

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

June 4, 2013

The Carson City LEPC held a public meeting on June 4, 2013, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the meeting room of Fire Station No. 51, 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 Brian Crowe, Kevin Curnes, James Freed, Stacey Giomi, Phillip Harrison, Joni Maestretti, Ray Saylo, and Tom Tarulli, which constituted a quorum. Non-voting member present was Chris Smallcomb. Also present were Stacey Belt (Carson City Fire Department), Romaine Gilliland (Carson City Health & Human Services), and Denise Stathes (American Buildings).

Voting members absent were Dave Dawley and Dan Shirey. Non-voting members absent were Jerry Evans and Keith Forbes.

3. Agenda Management Notice—Items on the agenda may be taken out of order; the public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration; and the public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time.

4. Public Comments and Discussion

There were no public comments or discussion.

5. For Possible Action: Approval of March 5, 2013, Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Brian Crowe, seconded by Joni Maestretti, with motion carried unanimously, that the minutes of the March 5 meeting be approved as submitted.

6. For Possible Action: To appoint Romaine Gilliland (Carson City Health and Human Services) as the Health Representative to the LEPC in replacement of Marena Works

Stacey Giomi stated that Marena Works was recently promoted to the position of Deputy City Manager for Carson City and that Romaine Gilliland, as Interim Health & Human Services Director, has agreed to replace her on the LEPC until a permanent director is hired. Romaine

mentioned that he was a 25-year Carson City resident and that he recently retired from the State's Division of Welfare and Supportive Services. It was then moved by Ray Saylo, seconded by Brian Crowe, with motion carried unanimously, that the committee appoint Romaine Gilliland to fill Marena Works' position as Health representative to the LEPC.

7. For Possible Action: To discuss and possibly make a recommendation to the State Emergency Response Commission regarding the LEPC's position on the public release of Tier II chemical information

As background, Stacey Giomi informed the committee that after the recent Texas explosion, two news agencies, one of which was Reuters, made a blanket request to all State Emergency Response Commissions to release their lists of Tier II facilities. He stated that Tier II chemicals are those chemicals designated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as extremely hazardous substances (either because a small amount of them would be immediately dangerous to life and health or because rather common chemicals stored in such large quantities would reach that same level of extreme hazard). The Emergency Planning Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) states that this information can be made available to the public. However, post 9/11, the State of Nevada passed a law (NRS 239C) that restricts the release of information contained in emergency plans, including facilities that have unusually hazardous substances.

Because these two laws—federal and state—seem to conflict, the Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) recently held a meeting, at which time they recommended to staff that they reply to the two news agencies that the Commission was evaluating their requests for public information. By providing this response, the SERC would meet the requirement of responding to a public record's request within the 45-day time limit.

The SERC plans to now evaluate this process and the conflict between the two laws—and will be holding a couple of public workshops and asking the LEPCs whether they wanted to make recommendations to the Commission on their positions regarding the release of this information. Stacey stated that the original intent of the EPCRA was to allow citizens who lived near a building with stored chemicals to know the type of chemicals being stored so they would know their potential exposure if an incident occurred at that facility. The Commission has concerns, however, that any information released through a blanket request could be utilized in a negative way.

There was then discussion regarding this issue. Phillip Harrison thought that the concern regarding people with malcontent obtaining this information was very real and valid and that this has been discussed by the U.S. Congress. From a law enforcement point of view, Ray Saylo mentioned that Nevada has a heavy mining industry which uses explosives, and he felt that it would be important for these items to be protected—with information only being released on a need-to-know basis and not to the general public.

After further discussion regarding this matter, it was moved by Stacey Giomi, seconded by Ray Saylo, with motion carried unanimously, that it was the LEPC's position that state law as set forth in Nevada Revised Statutes 239C should be followed and that the release of information required under EPCRA should be considered on an individual need-to-know basis.

8. For Possible Action: To review and approve the Fiscal Year 2014 United We Stand Planning, Training, Supplies, and Equipment Grant Application

Stacey Giomi stated that this grant application (which funds must be specifically used to target and combat terrorism) had been e-mailed out to LEPC members asking for any funding requests and that the only request received was from GIS through the Assessor to purchase a product called Pictometry. This product combines aerial photography (from planes flying in four different directions) with software that allows the product's user to spin around an entire building and view it from an oblique angle. The photography is at such a high resolution that by using this software, the opening of a door within a building could be measured within a couple of inches. Stacey said that this would be a perfect planning tool for a haz-mat, law enforcement, or fire team. Because this item costs more than the \$30,000 limit of this grant, the Assessor would be making up the difference in the cost through his department's budget. Stacey also mentioned that this grant request covers only a one-year period—but that they were looking at a six-year contract where the company would fly the entire area every two years. And because Douglas County has already been flown and Carson City's GIS was combined with theirs, there would be continuous coverage between Douglas and Carson—and it was also hoped to move this combined GIS out to Lyon and Storey Counties in the near future so that there would then be continuous coverage across the board.

It was then moved by Brian Crowe, seconded by Ray Saylo, with motion carried unanimously, that the committee approve the submission of the 2014 United We Stand Grant Application as described.

9. For Possible Action: To review and approve the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Mid-Cycle Grant Application for 2013 Fire Shows Reno

Stacey Giomi said that as no interest had been expressed in applying for this grant, no application would be submitted.

10. For Possible Action: To review and possibly renew Carson City's status as a "StormReady Community" with the National Weather Service (NWS)

Chris Smallcomb stated that three years ago, Carson City became a StormReady community and that a community needs to renew this status every three years. Being "StormReady" means that a community is prepared and able to receive weather warnings via multiple methods. All that is needed for this renewal is letting Chris know that nothing has changed since the original application (which has already been done) and then signing the renewal section of that application.

Chris mentioned that an enhancement to this program would be a weather safety and spotter

training session, which was done in Carson City a few years ago, and which the NWS would like to offer again as part of this renewal. He stated that this training could be targeted to either dispatch and public safety personnel or could be made available to the general public. He said that this was an approximate two-hour class, during which they talked about various types of extreme weather that could impact the area and how to spot it and be safe in it. Stacey said that he will get together with Chris after the meeting to pick a date for offering this class to all disciplines within the city—and then, based on that response, decide whether a second class needed to be offered.

11. Report on the April 11 Quarterly Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Meeting

Stacey Giomi said that as he had already addressed some of the items discussed at this meeting, no further report would be made.

12. Reports of Committee Members

- Kevin Curnes informed the committee that Lee Radtke, the LEPC's community group representative and a member of the Carson City's Citizen Emergency Response Team, had passed away the day before.
- Brian Crowe said that the State Emergency Management Division will be holding an alternate EOC exercise on the college's Carson campus on June 18 and that this will be conducted on the same day as the college's first lockdown drill.
- Romaine Gilliland mentioned that there will be a POD (Point of Dispensing) on October 5 for flu shots, and that this POD doubles as an annual exercise for mass vaccination in the event of an emergency.

He also mentioned that there is information on the City's website in regard to the current five-state Hepatitis A outbreak, with links to a press release by the State Health Division as well as other pertinent links.

- James Freed said that the Joint Commission requires the hospital to share its emergency plan and hazard vulnerability analysis for all its facilities, and since most of the hospital's facilities were in Carson City, he wanted to share this information with the committee. Copies of the Emergency Management Plan as well as the vulnerability assessments for the Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center, Sierra Surgery Hospital, Specialty Medical Center-In Patient, Carson Tahoe Surgery Center, and Minden Medical Center were then distributed. James said that these assessments were either identical or almost identical because of the proximity of the locations and the similar types of patients being served. One of the requirements of the Joint Commission is that the hospital not only do a hazard vulnerability analysis but also share these results with the community.

James then briefly described the hospital's emergency plan, saying that the hospital will follow the requirements of the Joint Commission. They will conduct at least two exercises

a year if no real disasters occur—and will be working on responses to Code Pink (child/infant abduction) and bomb threat situations, as well as working on an active shooter policy. They are also working on communications to ensure they have dedicated phone lines for their primary location of a command center in addition to providing all their outlying facilities with at least the beginning paperwork to start documentation of a disaster without having to get the forms from the main hospital.

James said that he did not expect the committee members to read this material during the meeting, but if they had any questions or concerns after reviewing it, they should feel free to contact him.

13. For Possible Action: Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date is scheduled for September 10, to be held at 1:30 p.m. in the meeting room of Fire Station #51.

14. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

15. For Possible Action: To adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Recorder: Judy Dietrich