

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

September 21, 2011

La Crosse County Administrative Center
400 4th Street North, Room 3220
La Crosse, WI 54601
9:00 am

MEMBERS PRESENT: Keith Butler, Phil Niemer, Lois Losby, Ron Berg, Mike Horstman, Tom Wright, Marc Schultz, Vicki Burke, Gregg Cleveland, and Jay Loeffler

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Jennifer Shilling, Pat Smith, Bob Ritger, Shari Vanderbush, Franz Fredricks and Sue Kunz

MEMBERS ABSENT: Keith Carlson

OTHERS PRESENT: Lisa Olson-Mc Donald, West Central Wisconsin Regional Director

CALL TO ORDER

Marc Schultz, Committee Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Burke/Loeffler to approve the meeting minutes of July 20, 2011 with the following corrections: Shari Vanderbush and Lois Losby were in attendance and Gregg Cleveland was excused. **MOTION** passed unanimously.

Keith introduced Lisa Olson-McDonald as the new West Central Wisconsin Regional Director.

REVIEW/VOTE ON DESIGNATION OF LEPC COMPLIANCE INSPECTOR

Motion made by Losby/Wright to continue to use the State of Wisconsin's inspector as the local compliance inspector. **Motion Carried.**

WHOPRS DEMO

All of the off-site plans and the annual submission of the facilities were completed previously on paper and sent to the State. Now this is all done by computer. Keith displayed the WHOPRS site on screen and explained the listing in the system. There is a lot of clean up on the lists that need to be done. The Hazmat Team should have access to the data. There is a logon for Fire Departments, EM's, and company/facilities. Currently we cannot make changes only look at the information but this may change in the future.

REVIEW OF GIS ENHANCEMENT GRANT

Nancy took all of the off-site plans and converted the drawings and maps to precise GIS placement so we now know exactly where and the shape of the location are. Keith brought copies of the maps that Nancy has already completed. There are many layers in the GIS now.

QUARTERLY HAZMAT REPORT

No hand out for today. They have been busy. There were many spills, leaks and a fire response. Also someone left an unknown chemical at the fire station door and rang the doorbell and left. With regard to WEM's plan they have asked us to look at the Minnesota Plan of Hazardous Materials Response. The regional teams have a group of individuals who are participating to look at that. So far no change on that and hopefully we have some direction by the end of the month or by the end of the year because that is when our contract is up. The cut backs usually cascade down to the local level. Keith asked "What's the worst case scenario if the funding does not materialize?" The big issue is that we will lose indemnity, and the whole West Central Region could lose a lot. The next closest team is in Eau Claire, and that would also depend on WEM's recommendations.

There are a lot of ideas being circulated. The fire department is working closely with WEM. They will share with the LEPC with any results they get. Have any of the other Hazmat Teams been contacted? Not that we are aware of. Keith will contact the other Emergency Management Directors to see if they have taken any action on this issue. But in order for the State to get rid of the La Crosse A Team, the State Statutes would have to be changed. MOTION made by Burke/Losby to authorize the writing of a letter to voice our concerns of the Hazmat Teams after contacting the other directors to see if there is a joint effort related to the Hazmat concern. **Motion** carried. Include statistics in letter, they also do outreach, prevention, besides responding to actual events.

MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

We have secured a grant to have the Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission to do an update of our Disaster Mitigation Plan. The LEPC would have a role in the plan. From time to time as the project unrolls, there will be updates of this plan and the LEPC will be asked to review some of the plan as it is completed. This will be the in-kind match toward the grant as requested in the application. Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission does all the work.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We need to contact Bob Mulliner to see who he recommends to take his place on the LEPC.

Phil informed the group there will a tornado scenario functional exercise on October 25 for EMS/CERT people to see how well they work with Fire Departments etc. It starts at 6 pm at Rowe Park in Onalaska. Phil was just informed this week of this exercise, which puts the hospital in a bind because of the short notice. Please let them know more in advance. They concentrate on the communication between the hospital and the scene.

Jay met with Solid Waste regarding the pipeline that runs to Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center. Jay wanted the Committee to be aware of this pipeline and can make arrangements to have a presentation about this at the next LEPC meeting. This pipeline will go on-line in November.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Pipeline Information/Presentation
Membership voting preparation

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.

The above minutes may be approved, amended, or corrected at the next Committee meeting.

Kim Olson, Recorder