

**Local Emergency Planning Committee
Minutes of the July 15, 2009
Meeting at Training Room of the Las Vegas Police Department**

Chairman Gary Ludi called the Local Emergency Planning Committee to order at 10:03 a.m.

Roll Call of Officers: Chair- Gary Ludi	Present
Vice-chair-	Vacant
Treasure- Michelle Vigil	Absent
Emergency Manager- Dennis English	Present

Approval of the minutes from the April 08, 2009 meeting: Motion was made by Connie Chavez and seconded by Niki Sebastian. Motion passed.

Approval of the Agenda for the July 15, 2009 meeting: motion made by Dennis English, Second by Connie Chavez. Motion passed.

PUBLIC INPUT:

NEW BUSINESS

1. NOMINATION OF NIKI SEBASTIAN AS VICE-CHAIR OF LEPC COUNCIL

Presented by: Gary Ludi, LEPC Chairman.

Motion made by Dennis English, second by Connie Chavez. Motion passed.

2. RATIFY EOP APPROVAL BY SAN MIGUEL COUNTY AND CITY OF LAS VEGAS.

Presented by: Dennis English, Emergency Manager-SMC/LV OEM

Dennis English: Informed the LEPC committee that the City Council and San Miguel County Commissioners had approved the EOP. Motion made by Melinda Gonzales to ratify the approval, Second by Russell Pacheco. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Niki Sebastian: informed the committee that she attended the State LEPC Meeting in Albuquerque, NM and said she received a lot of helpful information. She had some recommendations to make and the first was to get the LEPC bi-laws amended so as to clarify what is expected of the LEPC Board Members. She also wanted to work on public information and give an emphasis on newspaper and radio advertisements of LEPC meetings. Need to get the public more actively involved. There should be a focus on the all-hazards aspect of the LEPC and recognition of the types of hazards that most frequently occur in the area. She will be providing the LEPC a written submission on her findings for the next LEPC meeting to be held in August.

Dennis English: Mentioned giving a presentation on a scenario for each all hazard appendix and letting each department represented at the LEPC give suggestions as to what actions they would take and compile that information together to make the appendices for each scenario.

Gary Gold: stated that he would ask Captain Eugene Garcia to get together with Dennis English to order tabletop information to test each scenario. Use a model to show an area with houses, buildings, schools, etc. He mentioned it would be a good idea to if it were portable to take to the schools and City Departments. The State Police currently use this system and it gives them a better understanding of each event.

John Miller: suggested that the scenario would be given over a few square blocks.

Craig Martin: The model the state police currently used is a 12' x 12' block with lakes and other landmarks for testing scenarios.

John Miller: Suggested the scenario presentations be interactive and ask what would you do for each department or agency. Use injects to progress the scenario and compare the results from the scenario testing to what we currently have in place for each situation.

Dennis English: Wants and emphasis on committee input for each scenario.

John Miller: Emphasized that the kits would be very valuable to the LEPC.

Gary Gold: Suggested that we ask the Arts and Crafts school to make a rendition of an area of Las Vegas. He suggested requesting that the art school make a 4 to 5 square block model.

Niki Sebastian: We need to know what the issues for the scenarios are and have a PSA to inform the public. Also invite those that live in the specific areas, departments and businesses to attend the meetings in which we discuss the scenario. They public can give input and gain information from the meetings. It would help promote awareness to the public.

Connie Chavez: Agreed that was a good idea to invite the public.

Gary Ludi: Ask some schools do donate items for the tabletop kit like artificial turf to simulate grass.

Gary Gold: Suggested that the kit should be portable.

Craig Martin: Suggested that the kit be generic and the responses should also be generic.

Niki Sebastian: asked if the committee wanted to create a scenario for the next LEPC Meeting.

Committee approved winter storm scenario for the next LEPC meeting to be held in August.

Gary Gold: Asked if there was posttraumatic treatment given by the New Mexico Behavioral Health Institute.

Gary Ludi: Will get Chief Gold that information.

Melinda Gonzales: Informed the council that she was interested in looking at the financial impact on these scenarios. Need to know what to get done on the financial standpoint if there is a need to ask for reimbursement. She wants to know what paperwork needs to be coordinated.

Dennis English: Has a book of guidelines for the financials for non-federal disasters. He will get an electronic copy to be sent to all LEPC Members.

John Miller: Department of Health is in its 4th operational period. H1N1 has a vaccination ready for the fall. Plans for distributions and vaccinations themselves are being set up. DOH will be giving those vaccinations to the individuals that are already on the list for regular flu season vaccines. They will also be bringing in local Emergency Managers to help fill in the gaps with their plans and to ensure that they get the vaccines out to people.

Niki Sebastian: Her agency cannot store vaccines but they can deliver the vaccine to their clientele.

Kevin Bersell: The vaccine will be supplied in multi-dose vials and can be stored at the Public Health Office because they have a pharmacy license. Children are in the highest tier for vaccinations. This vaccine the elderly will not be at the top of the tier because they have natural protections from this strain of influenza. Seasonal influenza will start in August and will be given at the same time as the H1N1 Influenza vaccinations. The public will need a total of three vaccinations, one for the seasonal flu and two for the H1N1. The CDC plans to have a good stock of vaccinations by mid-October. They are preparing for limited vaccinations and anticipate some problems with public relations.

Dennis English: Asked if there was going to be security at the POD sites during times of vaccinations in case any member of the public became irate.

John Miller: There will not be a full-blown POD operation. Each one will be site specific and each POD will include a security plan. These will be presented to the local Emergency Manager who will help fill in the gaps of manpower.

Dennis English: Asked if there was a Public Information Officer to get the information out to the public. Mr. Dodge informed him that there was not one currently at the City of Las Vegas. Mr. English then stated that the Joint Information Center should have a PIO for public information through that office.

Kevin Bersell: They also noticed that from their after Action Report and are working on that area.

Niki Sebastian: stated that she was looking into getting certified to be a PIO.

John Miller: informed her that it is a one-week training course.

Tim Dodge: Said that he would be interested in sending some individuals from the city to get trained.

Les Montoya: stated that a PIO is not necessary at the county but agreed that it would be needed for the LEPC and asked if someone from the Executive Board of the LEPC be trained.

Gary Gold: Stated that those who speak on the radio need to do the advertisement for the LEPC and that it should be someone with authority so that the public will listen.

John Miller: the PIO does not need to be the spokesman of the LEPC but they will put together the information for the public.

Dennis English recommended that Niki Sebastian be the PIO for the LEPC. Seconded by Melinda Gonzales, motion passed.

Les Montoya recommended Christina Barajas be the alternate PIO. Seconded by Connie Chavez, Motion passed.

Connie Chavez: wanted to commend the San Miguel County/ Las Vegas Office of Emergency Management for their efforts with getting information out to the public. She also suggested putting the radio station dial on the pamphlets that got sent out with the utility bills. She also suggested that an information sheet be done every six months. She also asked if the DOH had a big clinic if there would be a person in uniform to help with the public.

Craig Martin: Wants the Board to restrict their involvement in emergency situations. Asked that OEM wait until the state police or other authority contacts them.

Gary Gold: stated that he was the one who called Dennis so that he could get situational experience.

Dennis English: Said that he does call Homeland Security to put them in standby in any incident. In the situation of the bridge collapse he was contacted by the ambulance service.

Craig Martin: stated that these individuals needed to wait until they arrive on scene before they call the Office of Emergency Management.

Dennis English: stated that there was a lack of ICS training in the community.

Hank Segura: Was glad that Dennis was called for the airport incident and said that Dennis' presence helped the situation.

Tim Dodge: that call should have been made by Fire Chief Mares who would know if there was a Hazmat incident.

Les Montoya: Dennis English should know whom he needs to contact and how to coordinate on scene.

Yolanda Cruz: Suggested that agencies sit and review the EOP for communications protocol if any is identified.

Philip Mares: Wanted to focus on how things can be done better not how it went wrong.

Gary Ludi: in the antiviral situation State Police was notified by the Office of Emergency Management who was asked by DOH to coordinate them being there.

Les Montoya: stated that he preferred to be overly cautious and know action is being taken.

Gary Gold: Needs to be more training on each situation. Get together Dennis English and Captain Garcia for situation plans. Need to be better trained.

Dennis English: Looking into getting a training officer through the Office of Emergency Management eventually.

Gary Gold: There always seems to be a communications issue.

John Miller: DFOH likes to use seasonal events such as fairs to use the ICs model to organize situations and get experience.

Yolanda Cruz: extended an invitation to the Quality Service Review from 8:30am -10:30am at LCC and will be recruiting membership from there.

Dennis English: Recently found out that Boarding Homes do not need to be licensed. There was an incident that occurred where a boarding home had a fire and the individuals were displaced. The State Hospital did not have to accept the individuals being that they did not come from a licensed boarding home. He wanted to know where to place the individuals in a situation like that.

Yolanda Cruz: they must be treated as normal individuals. How would you house any other individuals who were displaced in a situation like that?

Gary Gold: The problem with that issue is the system. These individuals commit a crime then later are seen as incompetent to stand trial and are released back to the community. It becomes a repeat pattern with some individuals. There needs to be a system in place to prevent it from happening again.

Niki Sebastian: Wondered why licensing is no longer required for these boarding homes.

Philip Mares: The City Fire Department has contacted the State Fire Marshals Office and they are seeking legal counsel on how to address these issues. They need to get the liability issues taken care of.

Connie Chavez: Had a similar incident with Red Cross where they tried placing some mentally handicapped people into a hotel and the hotel refused them. There is no longer a homeless shelter in Las Vegas where they can be temporarily placed.

Gary Ludi: agreed that it was an issue that needed to be addressed.

Russell Pacheco: Suggested that we use a big sandbox for the tabletop displays and scenarios.

Tim Dodge: Recommended that we use aerial maps for situations and scenario exercises.

Les Montoya: Wanted to address the communications issue in San Miguel County in reference to the completion of the E-911 Rural Addressing. AN update on the status of the E-911 system will be given at each LEPC meeting. They are also having frequency issues within the Sheriff's Office and the status of that also needs to be mentioned at the meetings.

Niki Sebastian: Reported that the communications between the E-911 and the Post Office are not current. Each entity is using a different address and is not concurrent with each other.

Melinda Gonzales: Reported that the Post office will be going through E-911 addressing but so far it does not seem that they have made any effort to resolve the problem. Mario Vasquez, E-911, is currently meeting with the City of Las Vegas to resolve some issues with the E-911 system.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Connie Chavez and seconded by Kevin Bersell. Motion passed at 11:20 am.