

Jerome County LEPC Meeting

April 21, 2011
City Council Chambers
100 E Ave A
Jerome, Idaho

Attendance

Clint Blackwood – Jerome County EMA, **Bryan Barney** – BLM-Shoshone, **Arthur Brown** – PIO Jerome, **Gary Davis** – BHS, Baldwin Camin – LEPC, **Larry Goolsby** – Jerome County EMA/ARC, **Mike Hatfield** – Jerome Fire Department, **Cathy Roemer** – Jerome county Commissioner, **Glenna Lawrence** – Jerome County OEM Assistant

Welcome

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

LEPC

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

Old Business

Clint .

Clint followed up with the request for information from the EPA and DEQ on the Canal Issues. Clint showed all the data and pictures he has accumulated and reported that through laboratory monitoring results E-Coli counts were elevated along the canal system and also downstream prior to entering into the Snake River, and that over a period of time levels did dramatically diminished. Clint spoke to John Boyd, manager of the wastewater plant, who said the membranes themselves have been cleaned off and the chemical wash has been sent down the canal and things are functioning at 100% level. Representative from the Wastewater Treatment Plant, Doug Buell, says they have been in full operation since the 10th of March and they have placed a tank on site for chemicals, non hazardous, pretty much all natural chemicals is found to work quite superior to anything else. Clint asks if they were ever able to determine the source of calcium that was being sent into the treatment plant. Doug says investigation is still on-going to get to the bottom of the issue.

Clint discusses programs he is working on, one is the CERT Program, then Map your Neighborhood Program, and also what Clint calls the Block Captain Program which has been implemented regionally and has been very successful. It is just getting the public to accept the idea we need to be prepared. It has been very difficult implementing it on a public level and asks

the LEPC group for anything they can do as a group to help, even participating in our CERT training program when it gets organized, would be a great help. Clint will be addressing the City of Jerome with the public employees as well as our LEPC group. Clint says he is also working with the City of Eden and Hazelton, with what they call their Valley Community Alliance, working with the University of Idaho Extension service. They are looking right now to get a Grant to provide for sustainability for CERT training.

New Business

Open Discussion

Organizing Neighborhoods for Disaster Preparedness strategies have been discussed for the past 3 months. Clint says this document we have compiled is from others we have looked at for the need to really bring disaster preparedness to the local level, into the hands of the individuals, families and the neighborhoods. It is going to be just like everything else when we are faced with a disaster: it will depend on the individual and local preparedness. At the Government level the focus will be involved in the upper tier of involvement and there is little they can do at the lower end when it comes to the providing for the public's basic needs. With earthquakes going on all over the world, Clint can't over emphasize the fact that even here in Jerome we still have that capability of an earthquake. Clint offered a copy of the 'Idaho is Earthquake Country' handout if they haven't already received one. Idaho is still listed as the #3 potential areas in the world for earthquakes, based on the ICC (International Code Council) for building; it starts with a D1, D2 categories which are the most active then to C, B and then A and we are in category C. Clint reminds us we do have the potential of having an earthquake, tornado etc.etc.

Training Opportunities/Exercises:

Clint reminds everyone of the MGT 312 Senior Officials Workshop being held April 14, 2011. Clint says this is designed to target the audience of Senior Officials, County Commissioners, Majors, City Council Members, Department Heads, Hospital Administrators, and Service organizations, anyone that may be involved with being called on to respond to any type of disaster. Clint says they are working on a formal invitation they will be sending out tomorrow throughout the 8 counties. The training will be held at the Idaho State Police headquarters training room, 9 to 4 and the training session will include a catered lunch. Clint said anyone going needs to register at www.idahoprepared.com.

Clint reminds us of the ICS 300 training today and tomorrow with Mike Hatfield as one of the instructors. Also, the ICS 400 level course training, same location, on April 7th & 8th.

Clint emphasizes on the importance of the National Weather Service Storm Spotter Training, April 21, 7-9 p.m. P&Z building, conference room, 308 5th Ave. west in Gooding and April 28th 7-9 p.m. in Eden/Hazelton area. Location TBA later. Clint says he is planning on holding this training in Jerome County every year.

Clint reminds us of the EOP Workshop with Autumn Roberts May 19th at 11-2 in the ISP training room and lunch will be provided. Clint asks that everyone that has a copy of their Emergency Operation Plan to bring it with them and anyone needing a copy to let him know. We are going over the whole plan, reviewing it, editing, modifying it and making any changes that we see is necessary.

Agency Reports

Larry Goolsby – Reports that he attended ‘Program Managers Institute’ in Washington DC for the Red Cross. The one thing he learned is we keep trying to demonstrate to volunteers and staff that we have the notion we should be in charge. When the ESF-6 (Emergency Support Function-6) Mass care comes to town we work for the Homeland Security. We still have this vision of history in our minds about when we do Mass care needs we get to work and everyone gets out of the way, but we need to know this isn’t the case. When ESF-6 comes, we need to respect them, stay out of the way and not be in charge. We have the tendency to think we should take over, our Emergency Operations calls for it and it will be by order and not by demand.

Tami Pearson – Finishing up the series of SNS (Strategic National Stockpiles) Exercises and reported they went very well. Went to Aniston, Alabama last week for ICS curriculum training, Hazardous Domestic Preparedness, and reports it was an excellent training and excellent facilities. She invites everyone to take the class, and that it would be all paid for by the Government. They have all kinds of training: Hazmat, decontamination, etc., etc., and well worth the time.

Shauna Donabedian – Announced that the Susan G Komen race for the cure is in Boise, Saturday May 7, 2011; anyone that would like to be a part of it needs to go to komenboise.org website and register. She says they are looking for durable medical goods that anyone could donate for people in need, and if so to contact the hospital. She announced they have a Book Fair coming up in April, and the date will be announced later. Also reported they did a disaster drill, everyone was new to Incident Command, and they weren’t sure the Emergency Operations Center was actually going to work, but she feels it went pretty well and they learned a lot from it. She also reports that the Health Fair went very well.

Mike Dahmer – Reports there are 6 *Critical Incident Stress Management*, (CISM) teams, for first responders: 2 in New Zealand and 4 in Japan right now. Mike organizes their communication, mostly sat phones with radio amateur backup. He is looking for better means of radio high frequency, alternate channels for better communication.

Gary Davis – Stressed the importance of Weather Storm Spotters training. Gary says the radars don’t pick up weather action in Jerome County very well and they really need and invite everyone to take the spotters training in this area. They welcome all the help they can get.

Gary also reports some additional training BHS is sponsoring. In Blackfoot there is a food vulnerability training course, the food industry as well as the officials at the federal state, county

and local level. Anybody that has any concerns about food security planning is welcome to attend a free class on April 12th and 13th.

Gary says there is an MGT 346 EOC Operations and Planning for All Hazards, and is being held in Boise, 3 day course, April 19, 20, 21 and this is also free.

Gary reports they are having a Law Enforcement prevention course to learn to detect terrorist, held at the Ada County Sheriffs office on May 24th and 25th. Put on by LSU and there is no cost.

Gary also reports, Idaho ICS Academy being held at the ISU campus in Pocatello on June 13-17 with an exercise on the 18th. The deadline for enrollment Monday June 6 and the cost of the Training is \$300 and needs to be paid in advance to HSPC. Logging has been prearranged for the cost of \$17 to \$24.

The Next LEPC meeting will be on April 21, 2011.