT covers at their academies and trainings.

11. Update on State Emergency Response Commission – A briefing on grants status and State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) happenings – Tami Beauregard or designee

Francisco said that Tami Beauregard was not able to attend the meeting but emailed to remind the committee that on January 31st all documents that were just approved are due. Francisco said he will be working to get those in.

12. Training Review – Briefing on trainings that have occurred in the past 2 months and requests for future trainings. Upcoming Trainings. – Andy Ancho, LEPC Chair

Andy Ancho said he attended the West E-Briefing which talked about nuclear weapons and materials that are transported through Nevada. They are including responders now in all of the states they go through on what to expect if one of these transports is involved in an accident.

Andy asked if there were any other trainings that committee members would like to share.

There was no comment.

13. LEPC Chairperson/ Board member announcements/items and selection of topics for future meetings – No discussion among committee members will take place on this item. The next regular meeting is scheduled on February 16, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Andy Ancho said that directly following this meeting is the Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop. He invited everyone to please stay and participate in that meeting as well.

14. Public Comment –

Kelly Echeverria said that Shawn McEvers is finally retiring. She expressed her thanks for working with him. She wished him luck in retirement.

Brian Taylor said he also wanted to thank Jessie Latchaw who is moving to a new position in the region and this will be her final LEPC meeting.

Ryan Gerchman from the Nevada Division of Emergency Management said there is a 0-0305 All Hazard class in the system through the DEM website which always has classes available for free. There is also a full-scale active assailant exercise in planning, as well as a full-scale cyber exercise coming. There is also a table-top active shooter and a table-top cyber utility power outage training coming. He asked that anyone interested please reach out to training exercise coordinators at the State. The SCEMP update will match the updated community planning guide from FEMA in 2024. He also said there are a few positions open: a Management Analyst II as well as a GPA and Administrative Assistant.

15. Andy Ancho adjourned meeting at 11:07am.