

## Jerome County LEPC Meeting

February 17, 2011  
City Council Chambers  
100 E Ave A  
Jerome, Idaho

### Attendance

**Bryan Barney** – BLM-Shoshone, **Clint Blackwood** – Jerome County EMA, **Baldwin Camin** – LEPC, **Gary Davis** – BHS, **Jay Gardner** – Jerome Police Department, **Larry Goolsby** – Jerome County EMA/ARC, **Karl Hays** – North Side Canal, **Lorand Layton** – ARES/RACES, **Dan Olmstead** – Idaho Power, **Cathy Roemer** – Jerome County Commissioner, **Roger Morley** – Jerome county Commissioner, **Tom Snow** – USDA-Farm Service, **Robert Storm** – ISP, **Eric Zechmann** – BLM Twin Falls District, **Glenna Lawrence** – Jerome County OEM Assistant, **Autumn Roberts** – BHS Training and Exercise, **Beth Sant**- USDA – FSA

### Welcome

Baldwin Gamin, LEPC Chair called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance and invited members to introduce him/herself.

### LEPC

Minutes for February 17, 2011 LEPC meeting were reviewed, changed and approved.

### Old Business

Clint discussed the letter from Mary Marsh, *Hazardous Materials/Special Teams Program Manager*, thanking us for our application for the Department of Transportation, Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant (DOT/HMEP). Clint said we requested \$17,500.00 for a project to “Revise Jerome County EOP, updating the Emergency Support Function (ESF) #10 Oil and Hazardous Materials”. After the committee reviewed the application this project will not be approved this year.

Clint discussed the CERT Schedule – commented on wanting to get the CERT Training introduced and scheduled in the Jerome area as quickly as possible. Hazelton wanted to get a training going in that area also. Clint said if any of the LEPC group was interested or knows anyone to please let him know so he could get it started.

**Open discussion** – Strategies: *Organizing Neighborhoods for Disaster Preparedness* was discussed to see what we as a LEPC Group in Jerome County could do to help the people of Jerome County be more prepared to meet disasters when they arrive. Clint stressed the

importance of being prepared so that we will be able to handle the overwhelmed feeling we will experience at the time of a disaster if we aren't READY. Clint says he wants everyone and their families to be prepared. Emergency Kits prepared, 72 hour kits, train families in fire drills, exercise a plan, invite neighbors to participate in drills etc. etc. and find out what neighbors can offer in time of a disaster, what skills they have, such as CPR, child care, nursing, etc. etc. Clint says that these are the kind of things we need to take care of in the Strategies for *Organizing Neighborhoods for Disaster Preparedness*, mapping the neighborhood. Clint would like to organize a program called BLOCKBUSTERS, where we have a small section of neighbors get together and have someone in charge they can report to and then he reports to Emergency Management. Everyone needs to learn and be aware of Disasters. Clint says we need to do more than just talk about it. Clint asked the Group for any response they might have. Roger Morley, Jerome County Commissioner discusses the issue with the Sewer Plant plugged up. (Discussion on the Canal issue is documented at the end of minutes.)

### **Training Opportunities/Exercises:**

Clint invites all that need the ICS 300 and ICS 400 to come for a training opportunity and exercise, held at the Jerome City Fire Department. The ICS 300 will be held on March 17 & 18 and the ICS 400 on April 7 & 8. The ICS 300 and 400 are required to be in a classroom. Clint encourages all that have not taken the course ICS 300 and ICS 400 to register. The ICS 100 and 700 can be taken online at: [www.training.fema.gov](http://www.training.fema.gov).

Clint also gives us information on the MGT312, *Senior Officials Workshop*, presented by TEEX, *Texas Engineering Extension Service*, to be held on April 14, 2011. Clint said this was a workshop for local-jurisdiction elected and appointed senior officials. Its purpose is to provide a forum to discuss strategies and best practices, and enhance coordination among officials responsible for emergency response to a disaster. It is on an Executive Level and will last for approximate 6 hours for a 1 day event. This will be held at the Idaho State Police facilities here in Jerome on Yakama Ave

Gary Davis informs the LEPC group of another training coming up at the ICS Academy in Pocatello, Idaho on June 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> with a functional Exercise on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup>. There is a charge for the Training of \$300, and the deadline for payment is June 3rd. Gary handed out a list of Sample Objectives as a HSEEP Exercise Guidance for a discussion-based exercise and a State Homeland Security Strategy with 37 Target Capabilities List (TCL).

Gary also says a Management 326 operations \_\_\_??\_\_\_ class on hazardous material, April 19 – 21.

Autumn Roberts reports that she has put together an emergency plan NIMS/ICS Decision Tree, the handout she gave everyone shows Awareness, Basic, Intermediate and Advanced level of training required. Autumn says she has discussed with Clint about an upcoming *Emergency Operations Plan* and tabletop exercise. Autumn recommends that we hold a workshop to go over everyone's responsibilities and to be able to answer question and discuss important issues we generally don't get a chance to talk about, update and coordinate a plan. LEPC group agreed that it needs to be done and the LEPC group was all in favor for a one day, 3-3½ hour tabletop

workshop be held May 19, during our LEPC meeting time frame, and the time of 11 - 2 workshop works for everyone and that will include lunch. The location will be announced at a later date.

### **New Business**

Karl Hays, North Side Canal, Reports on National Levee Safety Program. After Katrina Congress wanted a plan on levee systems, so 8 iron core engineers came together as a committee and drafted up a policy on levee systems and gave it to Congress and Congress thru it back. They said to go talk to the people, and right now they are setting up workshops. Karl attended one in Boise last Thursday. This was the 8<sup>th</sup> one and there will be 2 more. Karl says they didn't know anything about leveeing. After the workshops are over they will then sit down and compile all the information, then they will come out with another report and we will get a copy and hopefully they will come up with something that works. Karl reports that there are no levee's in the area.

Clint says the deadline for the Tier II reports is March 1<sup>st</sup>. The question was asked, what is Tier II, (*Treasury Information Executive Repository*) and Clint said the Tier II report is where all companies must file annual chemical inventory reports on hazardous chemicals they store on site above certain quantities. These reports are submitted to LEPC's, fire departments and the state Bureau of Homeland Security. The reports tell where the chemical is located in the facility, how much is stored, and who to contact in an emergency. This is Mandate from Congress. Clint said we would provide a copy of all 2010 Tier II Reports to the LEPC Group at our next LEPC meeting March 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Agency Reports

**Tom Snow** – **could not hear all he said and he is calling me.**

**Beth Sant** – Nothing to report

**Gary Davis** – Nothing more to report

**Robert Storm** – Nothing to report

**Larry Goolsby** – Nothing more to report

**Cathy Roemer** – Reported that we just finished up with some work on the Annex and a company from Boise is doing about \$40,000 (grant money), of work from the OER, Offices and Energy Resources, on Heating, venting and air conditioning at the Courthouse.

Attended an Idaho Association of County Conference for Commissioners and talked about issues IAC was looking at for Counties, the state revenue sharing and not releasing back to counties the amount of sales tax money in the past. Substantially we could lose large amounts of money in our general budget. IAC opposed the bill to introduce cross deputization. Tribal Law Enforcement wanted to work on both sides of the boarder.

**Bryan Barney** – Nothing to report

**Eric Zechmann** – Nothing to report

**Lorand Layton** – Nothing to report

**Roger Morley** – Nothing more to report

**Karl Hays** – Nothing more to report

**Autumn Roberts** – Nothing more to report

**Clint Blackwood** – March 23<sup>rd</sup> Invitation to attend an Agro-terrorism tabletop exercise in Boise

**Glenna Lawrence** – Nothing to report

**Dan Olmstead** – Nothing to report

**Jay Gardner** – Nothing to report

## Open Discussion

Roger Morley, Jerome County Commissioner opens up the discussion about the issue of the Sewer Plant plugged up. Roger says that all the waste is going through the Canal System and

then empties into the Snake River. Cathy and Roger, Jerome County Commissioners, feel that they need to warn the people of what might be going into the Snake River. Roger says that nothing, nothing, absolutely nothing is being filtered right now. Roger says this could really be a disaster; they are using our Canal System as dump property. Karl Hays, North Side Canal, says that EPA took the responsibility out of their hands. He also says that EPA is on top of it and Jerome County had been contacted. Karl Hays said the last EBQ test shows that E-coli was elevated in the water and doesn't know how we are ever going to clean it up. Roger Morley says that people have absolutely no idea what is out there and we don't know where it is coming from. Cathy Roemer commented that we did need to warn the people but Roger and herself wanted to wait to see if any news came out today and if not then they would discuss how the best way would be to get the warning out. There is a concern that if they didn't get the word out and an E-coli disaster broke out in the area they could have a lawsuit on their hands. An article showed up today in February 17<sup>th</sup> Times News. Cathy was quite concerned for County residences and wondered why it had not been announced at the time it accrued 2 months ago, just before Christmas. Jerome City Manager Ben Marchant said they were going to start applying material to begin to work on the matter in the canal and let it work as a waste water system. Roger said there was a certain amount of Chemicals needed to clean out the system and they would not be here until the weekend. The LEPC group has come up with more questions than answers on the issue.

These are some of the questions and concerns of the Jerome sewer overload:

- 1) Where the responsibility lies for taking care of the issue and public awareness.
- 2) Concern for the public as an E-coli disaster.
- 3) If the LEPC should represent the issue.
- 4) Why the incident took so long before the announcement was made.
- 5)

The Next LEPC meeting will be on March 17, 2011.