

Southwest Planning, Exercise and Training Region

Chase, Dundy, Furnas, Hitchcock, Hayes, Perkins and Red Willow Counties

Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2013

Meeting was called to order by Pat Gerdes at 10:25 a.m. CT, following the Southwest LEPC meeting at the Southwest Public Health Department Meeting Room in McCook, NE.

Six of the seven PET Region counties were represented. The following members were present:

Chase- EM Paul Kunneman Dundy- EM Patrick Gerdes, Deputy EM Pam Reichert

Furnas- EM Roger Powell Hitchcock- EM Patrick Gerdes, Deputy EM Kyle Clapp

Perkins- Sheriff/EM Jim Brueggeman, Deputy EM Karon Harris

Red Willow- EM Sheriff Gene Mahon, Deputy EM Diana Wilkinson

Absent: Hayes- EM Charlynn Hamilton

Also present were Heidi Wheeler, SWNPHD, Ralph Scott, Trenton Agri-Products/SW LEPC; Kate Speck, UNL Public Policy Center; Mike Hotchkiss, Nebraska Corn Processing, Cambridge, Ne.; Ike Brown, McCook Chief of Police.

Roger moved, seconded by James to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Gene moved, seconded by James, to waive the reading of the minutes and approve them as written, with the exception that Kyle was not present for the June meeting. Motion carried.

Public Policy Center Update- Kate Speck discussed a grant for 4G infrastructure. Nebraska was awarded \$1 million for upgrades, however this would not be enough for the whole state. She discussed the THIRA process. Each PET region is asked by NEMA have a meeting day to create a more locally relevant THIRA. Kate/Public Policy Center is available to assist with this. This can be scheduled for the next meeting date (December). Also, Todd with Blue Cell is producing a video to assist with the process. THIRA/SPR/TEPW meetings are scheduled for Oct. 22-24, 2013 in Lincoln. She also reported on statewide conversations about tower space leases and sustainability.

Citizen Corps/CERT Update- Pat reported on CERT Training. James met last week with community organizations in Perkins County. He has not heard back yet as to interest in volunteering/training. Funds are available until August 2014 for CERT training. It would be 10 hours of continuing education for EMS.

Old Business:

Pat reported on grant activity:

2011 Grant:

All funds have been expended. \$147.55 was mou'd back to NEMA. Also, a small amount remaining from equipment storage rent was returned to NEMA.

2012 Grant:

\$ 29,232.00 was granted. \$ 14,836.00 (50%) is earmarked for Law Enforcement use. An earlier report that NSP should approve law enforcement expenditures was not accurate. This two-year grant cycle expires January 31, 2014.

Mobile Express training will be scheduled soon.

October 26th & 27th: ICS 300/400 in Furnas County.

October 18, 19, 20: Tactical EMS training course at McCook Fire (\$ 4,596.00)

The new consolette is to be installed in McCook soon. The group discussed the need for training on this.

NPSCC (NWIN/NCOR)

Bill Elliott is the local contact for the NRIN. He is up to speed on monitoring and maintaining the system, including necessary statewide contact information.

Governance: Ike reported on meetings. There will be meetings at NACO with County Commissioners to discuss and explain tower space, leasing, etc.

TICP/CASM:

Nothing to report. No one attended the TICP workshop.

PARACLETE:

IPAWS- The group discussed recent webinars and the meeting in Lincoln about IPAWS. No one from the SWPETR group attended the meeting in Lincoln. Kate reported NEMA ran a live demonstration.

TRAINING/EXERCISE- Roger and Mike reported progress on the exercise they are planning for the ethanol plant in Cambridge. They have been receiving approvals and still plan to use the plan used previously at Trenton Agri-Products.

New Business:

2013 Grant:

Grant total is \$ 56,317.00. The work plan has been submitted. \$23, 690 is earmarked for Law enforcement. Law enforcement monies cannot be directly used for dispatch center projects/consolettes. Projects must be in line with the IJ.

It was suggested that the law enforcement portion be mou'd to the fusion center, where funds can be reallocated and swapped so consolettes can be purchased under DHS grant funding. The group liked the idea, but wondered if they could be certain the consolettes would be purchased before mou'ing the money.

Lincoln County has contacted Pat regarding a request to NEMA to move Lincoln County from the South Central to the Southwest PET Region. After discussion, Roger moved and Jim seconded that discussion of the request be tabled until more information is available for consideration. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Good of the Group:

The group discussed unused base station equipment in Red Willow County. Jim reported the particulars of grant funds, including how long paperwork and equipment must be retained and maintained.

Discussion was held about the mass casualty training yesterday in McCook. Some were unaware of it.

Pat adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

The next meeting will be December 18, 2013.

/s/ Kyle Clapp, recorder