

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

March 1, 2011

The Carson City LEPC held a public meeting on March 1, 2011, 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 John Arneson, William Bergquist, Brian Crowe, Kevin Curnes, Stacey Giomi, Phillip Harrison, Linda Hurst, Hank Lucas, Lee Radtke, Ray Saylo, Tom Tarulli, and Marena Works (which constituted a quorum). Also present were Mary Ellen Radtke (community member) and Tina Russom (District Attorney's Office).

Voting member absent was Dave Dawley. Non-voting members absent were Jerry Evans, Keith Forbes, and Rhett Milne.

3. Approval of December 7, 2010, Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Marena Works, seconded by Hank Lucas, with motion carried, that the minutes of the December 7 meeting be approved as submitted.

4. Public Comments and Discussion

There were no public comments or discussion.

5. Discussion re Jonathan Crawford and Darren Selby No Longer Being Members of the LEPC

Stacey informed the committee that as Darren Selby was no longer with the City, he was no longer a member of the LEPC (local environmental representative). He stated, however, that although the committee still had other representation in this category, Darren's position will be offered to someone in the City's Environmental Control Department, and that appointment will be agendized at the next meeting.

Stacey then said that Jonathan Crawford, who represented media (Nevada Appeal), has also left his position and was therefore no longer a member of the LEPC. The committee does,

however, have a non-voting member from a radio station, so the required media category representation was still being covered.

6. Discussion and Action to Approve the FY 2012 State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Planning, Training, Equipment, and Operations Grant Application

Stacey said that there were two parts to this grant, the first one being a mid-cycle grant. He stated that the State of Nevada was changing some training offerings and using a company called Haz Mat IQ. This company teaches to the haz-mat technician level, and the State is using this program as a baseline for training technicians in the state. Stacey said that the Quad-County region wants to go a step below this level, which is the operations level, and provide this training to the haz-mat personnel at the operations level. He mentioned that the Fire Department has quite a few of these people and that other departments with haz-mat personnel who were at the operations level could also participate in this training. He said that although the class would be held in Carson City, it would be webcast to the surrounding agencies, so that those on duty would not have to leave their departments and money could be saved by not having to backfill positions. The cost of this training will be approximately \$30,000, which is the maximum amount that can be sought under this grant.

It was then moved by Lee Radtke, seconded by Kevin Curnes, with motion carried, that the mid-cycle grant request be approved.

In regard to the second component of this grant, Stacey said that he had sent out requests and received responses from other departments and agencies in regard to what they would like to apply for under this grant. One response was from the environmental staff of Public Works (which responds with the Fire Department on haz-mat incidents), saying that their current radios did not have the ability to go to secure channels and they were therefore requesting three radios that would allow them to go a secure frequency, so their conversations could not be monitored by the general public. Stacey said that this confidentiality was important in certain haz-mat incidents and that the cost of these radios was \$2604 apiece.

Stacey said another item being requested was a biodetection kit. He said the department's current biodetection process was RAMP, which was fairly intensive in terms of maintenance and labor, and that the product being requested had some big advantages over it. Although the requested biodetection kit would cost \$12,000, it would only cost about \$1,000 annually to maintain the parts to do biodetection, while the current system costs \$3,000 to \$4,000 annually. And this would not only save the City ongoing funds, it would also improve reliability.

In regard to the next item being requested, Stacey gave the committee some background information on a hydrochloric acid spill that occurred at the Fallon Water Treatment Facility about six months ago, for which the Quad-County Haz-Mat Team was requested (as Fallon has no team of its own). The facility had a large tank to store hydrochloric acid used to treat their water, and when transferring a load of acid into their building, they had a 10,000-gallon leak inside the building. After shutting down this primary facility, they went to their

secondary facility with a 250-gallon container of hydrochloric acid, and after this container split a seam, this facility also had to be shut down. Stacey said this was probably one of the most significant hydrochloric acid leaks in a government setting in recent memory. The Quad-County Team, along with the Triad Team out of Reno, responded to this incident, with over 150 suit entries into the building over the course of a week. During this incident, they discovered their suits had some visibility problems. So, although they will keep the suits they currently have, they are looking to add a different set of Level "A" suits that are more user-friendly for an acid type spill. And as they do not have a portable pressure test kit to test their suits when they are at a site for a long time, they are also asking for a suit test kit. These additional suits and the test kit will cost \$9,873.

It was then moved by Hank Lucas, seconded by John Arneson, with motion carried, that the request for the items explained be approved for the FY 2012 SERC grant application.

7. Discussion and Action to Approve the FY 2012 United We Stand (UWS) Planning, Training, Supplies, and Equipment Grant Application

Stacey said that the UWS grant was a grant to specifically address combating terrorism, and they were looking to purchase a portable infrared technology device, which was a solid and liquid chemical identifier. He mentioned that a lot of the white powder incidents the City went on were very manpower-intensive, using personnel from the Public Works Department, the Health Department, the Sheriff's Office, and the Fire Department. This product would greatly lessen the intensity of that response, as you can point this device at product laying on the ground and immediately identify it. The cost of this hand-held technology product (HazMatID Ranger) is \$30,000, which is the maximum amount that can be requested under the grant. Stacey said that as this device was designed for white powder, WMDs, explosives, narcotics and drugs, pesticides, as well as other things, he felt it was a very worthwhile purchase.

It was then moved by Lee Radtke, seconded by Marena Works, with motion carried, that the USW grant application be approved as requested.

8. Report of the January 13 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Meeting

Stacey commented on the following items reported on at the last SERC meeting held in Las Vegas.

- The NDEP was working on mitigating a fairly large mercury contamination from some mine tailings in McDermitt. Stacey then mentioned that the State and the City were working with a couple of gas stations in Carson that have had some serious groundwater contamination issues.
- There are 5,200 facilities in the state's haz-mat database, and as Stacey thought there were probably fewer than 150 facilities who weren't using this system, he felt this database has been a success.

- As the HazMat Expo in Las Vegas was no longer being held, the SERC has agreed to support FireShowsReno in its haz-mat component. Although this training was mostly for first responders, Stacey felt that some committee members might be interested in it and that he would keep them informed of the program once it was established.

9. Reports of LEPC Members

- Hank Lucas said that the medical center was working on a long-term project to change the process for their biohazardous waste—which would allow them to run the waste through a San-I-Pak system that would actually transport and dump the waste into an enclosed unit, autoclave and grind it, and then put it into a compacter and dump container—so the center would not have to transport it as biowaste.

Hank also reported on another machine which has been invaluable to the hospital from an infection control standpoint. This machine is the size of a washing machine and after placing a solution in it, it is placed in a sealed room and completely decontaminates the area.

Hank mentioned that the Nevada Hospital Association still has some money remaining from a 2009 grant for some emergency operations equipment. He said he'd like to purchase a couple of hand-held radios with that money, which he would then like to program the same as the City's.

Hank reported on an incident that shut down the hospital's surgery a couple of weeks ago when they lost a motor on the HVAC unit which served the surgery unit. However, they were lucky to find the only motor sitting on the west coast which happened to be in Reno, so their surgery was only shut down for eight hours instead of a few days.

10. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date is scheduled for June 7, to be held at 1:30 p.m. in the meeting room of Fire Station #1.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Recorder: Judy Dietrich