



Washoe County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Minutes

April 20, 2023, 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: Jason Woodard – SPD; Noah Boyer – WCS; Roy Anderson – WCS; Michael Perry – WCS; Andy Ancho - RFD; Kevin Jakubos – SFD; Jim Nelligan – NLTFPD; Joe Kammann – TMFPD; Ryan Rizzuto – TMFPD; Francisco Vega – HD Air; Gary Muro – DA; Nick Klaich – TRIAD; Kelly Echeverria – WCEM; Jessica Adams – WCEM; Gary Zaepfel – WC Tech Services; Ciera Sampson – RS Indian Colony; Brian Taylor – REMSA; Andrea Esp – WCDH; Zeb Nomura – IHCC; Brittany Nevin – VA; Rob Reeder – RTC; Tracy Moore – RTAA; Jennifer Delaney - UNR; Scott Alquist – TMCC; Cody Shadle - RPSD; Joe Olaciregui – CERT; and Ian Dasmann – TMWA;

ABSENT: Daniel Bond - RPD; Elizabeth Kunz – RPD; Clinte Bellamy - SPD; Shawn Congden – SPD; Bill Harvey - WCS; Sierra Hooft - UNRPD; John Galicia – UNRPD; Seana Baker – WCS; Aaron Wike – RFD; Chris Jones - SFD; Jim Kindness - SFD; Ryan Sommers – NLTFPD; Russell Barnum - NLTFPD; Chris Ketring – TMFPD; Cory Whitlock – RTAAF; Don Pelt – Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; Michelle Bays – DA; Chris Hicks – DA; Chris Long – WC Tech Services; Shyanne Schull – WC Animal Services; Tammy Wines-Jennings – WC Animal Services; Paul Burton – REMSA; Todd Kerfoot – REMSA; Kent Choma – NNMC; James Riley – VA; Angela Reich – RTC; Wade Barnett – KOLO-TV; Ed Pearce - KOLO-TV; Matt Williams – UNR; Ben Davis – TMCC; Sara Skroch – RPSD; Daniel Thayer – RS Indian Colony; Lance Chantler – RS Indian Colony; Jonathan Prichard - Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; David Paulon – Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; Terry Donshick – CERT; Rebecca Knapp – RPSD; Stephanie Daus - NV Energy; Elizabeth Paulsen – NV Energy; and Tim Hill - NV Energy.

Also present: Wade Carner – Legal, Francisco Ceballos - Secretary/Treasurer, Chris Smallcomb NWS Reno, Scott Means – SFD, Sean Cutshaw - Reno VA, Sarah Krum – Team Rubicon, Murshed Ramos – Team Rubicon, Sharie Lewis – Red Cross and Jim Rich – Red Cross

2. PUBLIC COMMENT -

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of February 16, 2023, General Membership Minutes (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) – Andy Ancho, Chair

It was moved by Brian Taylor, seconded by Scott Alquist to approve the minutes as written.

There was no public comment.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Team Rubicon – A presentation from Team Rubicon on their capabilities and how they can assist Washoe County.- Sarah Krum, AZ-NM-NV Operations Associate, West Branch and Murshed Ramos Administrator, Reno Metropolitan Area.

Sarah Krum introduced herself as the staff lead at Team Rubicon and Murshed Ramos introduced himself as the Volunteer Administrator for the area. He explained that Team Rubicon is a “...veteran-led humanitarian organization that serves global communities before, during and after disasters and crisis.” He said the organization has responded to a number of disasters across America. There is also an international effort.

Sarah Krum presented on the core capabilities of the organization. She began with Hazard Mitigation and Recovery which includes fire mitigation and recovery as well as flood mitigation efforts. The organization also assists with Debris Removal and Route Clearance which consists of removal of debris either by hand crews or with equipment if needed. The aim is to help provide access for first responders. She added that they also do Expedient Home Repair and Muck Outs which consist of clearing out houses after a disaster and preparing them for contractor repairs. Lastly, she added Logistical Support and Volunteer Management. This consists of providing support where it is needed by moving volunteers and support in the ways that are required for the situation. Sarah explained that Team Rubicon can also assist in medical needs in a limited capacity; most of this work is done overseas.

Murshed continued the presentation by explaining the process. He said that the process begins with an ask for help, either from an individual or an organization. In response, Team Rubicon assesses what kind of assistance is needed and on what time-scale. This can mean quick-response which has volunteers on the move immediately while processing work is done simultaneously. However, generally they follow the full operational planning stages. This consists of recon to assess the situation and who/what will be needed. Next, a warning order is sent out to volunteers to accumulate the responders needed for the situation. The next step is to determine what resources are needed to support volunteers with local connections. The final step is the operating order which is when work begins.

Sarah added that with the recent response for assistance sandbagging, their response time was a few hours which they would like to shorten in the future.

Sarah asked if there were any questions.

Scott Alquist asked what the process is for becoming a volunteer.

Sarah said Murshed will share the link to join in the chat. She explained that the process is simple and can be accessed through their website. Once a volunteer has filled in some basic information, they are given access to online trainings and resources to prepare them for volunteer work. A background check as well as completion of a basic course which helps volunteers know what to expect is required. If a volunteer wants to take further courses to be certified to do more technical work, those are available online.

Andy Ancho thanked Sarah and told her to send the presentation to Francisco Ceballos to be sent out to the entire committee.

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

Francisco Ceballos began by talking about the FY '23 OPTE grant. There is a remainder of \$25,351. The majority of this money will be used on equipment. Reno Fire Department is moving forward with the USAR Task Force Kit and the Mobile Air Supply System. These are ready to be shipped at the end of the month. Once those are received, the reimbursement process can begin. Operations funds through this grant have been used for general supplies needed to run LEPC operations, as well as to pay for transcription services.

FY '23 UWS is complete. Both REMSA and TMFPD have received their equipment and reimbursement is complete.

FY '22 HMEP is dedicated to a Full-Scale Exercise with RTAA. Once that exercise is complete, LEPC can move forward with processing reimbursement.

FY '20 HSGP Program Assistant funds have been utilized. There were about \$15,000 remaining which was used to upgrade the radios onsite. FY '21 COOP is the current grant with \$43,776.58 remaining. Once this amount has been utilized, we will move onto FY '22 COOP at \$185,000.

The FY '21 Program Assistant has \$15,000 remaining. We did a change-order request in order to use those funds to obtain Perimeter. This interface will help the community and first-responders to send out alerts.

FY '22 Animal Trailers have been ordered and should be here by the Fall.

6. FY 24 OPTE and UWS approval (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) – Presentation and approval of the FY 24 Operations, Planning, Training, and Equipment (OPTE) for \$34,000 (\$23,775.81 for City of Reno Fire Department for upgraded radios, \$6,224.19 for Washoe County Community Services for a drone and \$4,000.00 for Operational cost) and FY 24 United We Stand \$38,000 (\$17,762.50

for Sparks Police Department for upgraded rifles and \$20,237.50 for Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District for plates and carriers) – Francisco Ceballos, LEPC Secretary/Treasurer

Francisco Ceballos began with OPTE grant applications. He explained that there are \$34,000 available; \$4,000 is for operation costs and transcription costs. In terms of equipment, RFD requested \$23,775.81 to upgrade radios. Washoe County Community Services requested \$6,224.19 for a drone. This was presented and accepted at the Grants and Finance Committee meeting.

For UWS there is \$38,000. SPD requested \$17,762.50 to upgrade their rifles. TMFPD requested \$20,237.50 for plates and carriers. This was also discussed and approved by the Grants and Finance Committee. Both of these applications are up for General Membership approval.

Francisco asked if there were any questions about these grant applications.

Andy Ancho clarified that the City of Reno application for OPTE was to update radios for TRIAD. Francisco added that the drone would be used for assistance with our partners and damage assessment.

Francisco then asked if Jason Woodard or Zeb Nomura would like to speak about these applications.

Brian Taylor added that the Grants and Finance Committee worked to spread grant funding throughout the region in an intentional manner. The grant funds were rearranged to maximize their use.

Andy Ancho asked for an approval.

It was moved by Tracy Moore, seconded by Roy Anderson to approve the FY 24 Operations, Planning, Training, and Equipment (OPTE) grant application for \$23,775.81 from City of Reno Fire Department for upgraded radios, and \$6,224.19 from Washoe County Community Services for a drone and \$4,000.00 for Operational cost; and FY 24 United We Stand grant application for \$17,762.50 from Sparks Police Department for upgraded rifles, and \$20,237.50 from Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District for plates and carriers as presented.

There was no public comment.

The motion passed unanimously.

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

Jessica Adams explained that REM is working on the Mass Care Plan update as well as the Damage Assessment Plan update. The COOP projects are in progress which include tabletop exercises with Cares campus and Our Place. They are also working with NDEM on their COOP plan as well.

Kelly Echeverria continued by saying the Family Assistance Center Plan overhaul starts tomorrow. Phase two for Care will begin later in the year.

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

Scott Alquist explained that it has been quiet recently in terms of radiological events.

He said that he wanted to share some data of interest. The Waste Isolation Pilot Plant was authorized in 1979 and has received 13,425 shipments, transporting over 17,000 containers with no transportation accidents. The Northern Nevada Test Site has had 32,000 shipments and no transportation accidents as well.

9. 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 explained that at present, there are 286 volunteers, 134 of which are active volunteers who have served 3,951 hours. So far this year there have been 20 team meetings, 20 team trainings, two emergency call outs, and six Sheriff's Office events. CERT has also conducted traffic training for volunteers. The April academy ends this Saturday. There were only 7 students, but all 7 seem likely to be active members. In 2023 CERT has trained 40 community members so far. Reno Earth Day will have 10 volunteers with RPD. On the 26th, volunteers get training in collaboration with REMSA on care flight. April 27th is Take Your Child to Work Day and CERT will be doing Child ID. Currently we support the Health Department food bank event every month. Also the May 24th airport exercise has 21 volunteers signed up.

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

Francisco Ceballos explained that Tami Beauregard is no longer with SERC. There are a few administrators that are helping with her jobs until they can find a replacement.

11. 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 explained that next week there is the Anthrax tabletop exercise on May 12th. For anyone interested in HAZMAT, this is a great exercise. The full-scale exercise is May 24th for RTAA. On the 12th there was a tabletop at the EOC to practice. Some interesting things came out of that exercise. There were some problems with interoperability with communications and staging areas needed to be better defined. Another key issue was that anyone on airport grounds, needed to be escorted.

Jennifer Delaney from UNR explained that Organizational Resilience is working with the School of Nursing and School of Public Health. They are hosting a tabletop of May 23rd from 12-4pm at

UNR. She said she sent out requests for facilitators. They are expecting roughly 200 students. The students will be broken into sessions and need facilitators to work with them on ICS.

12. 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 April 20, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Francisco Ceballos explained that TMFPD agreed to present on items they have received through LEPC grant money. He said he has a full list and he will select someone for the next meeting unless he receives a volunteer. This is just to present on the state of items that have been received.

Andy Ancho added that sometimes people don't know what equipment is being used for. He said it is nice to get more explanation on how groups are using their equipment.

Noah Boyer said Bomb Squad would take June for the presentation.

Francisco Vega added that a grant opportunity came up recently from the EPA in regards to wildfire smoke preparedness in community buildings. He said he would share the link.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT –

Chris Smallcomb shared that for the next 7-10 days temperatures will be increasing. Snowpack will begin melting. Expect higher flows in creeks and rivers. There is an increased risk for rescues. May and June are likely to have the majority of issues as temperatures really rise.

Brian Taylor asked Chris if a Zoom meeting could occur to share weather information with Washoe County Emergency Management Team to discuss landslides, runoff etc.

Chris said he would be happy to do that. The snowpack is at historical levels. So, there is potential for unusual impacts.

14. Andy Ancho adjourned meeting at 10:45am.