

Greeley-Wheeler LEPC
Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2017
Spalding Fire Hall, Spalding Nebraska

Members Present:

Mark Bauer – Greeley County Emergency Manager
Mark Carraher – Spalding Fire Department
Patrick Hitchler - Spalding Fire Department
Dan Casey – Greeley Village Board
David Weeks – Greeley County Sheriff
Rod Johnson – Greeley Fire Department
Bill McManus – Greeley Fire Department
Linda Lewis – Region 26 Emergency Management

Visitors Present:

Joe Wesley – Greeley County Commissioner

1. Vice Chairman Mark Bauer called the meeting to order at 7:07pm. The Open Meetings Law was brought to our attention.
2. Dave Weeks moved, seconded by Patrick Hitchler to approve September 20, 2016 meeting minutes. All voted aye.
3. Old Business
 - a) Region 26 Weather Symposium – A reminder was given out that Region 26 will be having a Weather Symposium at the Trotter Event Center in Ord on April 1, 2017 from 1pm to 5pm. The weather service will be giving short presentations on different weather subjects. Kent Boughton will be there and will possibly bring a storm chaser. There will be different booths and the LEPC members are encouraged to come and sit at the booth for a while if they can.
 - b) Other Old Business – Mark Bauer mentioned how the weather service is able to give Event Support to events in the area. Discussion was held about which ones need to be submitted to the weather service. Region 26 does have a list that the secretary will send to the fire chiefs, assistants and Greeley County EM to see if there are any that need to be added.
4. New Business
 - a. Goals for 2017 – We discussed some possible goals such as educating the public on siren usage, why is the siren going off and what do the different sounds mean? Another idea was to make a pamphlet about Emergency Preparedness and distribute throughout the county through mailing with Village Mailings or sending home with school children. Region 26 will create a pamphlet and bring to the next meeting. Another goal was to possibly have an exercise with a weather event or bus accident. Mark Bauer would like to have a mini exercise with each Fire Department and then at the next meeting can discuss if they want to expand it with mutual aide.
 - b. Severe Weather Awareness Talk for Greeley County will be April 4, 2017 at 6:30pm at Wolbach Fire hall. Each fire department in Greeley County will be notified through paging.
 - c. Siren Protocol – The question was asked who has the authority to have the siren blown for severe weather. For Greeley the siren is activated in Greeley and will be set off by their own personnel. In Spalding the Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief and County Emergency Manager are the only ones to authorize the siren and will be the ones to activate it. Region 26 is not able to activate Greeley or Spalding's tornado siren.
5. Review Tier II - The Tier II reports received by Region 26 Emergency Management were handed out and were looked over. Discussion was held if farmers that had large quantities of chemicals or fuel on their place needed to submit a Tier II form. The answer will be researched.
6. Election of Officers – Mark Carraher moved, seconded by Dan Casey to have officers remain the same. There was discussion that the present chairman would like to step down if there would be someone willing to take that position. Main consensus was to continue with vote for the motion on the table. All voted aye.

Chairman: Alma Beland
Vice Chairman – Greeley: Mark Bauer
Vice Chairman – Wheeler: Doug Reiter
Secretary/Treasurer: Linda Lewis
Information Coordinator – Shared with Vice Chairman

7. The next meeting will be June 20, 2017 potentially in Scotia.
8. Before adjournment Mark Bauer reported that Cannon Holley, a fourth grader in Greeley County was a fourth place winner in the statewide “Severe Weather Poster Contest” open to all fourth graders. As a winner Cannon and his family along with Emergency Management traveled to the State Capital in Lincoln to meet with the Lt. Governor, Mike Foley to be recognized with the other winners.

Vice Chairman Mark Bauer adjourned the meeting at 8:09.

Submitted by Region 26 Emergency Management/Secretary
Linda Lewis