

Sherman-Valley LEPC
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Present:

Alec Baillie, Mayor of Loup City
Alma Beland, Region 26 Emergency Management
Eli Curry, Ashton Fire Department
Wayne Dinkelman, Peace Lutheran Church/Eddie the Comfort Dog
Kaleb Ericson, Sherman County Sheriff's Office
Ashley Jeffres, Loup Basin Public Health
Daryl Jorgensen, North Loup Fire
Craig Kamler, Ashton Fire Department, Village of Ashton
Shawn Kitzing, Loup City EMS
Timothy Kusek, Rockville Fire Department, Village of Rockville
Linda Lewis, Region 26 Emergency Management
Don "Moe" Moeller, Peace Lutheran Church/Eddie the Comfort Dog
Scott Philbrick, Valley County Emergency Management
Larry Proskocil, Valley County Health Systems
James Rashilla, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
Randy Scott, Trotter Inc.
Jay Welch, Ord Police Department

- 1) Chairman Alec Baillie called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
- 2) Scott Philbrick moved, seconded by Larry Proskocil to approve the October 10, 2017 minutes. All voted aye, motion passed.
- 3) Old Business
 - a) CERT Teams: Alec reported that Gail Pedersen has stepped down from taking the lead on the CERT recruiting and planning. He advised that Kerri Patterson will be taking her place and the transition should be a smooth one as they work together. Alma gave a reminder that these trainings need to be done this year as the grant funds will expire. Alec will be meeting with her in the near future to talk about the planning process.
 - b) Report on Valley County Health System's Full Scale Exercise: Larry Proskocil gave a report of the exercise that was conducted. The scenario included a power outage due to a weather event. The outage occurred at 6:00pm and the hospital was able to test the generator's performance according to the emergency plan. Maintenance personnel checked to make sure key parts of the facility continued to operate so that lives would not be in danger and the function of the hospital could continue. The exercise extended out to the community which generated more patients to be included in the exercise. Green Plains Ord LLC also tested their emergency plan by having an incident that resulted in three contaminated workers which caused the decontamination process to be implemented at the hospital. Ambulance crews that responded to the accident had to be cautious so their ambulance and crew did not get contaminated. There was a victim at the bank complaining of chest pains who needed to be cared for. Home Health-CMS also tested their power outage emergency plan where they would need to bring any patient that had needs for electricity to a care facility. The Nursing Home also got involved in making available at least two swing beds. This was the first time that the hospital implemented their decontamination unit, there were three workers from Green Plains and three firemen that were contaminated. One fireman suffered injuries that needed to be dealt with as part of the exercise. Larry commented that the exercise went well and that nothing major needed changed in the plans, just some tweaks here and there and what had started as a small exercise grew to a large event with all the different agencies that joined in the exercise process. The First Responder agencies that were involved were the following: Ord Fire and Rescue, North Loup

Fire & First Responders, Scotia Fire & Rescue, Arcadia Fire & Rescue, Burwell Fire & Rescue, Local Emergency Management, Loup Basin Public Health, Ord Police Department, Valley County Sheriff's Office and Region 26 Emergency Management and Communications. Larry also mentioned that they are planning an Active Shooter Table Top in April or May and then a Drill in September. Stay tuned for more information.

- c) Report on Loup City's "Day of Awareness": Alec Baillie reported that the attendance, approximately 75 people, was a little disappointing but it was the first year and in the following years plan to coordinate it with the Fire Prevention Week. Besides the event being educational they wanted to bring attention to the responders for Loup City EMS and Fire Department as well as the need for more room to store emergency vehicles and equipment. The only time people really see the fire hall is when it's empty for the firemen's feed. Mike Dorsey, Loup City Fire Chief reported that they had a great turnout of volunteers and were able to give tours of the Fire Hall. Shawn Kitzing, Loup City EMS Captain reported they had an actual call during the event but were still able to give tours and of course eat cookies.
 - d) Other Old Business – No other old business
- 4) New Business
- a) Region 26 Severe Weather Symposium: Alma reported that on Saturday, April 7, 2018 right here in Loup City at the Community Building Region 26 will be having a Severe Weather Symposium from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. This event is for the public involving every age group. Alma advised that Mike Moritz with Hastings Weather will be there and their team will give weather related talks, she is also seeking other ideas to get the public involved. Some of the suggestions were to have a fire truck and an ambulance on the grounds for people to tour, CERT organizers to recruit volunteers that may be interested in training, seek out donations from local businesses to bring Eddie and Moses Comfort Dogs and to bring in a local forecaster like Kent Boughton or Travis Klanecky as celebrities.
 - b) Severe Weather Awareness Valley County: This year it will be Wednesday, April 4, 2018, 6:30 at North Loup Fire Hall.
 - c) Other New Business: Alma had attended a meeting where the Better Business Bureau in Kearney mentioned that in a disaster they can assist the public during the rebuilding phase by vetting contractors to make sure they are legitimate or not as well as those asking for donations if they can be trusted
- 5) Eddie the Comfort Dog – Don "Moe" Moeller and Wayne Dinkelman along with Eddie greeted people as they arrived to the meeting. Eddie is one of approximately 40 comfort dogs throughout the United States. Eddie is based out of the Peace Lutheran Church in Grand Island. Moe played a video showing the comfort dogs visiting various places to comfort those that have been through any level of trauma such as inmates in prisons, people at churches, schools, nursing homes, hospitals and in disaster response situations. Eddie brings a calming effect on people which allows them to open their hearts and begin the healing. Before Eddie left he went around the room getting love and attention as well as giving love and attention.
- 6) Training: Alma reported that Ryan Simpson asked her to mention the Active Shooter Exercise which Larry Proskocil had already mentioned earlier in the meeting.
- 7) Adjournment: 8:03pm

Submitted by Secretary
Linda Lewis – Region 26 Emergency Management