

**MINUTES**  
**of the meeting of the**  
**CARSON CITY**  
**LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)**

**December 2, 2008**

The Carson City LEPC held a public meeting on December 2, 2008, 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**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Stacey Giomi.

**2. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum**

Voting members present were Robert Charles, Jonathan Crawford, Stacey Giomi, Phillip Harrison, Linda Hurst, Hank Lucas, Bonnie Parnell, Lee Radtke, Ray Saylo, Darren Selby, Tom Tarulli, and Marena Works (which constituted a quorum). Non-voting member present was Keith Forbes.

Voting members absent were Steve Albertsen, Brian Crowe, Kevin Curnes, and Dave Dawley. Non-voting members absent were Jerry Evans and Rhett Milne.

Also present were William Bergquist (Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California) and Ron Norton (ComputerCorps), who introduced themselves to the committee.

**3. Approval of September 9, 2008, Meeting Minutes**

It was moved by Lee Radtke, seconded by Phillip Harrison, with motion carried, that the minutes of the September 9 meeting be approved.

**4. Public Comments and Discussion**

There were no public comments or discussion.

**5. Discussion and Action to Appoint William Bergquist, Environmental Specialist for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, as a Member of the LEPC Representing the Local Environmental Category**

Stacey Giomi stated that the LEPC has tried in the past to get a tribal member on the committee and that he met Will Bergquist at a recent State Division of Emergency Management meeting. Will then stated that the tribe doesn't have a lot of resources to respond to incidents on its own, only having a police department, but because of recent NIMS

(National Incident Management System) requirements, they now have to do the same type of planning for emergencies as local governments. Although this planning for the tribe is on a much smaller scale, he felt that it should overlap somewhat with the surrounding communities' planning.

It was then moved by Hank Lucas, seconded by Jonathan Crawford, with motion carried, that William Bergquist be appointed as the representative for the Washoe Tribe to the LEPC.

**6. Presentation by Ron Norton, CEO of ComputerCorps, Regarding a Computer-Based Information System**

Phillip Harrison informed the committee that he and Ron Norton have been working on a project involving computer resources that he felt would be of interest to the committee. With these resources along with some touch screen equipment and ideas Ron has been working on, Ron could put together a system that would enable people from the community to locate resources available to them as well as put out information regarding how to coordinate various agencies during emergencies. ComputerCorps has a bus that can be set up with the equipment and be taken to where people can then access the information. However, because money would be needed to develop this project which he felt would be quite worthwhile, Phillip asked the committee for any ideas on how to pursue some federal funding for it.

Ron Norton then stated that they were the recipients of some very high quality equipment from one of the major gaming companies which consisted of touch screen computers of recent gaming technology, retrofitted to be used with standard Windows operating systems, and which could be used in a multitude of applications. They have been working with Washoe and Carson City CERTs (Community Emergency Response Teams) on methods to deploy these in emergency situations. The Washoe CERT has had software developed so that these computers could be used in conjunction with ham radio waves to transmit emergency and e-mail messages when all land and cell lines are down.

ComputerCorps has also been working with the Washoe health system, and 65 of these units will be deployed to their hospitals for special applications for emergencies. The company has received about 350 units so far and more were coming. Ron said that he has been working with Phillip on the Quality of Life Committee and that the Carson City Sheriff's Department was also interested in obtaining some of these units. Ron said they have the equipment and a bus, vans, and trucks to transport it, but they now need to develop a plan, design some software, and obtain monetary resources to make it happen. He said they have also received over 20 kiosks with touch screen computers which could be installed around the community for general information dissemination as well as be provided to low income families for their children to access the internet for homework purposes.

Upon an inquiry from Marena Works as to how much money they were seeking for this project, Ron replied that it would depend upon the application and what the need would be. Stacey Giomi mentioned that he liked the idea of the general information dissemination and internet applications, but that in emergent situations, they like to fall back on simpler procedures in order to avoid technology that might not be there when needed. Ron said that a rough estimate would be about \$20,000 to get the 20 kiosks up and running, with about \$20,000 in ongoing yearly costs.

Ron mentioned that the equipment was currently being used in Washoe for communication over the ham radio waves and that the Washoe CERT recently demonstrated this to the Carson City CERT. Stacey mentioned, however, that the Carson City ham radio group was not as strong as Washoe's. Tom Tarulli said that when the Carson City CERT sets up a shelter, Ron has agreed to bring his people, bus, and computers to the center so that the people in the shelters could use the computers to notify people where they were and for general communication.

Stacey mentioned again that he felt the best use of this equipment would be for general education and as an everyday resource rather than being used in emergent situations as these situations occurred rarely and would not be cost effective. Ron then said that their main mission was to use this equipment for everyday use but to also have it available for a multi-use situation. Stacey said that he and Marena could talk to people at the State regarding Department of Homeland Security (DHS) funding. And because DHS projects must be regionalized, they could talk to State Health regarding putting this equipment into hospitals or health districts throughout the state. Hank Lucas mentioned that Washoe County Public Health was setting up the units they received strictly for data packet transfer, such as medical records and radiology transfers, and that the Carson-Tahoe medical center was looking at the same thing. Stacey then said that perhaps it would be a good idea to focus on this one area, with State Health taking this idea and extending it out to other counties throughout the state.

**7. Discussion and Action to Elect Alternate Chairperson for 2009 and 2010**

Stacey Giomi mentioned that the present Alternate Chair was Steve Albertsen and asked the committee for discussion and nominations. It was then moved by Darren Selby, seconded by Lee Radtke, with motion carried, that Steve Albertsen be appointed as Alternate Chair for 2009 and 2010.

**8. Discussion and Action to Review and Approve the LEPC's Membership List**

The current membership list was distributed to the committee, with Stacey Giomi mentioning that the only change was the addition of William Bergquist as a member. Stacey said that the only question was whether Will would be a voting or non-voting member (with voting members being those who regularly attended the meetings and constituted a quorum for conducting the meetings). As Will indicated he planned to attend meetings on a regular basis, it was moved by Robert Charles, seconded by Bonnie Parnell, with motion carried, that the membership list be approved to include William Bergquist as a voting member.

**9. Discussion and Action to Review and Approve the LEPC's Bylaws**

The Bylaws were distributed to the committee for review, and Stacey Giomi stated that the only change indicated was the addition of William Bergquist to the membership list which was an appendix to the Bylaws. As there was no other discussion regarding any changes to the Bylaws, it was moved by Phillip Harrison, seconded by Hank Lucas, with motion carried, that the Bylaws be approved as written with the addition of William Bergquist to the LEPC.

**10. Discussion and Action to Review and Approve the Annual Revision of the Carson City Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan**

Stacey Giomi stated that no major changes were made to the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan—only a change to the date of the plan and an update of the Tier II facility information. Upon a question by Phillip Harrison as to the inclusion of a hazardous materials resource list, Stacey said that this list had not been updated this year but that he planned to update it next summer. He stated that the DHS now requires the resources to not only be listed but to also be properly typed into a number of categories which the feds have developed. And although this will be somewhat time-consuming because it has to be done on a DHS software package online, it will be advantageous because the State will have immediate access to the type of resources available statewide.

It was then moved by Hank Lucas, seconded by Darren Selby, with motion carried, that the Carson City Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan be approved with the changes indicated.

**11. Discussion and Action to Review and Approve the Annual Level of Response Questionnaire**

The Annual Level of Response Questionnaire was distributed to the committee for review. Stacey Giomi mentioned that this questionnaire is required to be submitted to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) each year and that it indicates the number of people trained within the Carson City LEPC to the awareness, operations, technician, incident commander, and specialist levels. It also indicates the type of haz-mat team the LEPC has, and because Carson City is in cooperation with three other counties (the Quad-County Regional HazMat Team), the team is considered to be a Type 1.

It was then moved by Lee Radtke, seconded by Tom Tarulli, with motion carried, that the Annual Level of Response Questionnaire be approved as presented.

Upon a question by Phillip Harrison as to what was meant by the LEPC's declared level of response (Question #1 on the questionnaire), Stacey said that the LEPC must report to the SERC as to what level it can respond to hazardous materials emergencies—and that Carson City can respond at the technician level, meaning the team can make entry and mitigate. He said

that this is important to the SERC because when the LEPC requests equipment, that equipment must match the level the team is trained to.

## **12. Report of the October 9 Quarterly SERC Meeting**

Stacey Giomi stated that there had been some discussion at this meeting regarding the database for the reporting of hazardous materials. This database is very close to being online, and once some of the problems are worked out, a demonstration on the system will be conducted. This database will take the renewal process for those who are permitted to use hazardous materials from a mail-based system to an internet-based system. Stacey said that this system will be beneficial from a planning perspective as it will allow responders to pull up the data whenever they need it.

## **13. Reports from LEPC Members**

- Bob Charles stated that eleven Carson City personnel attended the recent HazMat Explo in Las Vegas. He said that there was one particular phenomenal class for those who dealt with chemistry, incident command, and actual mitigation and that this information will be shared with the Quad-County HazMat Team and/or the Carson City Fire Department as a whole.

Stacey Giomi then reminded the committee that this haz-mat explo was presented every year in November and that members were always welcome to attend.

- Tom Tarulli mentioned that the Fire Chief had applied for a Homeland Security grant over a year ago for a response vehicle to be used by the CERT. It has now been received and is currently being outfitted and should be ready to go within the next week. This vehicle will allow the team to respond locally, statewide, or possibly even out of state. It will be able to haul CERT equipment, rehab supplies, etc., and also pull the shelter trailer which was provided by the Red Cross.
- Lee Radtke reported that the CERT held a skills review session November 8 at the Carson City Community Center, with about 28 people in attendance. Stacey Giomi then mentioned that they have received approval to replace Tom Tarulli's former position through a partially grant-funded position and that one of the duties of that position will be to help coordinate the CERT.
- William Bergquist thanked the committee for letting him join and mentioned that the Carson Colony also has a CERT and that he would like to see it coordinate with the Carson City team.
- Ray Saylo said that there are two fusion centers operating in the north—one in Washoe County and one that takes care of the other northern counties. He mentioned that a situation occurred last September that allowed them to see how these centers worked. This

related to an incident in the Bay Area regarding an escalation in conflict between the Hells Angels and the Mongols. This information was funneled through the two fusion centers to local law enforcement, which then allowed them to prepare for the Street Vibrations event by coordinating numerous agencies. The Washoe County fusion center constantly monitored the incoming information during the course of the event, and everything worked out very well.

**14. Next Year's Meeting Dates**

Next year's quarterly meeting dates were scheduled for March 3, June 2, September 1, and December 1. (All meetings will be held at 1:30 p.m. in the meeting room of Fire Station #1.)

**15. Adjournment**

It was moved by Brian Crowe, seconded by Darren Selby, with motion carried, that the meeting be adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

Recorder: Judy Dietrich