

Southwest Planning, Exercise and Training Region

Chase, Dundy, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Perkins and Red Willow Counties

Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2015

Meeting was called to order by Roger Powell at 10:28 a.m. CT, following the Southwest Nebraska Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting at the Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department meeting room in McCook, NE.

Six of the seven PET Region counties were represented. The following members were present:

Chase- absent Perkins- Sheriff/EM Jim Brueggeman

Dundy - Deputy EM Pam Reichert Furnas- EM Roger Powell

Hayes- EM Charlynn Hamilton Hitchcock- Deputy EM Kyle Clapp

Red Willow- Sheriff/EM Alan Kotschwar, Deputy EM Diana Wilkinson

Also present: Heidi Wheeler, Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department; Jill Schmidt, Region 15 EMA; Trish Sanchell, McCook Police Department; Ralph Scott, Trenton Agri-Products; Rudy Mattson, SW Ne CERT; Wendy Clark, SW Ne. Cert; Val Snyder, Tallgrass Energy Partners; John Jones, American Red Cross; Kate Speck, UNL Public Policy Center

Introductions

Agenda: Char made a motion, seconded by Jim, to approve the agenda as submitted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes from the previous meeting: Jim made a motion, seconded by Char, to waive the reading of the minutes from the March meeting and to approve them. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Public Policy Center Update: Kate reported on governance of statewide communication system monitoring. A draft agreement has been distributed across the state for consideration and approval. Funding- in April the Policy Cabinet and Lt. Gov. met to discuss how money is dispersed. \$487,500 is allocated statewide for PET; The Fusion Center will now be funded prior to distribution of funds. The THIRA process will be reconvened, with regions now required to complete all of the threat/capability categories.

Old Business:

2014 Grant: The SW Region is allotted \$65,260. \$23,573 must be used for law enforcement/fusion center purposes. Invoices for the Consolettes for the Hitchcock and Chase County dispatch centers have been paid. Monthly recurring expense to the NCIO for network monitoring/maintenance- \$ 100.00. A couple of meetings were held regarding the formation of the CERT Team. CERT Training classes will begin soon; \$ 3,000 was allocated for this.

2015 Grant: Jill was present in place of Pat to update the group on the 2015 grant projects. The numbers for the SRS radios are pending approval. There has been much discussion about how much money, or even if funds will be approved for the SRS mobile radio project for Law Enforcement and Emergency Mgmt. The project amount submitted was \$ 270,000. Other items submitted for approval: \$21,000- NRIN Leases; \$3,592-OCIO fees (\$100 per month for monitoring); \$2,000 satellite service for trailer; \$23,573 Fusion Center; \$3,000 CERT Training

NPSCC

a. NRIN: No new information

b. FirstNet: No new information

TICP/CASM: Pat has updated the CASM information for approval, and has went on to updating the TICP. No other updates.

Paraclete: Perkins County's Paraclete box is still available as surplus. They will want all equipment restored to prior configuration by a contractor as a condition of removal. It needs a new U.P.S., but Jim does not want to replace it, as he believes it will not be used. Roger reports his box will also be declared surplus. The group discussed equipment that is not being used.

New Business:

2015 IJ's: No discussion

Rapid Tag system: Helena was on the agenda for comment, but was unable to attend due to another meeting.

Election of Officers:

Jim moved that the SWPETR retain Phelps Co./Region15 as the fiscal agent. Char seconded. All were in favor.

Roger asked for nominations for Vice-Chair. Jim nominated Sheriff/EM Alan Kotschwar of Red Willow County. Char seconded the nomination. Char then moved, seconded by Jim that nominations cease. All were in favor, and all were in favor of electing Sheriff Alan Kotschwar Vice Chair.

Char moved, seconded by Alan, that Roger Powell continue as Chair. All were in favor.

Good of the Group:

Johnny Jones reported on Red Cross activities. A damage assessment training will be scheduled soon- maybe July or August. The pillowcase project is moving on to the next phase. Johnny praised Char for her efforts on this. Training for the next phase is June 30, July 9 in Broken Bow. The ARC is also working on a 5 yr. home fire awareness campaign. Three person teams including a smoke alarm installer, an educator and a recorder will go door to door. They will be offering smoke alarms and fire safety information while alarms/batteries are installed-with batteries at no cost to the resident. Johnny also mentioned the new ARC emergency app. His favorite part is the tornado warning feature.

A few of the group attended the FirstNet meeting. The consensus of the group was they did not feel it provided much new information.

Kyle reminded the group that recruiting was in progress for CERT. He handed out copies of the brochure and requested that group members help identify potential volunteers. Names should be forwarded soon so CERT members may contact them about joining.

Allan made a motion to adjourn. Jim seconded. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 11:21. The next meeting will be September 9th, 2015 at the McCook Public Safety Center, following the 10:00 a.m. SWLEPC meeting. The THIRA Workshop will follow the two meetings.

/s/ Kyle Clapp, recorder