

MINUTES
of the meeting of the
CARSON CITY
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
June 5, 2007

The Carson City LEPC held a public meeting on June 5, 2007, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the meeting room of Fire Station No. 1, 777 S. Stewart Street, Carson City.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Tom Tarulli , who was conducting this meeting at the request of Chairperson Stacey Giomi who was unable to attend and because the alternate chair, Daren Winkelman, was no longer a member of the LEPC (which matter was addressed later in the agenda). Voting members present were Jonathan Crawford, Brian Crowe, Kevin Curnes, Linda Hurst, Lee Radtke, Ray Saylo, Darren Selby, Cliff Sorenson, and Tom Tarulli (which constituted a quorum). Non-voting member present was Keith Forbes.

Voting members absent were Steve Albertsen, Robert Charles, Dave Dawley, Phillip Harrison, Hank Lucas, and Daren Winkelman. Non-voting members absent were Jerry Evans, Rhett Milne, and Yvon Weaver.

Also present were Mary Ellen Radtke (guest/public) and Tom Porta (State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) member and Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP) deputy administrator).

2. Approval of March 6, 2007, Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Lee Radtke, seconded by Jonathan Crawford, with motion carried, that the minutes of the March 6 meeting be approved as submitted.

3. Public Comments and Discussion

Tom Porta introduced himself, stating that he was the deputy administrator for the NDEP and a SERC member and that one of the requirements of being a SERC member was to attend a LEPC meeting annually.

4. Discussion/Action to Appoint State Assemblywoman Bonnie Parnell as the Elected State Official Representative on the LEPC

Tom Tarulli stated that Stacey Giomi had sent a letter to Assemblywoman Bonnie Parnell, asking her to serve on the LEPC as a representative of the state and that she had replied she would. (*Bonnie was unable to attend this LEPC meeting as the Legislature was in session the same day.*)

It was moved by Kevin Curnes, seconded by Ray Saylo, with motion carried, that Bonnie Parnell be accepted into the LEPC.

5. Discussion/Action to Elect a Replacement for Daren Winkelman, Co-Chair (Mr. Winkelman has resigned his position with the City and the LEPC)

Tom Tarulli stated that Daren Winkelman resigned from the City effective May 25, thereby resigning his position on the LEPC, and that this item had been added to the agenda in order to seek a replacement for him as Co-Chair. Tom stated, however, that Daren's position was actually as Alternate Chair (*as set forth in the LEPC's Bylaws*) rather than Co-Chair.

In discussing this matter, Brian Crowe felt that this position should be filled by a city employee, and Tom mentioned that Stacey had indicated he would prefer it to be someone other than another fire department employee. Ray Saylo asked whether anyone had filled Daren's position with the City, and Tom said that no replacement had as yet been named. It was stated that when a replacement was named, that person would be asked to join this committee. Tom mentioned that the City Manager and Ann Silverman were presently overseeing the Health & Human Services Department in the absence of a director.

It was suggested that Steve Albertsen (who was not present at this meeting) could be nominated. After some further discussion, it was moved by Lee Radtke, seconded by Darren Selby, with motion carried, that Steve Albertsen be nominated as Alternate Chair with the provision he accepted it.

6. Discussion/Action Regarding the FY 2008 SERC Planning, Training, and Equipment Grant Award Received from the State Emergency Response Commission

Tom Tarulli reported to the committee that the SERC granted all the items contained in the LEPC's application, including replacement SCBA equipment, a fit testing kit, and air-purifying respirators; an incident response sampling kit that complies with chain-of-evidence procedures; and alcohol-resistant AFFF firefighting foam and training foam, in the total amount of \$29,793. In addition, the SERC granted its annual \$4,000 in LEPC operating costs.

It was moved by Brian Crowe, seconded by Lee Radtke, with motion carried, that the grant award be accepted.

7. Discussion/Action Regarding the Submission of the FY 2008 United We Stand Grant Application to the State Emergency Response Commission

Tom Tarulli asked Brian Crowe to discuss this application, as the funds being requested were for the benefit of the college. Brian stated that all the Nevada higher education institutions since the Virginia Tech incident have been looking hard at security. He said that Western Nevada College had Whelan Engineering do some testing in May on a siren at its campus and then integrating it with a campus security system. Based on those results, the college was asking on this application for a 123 decibel siren system installed on one of its buildings, some in-plant communications consisting of speakers with strobes in its main building, and UHF radio control of the Mass Notification System that would work from three control locations—one in the Bristlecone Building with the college's security force, one in the E.L. Cord Building (an outlying building), and one mobile controller that the security staff would have with them in order to energize the system from anywhere within the UFH footprint that will be on the campus.

Tom said that everything will be purchased by November 2007 and installed by March 2008. The cost of this project will be \$30,000, including installation, and that this was the amount being requested in the application. Brian said that the college was thinking about augmenting the system down the road and putting more speakers and UHF receivers in different outlying buildings. Brian further stated that the system would have the capability of communicating with the Fire Department but that this component would not be included in this initial purchase.

It was moved by Kevin Curnes, seconded by Ray Saylo, with motion carried, that the LEPC submit the grant application as discussed.

8. Report of the April 12 Quarterly SERC Meeting

Staff (Judy Dietrich) reported briefly on a few items from the minutes of the April 12 Quarterly SERC meeting:

- FY 2008 SERC grant applications were approved and the United We Stand grant cycle was established.
- Carson City was in compliance in regard to both its bylaws and membership list.
- The estimate for getting the hazardous materials database (discussed at previous LEPC meetings) up and running was another eight months (from the April meeting date).
- Various policies were updated.

Tom Porta from SERC mentioned that he has only been on the commission for a year but has learned the importance of the LEPCs meeting the various deadlines and requirements in order to be deemed compliant and eligible to receive grant funds.

9. Discussion Regarding the Full-Scale Exercise Conducted on March 8

Tom Tarulli said that they had planned to have a terrorist-type disaster exercise and that was exactly what they had. Everything they thought would work a certain way didn't, which was the perfect reason for conducting such an exercise. Fire, law enforcement, and the hospital had all planned on the exercise being just at the edge of being out of control, and it worked very well, pushing everything to the limit. The crews had not expected to encounter as many victims as they did, and the 38 victims (Carson City High School drama students) were all moulaged (by Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members) and played their parts perfectly and realistically. The incident consisted of a school bus overturned on its side, with metal, plastic, and glass everywhere. Communications between fire, law enforcement, and the hospital went very well, but it was discovered that further work needed to be done in regard to response, set-up, and the treatment and triage area. Again, Tom stressed that this exercise worked well in regard to testing their ability to respond to a large-scale incident such as this.

Tom mentioned that a video crew taped the exercise and that it would be shown on TV soon (and when he knew the date, he would forward that information to the committee). He also mentioned that a portion of that tape could be played at a future LEPC meeting. Also, a high school production crew videotaped the incident from inside the bus, the ambulance, and the ER (and Kevin Curnes mentioned that he could provide a copy of that tape when completed to anyone who requested it).

Linda Hurst said that the hospital learned a lot from this exercise, as it was overwhelmed with the 38 victims coming in every which way, and it will be doing a few things differently in the future based on this exercise.

10. Reports from LEPC Members

- Ray Saylo stated that there was a recent Department of Homeland Security (DHS) directive that the federal government had to divest its central location out of Washington DC due to concerns of an attack upon the capital. Another communication he recently received from the DHS (which he has forwarded to the Water Department) expressed its concern over thefts of chlorine from unmanned water stations for use in IEDs. Darren Selby mentioned that most of the City's system was on either hypochlorite or tablets and that there were no longer any one-ton cylinders remaining.

Ray also mentioned that Carson City's radio system has been of the '60s/'70s generation and that the Sheriff's Office and the Fire Department have been working to get their radios up to '80s technology. However, because of the present substandard equipment, the City has decided to repair and make the system whole again so that everyone within the City would be able to talk to each other. He stated that this project was moving along quite well, and it was mentioned that it will be on the next Board meeting agenda for approval.

- Kevin Curnes asked whether any Public Service Announcement (PSA) money could be obtained to remind people of the law to pull over to the side when emergency responders approached with lights and sirens, as he has noticed on more than one occasion that people have not been moving out of the way. Ray Saylo stated that he will talk to SO traffic to see if they can follow close behind emergency vehicles the next time an alarm sounds and ticket those who do not pull over. Brian Crowe also mentioned that he will check with the driver ed program instructors to make sure they were teaching this as part of their program. In regard to any possible grant money, it was mentioned that the State Department of Public Safety might have some and that this could possibly be pooled with some monies from the Fire Department and the Sheriff's Office to put out a joint PSA in regard to this issue.
- Keith Forbes brought the committee up to date on what has been done on the animal side in relation to disasters. He has been on the committee for the Nevada Task Force on Evacuation, Shelter, and Mass Care, which has been holding a three-day workshop at three different locations to discuss evacuation for large and small animals, temporary sheltering, and mass care, in addition to the legal aspects involved and some pet ID issues. They have received a grant to sponsor two wet labs (one in Las Vegas and one in Reno) where they will conduct decontamination and triage, set up temporary shelters, etc., for veterinarians and animal control personnel from throughout the state.

Tom Tarulli mentioned that he had just met with a group of people from the Health & Human Services Department, Animal Control, and the CERT to discuss the City's current plan in regard to this issue. Plans from other jurisdictions had been researched to find one that would fit the City's needs. Such a plan was found, and a couple of CERT members will be creating a new City plan based on that existing one. Once this plan is adopted, they will search the community for people who would be able to house, rescue, transport, and treat animals, thereby creating a volunteer roster. They will also look into donations and creating PSAs to educate the public on what to do with their pets in times of disaster. Keith asked Tom to e-mail him a copy of this plan when completed.

11. Next Meeting Date

The next committee meeting will be held September 11, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. in the meeting room of Fire Station #1.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Recorder: Judy Dietrich