

MINUTES
of the meeting of the
CARSON CITY
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
May 16, 2006

The Carson City LEPC held a public meeting on May 16, 2006, beginning at 8:30 a.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 Chairperson Stacey Giomi. Members present were Ken Arnold, Jonathan Crawford, Brian Crowe, Kevin Curnes, Dave Dawley, Stacey Giomi, Phillip Harrison, and Hank Lucas (which constituted a quorum).

Absent were Steve Albertsen, Kelly Dawson, Jerry Evans, Keith Forbes, Rhett Milne, Lee Radtke, Ray Saylo, Cliff Sorenson, Yvon Weaver, and Daren Winkelman.

Also present was Linda Dawson (Carson-Tahoe Regional Medical Center).

2. Approval of March 7, 2006, Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Phillip Harrison, seconded by Ken Arnold, with motion carried, that the minutes of the March 7 meeting be approved as submitted.

3. Public Comments and Discussion

None

4. Discussion/Action to Appoint Linda Hurst (Nurse Manager, Emergency Department, Carson-Tahoe Regional Medical Center) as Replacement for Kelly Dawson as Hospital Representative on the LEPC

Stacey stated that since Linda Hurst has taken over the Nurse Manager's position in the emergency room of the medical center, she would like to replace Kelly Dawson as the hospital representative on the LEPC. It was then moved by Hank Lucas, seconded by Dave Dawley, with motion carried, that Kelly Dawson be replaced with Linda Hurst.

5. Discussion/Action Regarding the 2007 United We Stand (UWS) Grant Application to be Submitted to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

Stacey said that this application represented the first round of grant funding from the SERC for the revenues it has been receiving from the United We Stand license plates.

He stated that the emergency responders in the community have had a problem with the new medical center in that they didn't have any radio communications within the building. This problem was due to the location of the hospital, its size, and the type of materials used in its construction. Therefore, because these emergency responders cannot hear their radios or transmit out of the building, he was proposing to seek a grant of \$30,000 to improve the radio communications within the medical center and ultimately provide the security group in the hospital with the City's frequencies. The total cost of this project will be about \$57,000, with the City contributing the balance of these funds.

When asked for details regarding exactly what was needed for this project, Stacey said that Sierra Electronics has proposed putting a radio on the surgical center with an antenna that would be aimed directly into the building from the south side. This radio would be within the City's radio system and then synchronization equipment would tie it into the City's repeater on Duck Hill—and this should solve the communications problem within the hospital. He mentioned that the next solution beyond this one would be to install a bidirectional amplifier—where transmitters would be placed in the ceiling of each hospital floor—but that this would cost at least three times the amount of the present proposal.

It was moved by Ken Arnold, seconded by Dave Dawson, with motion carried, that the committee authorize its chairperson to submit the 2007 United We Stand Grant Application for funding to resolve the radio communications problems with respect to the hospital.

6. Discussion/Action to Accept the 2007 SERC Operations and Equipment Grant Award

Stacey said that the grant application for these funds had been previously approved by the LEPC for a series of medium/operations-level equipment (such as decon suits, gloves, boots, etc.) and that the SERC subsequently awarded these monies in the amount of \$21,078 (\$17,078 for the equipment and \$4,000 for operations) effective July 1, 2006.

It was moved by Kevin Curnes, seconded by Phillip Harrison, with motion carried, that the committee accept the 2007 SERC Operations and Equipment Grant Award.

7. Discussion/Action Regarding Report of the April 13 Quarterly SERC Meeting

Stacey mentioned that he had been appointed as a SERC commissioner by the Governor prior to this April 13 meeting. He said that the main issue of interest discussed at that meeting related to the \$150 fee paid by facilities using hazardous materials. This fee is split between two agencies—\$90 going to the State Fire Marshal's office for conducting hazardous materials

inspections and maintaining the database of stored chemicals, and \$60 going to the SERC to provide training for haz-mat response. However, the SERC is statutorily required to deposit its \$60 into the State Fire Marshal's account in order for that office to provide the training. And because of ongoing problems in holding the State Fire Marshal's office accountable in regard to what it was specifically doing with these monies, the SERC is looking at getting a state senator or legislator to draft legislation to keep that money in the Commission's account and have it provide and coordinate the training for hazardous materials response in the state. He also mentioned that the online version for hazardous materials reporting was still in the works but has not yet been accomplished.

8. Reports From LEPC Members

- Ken Arnold mentioned that a new staff member has been added to Environmental Control, recruited from the Plumas County Health Department, and that she should be a real benefit to the Fire Department in regard to haz-mat support.
- Brian Crowe thanked Stacey, the Fire Department, and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members for helping WNCC in its campus-wide disaster drill held a few days earlier and that he felt it had been mutually beneficial. Stacey agreed and said that he hoped to conduct a similar drill with the hospital.
- Hank Lucas thanked Stacey for the City help rendered to the hospital when it lost its main water line and fire support line a few weeks ago (pump trucks to pump out the hole and a fire engine to stand by). He mentioned that this was probably one of the worst-case scenarios planned for by the hospital.

Hank mentioned that the hospital has been working with the Health Department in regard to the Avian flu issue. He stated that although the hospital's emergency plan covers epidemics and pandemics, they will be working with the Health Department to start some informational training in this particular regard. They will also start to build up their resources for personal protective equipment. Stacey then mentioned that the emergency management publications have been stating that the biggest impact would be to hospitals/health care and to emergency responders, with an estimate of between 40 and 60 percent of either themselves or their families being infected, which would thereby reduce available resources by at least half. Hank stated that was why the hospital and the Health Department were working on getting ahead of this issue and getting people educated on how to break that chain of exchange. When Brian asked if he could be included in this educational process, it was suggested that he contact Daren Winkelman in this regard.

Linda stated that as the hospital didn't keep that many supplies on hand, they will be working to increase their stock, as a 30 to 40 percent increase in gloves and masks has been recommended by Infection Control.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, September 12, 2006, at 1:30 p.m. in the meeting room of Fire Station No. 1.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

Recorder: Judy Dietrich