

Aug 16, 2012  
City Council Chambers  
100 E Ave A  
Jerome, Idaho

### Attendance

**Roger Hinton** – American Red Cross, **Clint Blackwood** – Jerome County EMA, **Baldwin Camin** – Jerome County EMA, **Mike Dahmer** – Jerome County EMA, **Shauna Donabedian** – SLJMC, **Jay Gardner** – Jerome Police Department, **Mike Hatfield** – Jerome Fire Department, **Doug McFall** – Jerome Sheriff, **Dan Olmstead** – Idaho Power, **Eddie D.Patterson** – The Salvation Army, **Cathy Roemer** – Jerome County Commissioner, **Tom Snow** – USDA/Farm Service, **Eric Zechmann** – BLM Twin Falls District, **Glenna Lawrence** – Jerome County OEM Assistant

### Welcome

Baldwin Camin called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone in attendance and invited members to introduce themselves.

### LEPC

Minutes for July 2012 LEPC meeting were reviewed and approved.

### Old Business

Clint gives us an update on Grants – He reports that we have completed the 2009 grant successfully. We have carried everything over into the 2010 grant and have received the application for 2012 EMPG grant which we will be submitting by Sept 15<sup>th</sup>.

Clint updates us on the rewrite of the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) that Whisper Mountain Professional Service facilitated. Clint says we have the majority of the agencies in the County have signed off to improve their Continuity of Operations Plan and we are still reviewing The Emergency Operation Plan. Clint wants to make sure everything is in place before moving forward.

Clint reports on the Jerome County Fair. Relatively good attendance, steady flow and we gave out at least 500 brochures on Emergency Preparedness. Clint says he has at least 3 committed presentations on ‘Map Your Neighborhood’ we will be giving to organizations and hope to generate some of the local commitment in the neighborhood. Clint says that the most important preparedness for Emergency Management starts within the neighborhood and says we are focusing on the government’s whole community approach, and has been our focus for the last couple of years, with Map Your Neighborhood and CERT programs. It is very important for us to concentrate on the individual, family and neighborhood levels or we won’t be successful. Jay Gardner comments on passing out over 7000 badges to the kids and also says things were pretty quiet except for a fight breaking out on Friday night.

Clint updates us on the distribution of the Emergency Response Guidebooks. 106 guidebooks have been passed out to the different agencies, and gave out all the guidebooks we had on hand. We will check with Gary Davis for more copies so they can distribute to the rest of the agencies.

Clint updates on the Training and Exercise schedule through winter of 2014. Homeland Security has scheduled a training exercise, which is a three year requirement. Under exercises we also have the school evacuation plan that will be in April 2013. Clint says there are some requirements under the Emergency Management Performance Grant, and any personnel affected by it have to participate in at least 3 exercises during that performance period. There is also a requirement for personnel under the EMPG grant must complete the Professional Development Series (PDS) courses. Clint says they are very good training and we could all benefit from them. You can go to <http://training.fema.gov/EMIweb/is> and find any courses you are interested in and sign up.

Clint reports on NIMSCAST, and says that NIMSCAST (National Incident Management System Compliance Assistance Support Tool) is what we have to have to verify compliance. Yesterday was the roll-up date and after a lot of time spent to get it done, we did get our report rolled up and reported our resource inventory for the County. Clint says there were 145 specific type resources we have to identify in the County.

### **New Business**

Clint attended and reports on the Haz Mat Exercise held in Richfield July 23<sup>rd</sup>. He says the Fire Department was an evaluator with Lincoln County. Clint comments on; when you are looking at protecting the public you start looking at priorities and identifying who is the #1 priority and it is always dealing with your own personal safety. Frequently volunteers do things that aren't appropriate such as entering environments that are dangerous without learning about the dangers first. They need to redirect their thinking; find out more about the substance or chemicals and how to deal with it before going forward. The exercise proved beneficial, and the participants were the ones that were the sharpest critics during the Hot Wash, which proved most valuable lessons learned. Clint thinks that the *After Action Report* will provide areas where improvements can and need to be made.

Clint reports on the Ethanol Safety Seminar held on Aug 7<sup>th</sup>. He says it was very well attended and well represented. Safety wise there was major discussions as to fire fighting capabilities and the majority of that was coming down to the types of foam that are available to put out alcohol based fires because alcohol is a very good solvent. When it comes to firefighting foams, there is only one kind of foam that will work on an alcohol fire. The course was very interesting and beneficial on an awareness level.

Jay Gardner discusses the Back to School event. This years Con Paulos Back-To-School Safety Event is on Sept 8<sup>th</sup>. Sept is "National Preparedness Month" and this is an opportunity for everyone to do what we can to incorporate it in the workplace. Need any brochures let Clint know and he will help you out. Jay Gardner commented on how sad it is that no one is prepared for disasters within their own homes.

Clint says he received today for immediate release; Governor C.L. Otter issued a state declaration due to wildfires. The Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG), if approved, would provide funding to offset those costs of protecting private property and businesses in the area of Elmore County.

We continued the discussion on “Can it happen here” and all the fires surrounding us this season. What about Jerome County, are we at risk? Clint says many things can ignite a fire and because of the dry season that it is, yes it is possible. As a reminder Clint brought up the fire 3-4 years ago to Big Little Ranch. They had a big heavy loss, and a lot of things were not cover by insurance and how expensive it can be. People need to mitigate before hand and get rid of some of the dry grass or have a barrier of green grass. This is something people just don’t think about until it is too late, but we need to start. Putting a green grass barrier around their home can be a great protection. We need to do some preplanning, what are we going to do to be on top of it just in case a fire breaks out around your home? Doug McFall reminds us of his experience and how close he came to losing his home.

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

Clint encourages us to check out the training courses offered at <http://idahoprepares.com> and for the Fusion Liaison Officer candidates to apply at [www.isp.idaho.gov/icic/](http://www.isp.idaho.gov/icic/)

Clint also says there are many independent study courses available at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS>.

### **Agency Reports:**

**Clint Blackwood** - Announced that he had been asked to submit an application for Serve Idaho, the Governor’s Commission on Volunteerism and Service to Idaho.

**Dan Olmstead** - Idaho Power has come through these fires with little damage, and thanks the BLM for helping keep fires away from their lines.

**Tom Snow** – Handed out a Fact Sheet from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) on Emergency Disaster Designation and Declaration Process. Also gave the LEPC a handout of the Farm Programs Conference Call Speaker Notes that was held Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Tom also announced that some of the programs are shrinking and how it affects his job and the correlation between Shoshone Offices and their Agency.

**Roger Hinton** – Reported setting up for lodging: at Rock Creek; opening up an evacuation shelter in Bellevue, at Yankee Fork, and a Senior evacuation center in Pine, and highway 75 is now opened again.

**Eddie D Patterson** – Reports that they worked with the Red Cross when the Blue Angels were here. They had two units set up, were in charge of the hydration system and handed out water. They are working on getting the two units connected with electrical hookups in case of a big

disaster or they can be used as separate units in two different locations. They have 10 people going to training in Boise and working on taking the training to Mountain Home, Jerome and Twin Falls Areas.

**Shauna Donabedian** – She has been invited to go to Anniston Alabama Dec 2 to the 8<sup>th</sup>. They have also been doing some remodeling to the Hospital. Lots of changes with the new system, which is some of the benefits of going with St Luke's and looking forward to the changes.

**Mike Hatfield** – Going to EMI in Maryland to attend an EOC IMT interface course. They still have a fire engine with 4 staff members at Featherville for the fires in the area.

**Cathy Roemer** – Reports they are working with cities outside of Jerome, one being Hazelton, on economic development to determine where that development will go in conjunction with the City. They meet together on Mondays and Tuesday to determine where the needs are.

**Our Next Jerome LEPC Meeting**

Thursday Sept 20, 2012

1p.m. – 2 p.m.

Jerome City Council Chambers