

**Local Emergency Planning Committee
Minutes of the September 21, 2011
Meeting at the NMHU Senate Chambers**

Chairperson, Niki Sebastian called the Local Emergency Planning Committee to order at 10:01 a.m.

Roll Call of Officers: Chair- Niki Sebastian	Present
Vice-Chair- Christina Barajas	Absent
Treasurer- Don Bovia	Present
Emergency Manager- Dennis English	Present
Secretary- Connie Abila	Present

Approval of the Minutes from the August 10, 2011 meeting: Motion was made by Kurt Parkinson, Search and Rescue, and seconded by Eugene Garcia, City of Las Vegas Police Chief Deputy. Motion passed.

Approval of the Agenda for the August 10, 2011 meeting: Motion was made by Joanne Sprenger, SAR, and seconded by Connie Chavez, Red Cross. Motion passed.

PUBLIC INPUT

Dennis English, Emergency Manager, thanked everyone for attending the LEPC Meeting.

PRESENTATION:

Nichole Friedt, URS Project Manager and Donald Lopez, PE Principal Civil Geotechnical Engineer, gave a presentation on an Emergency Action Plan for Peterson and Bradner Dams. Nicole gave us information on the project background. Both dams are classified by the Office of State Engineer as a jurisdictional, both have high hazard potential. The dams need to be analyzed for probable maximum precipitation and flood, and breach analysis completed. Emergency Action Plan requirements would need to be coordinated with the Emergency Management Office to ensure there is an agreement on evacuation limits and response procedures. EAPs need to be reviewed annually and a functional exercise conducted every five years.

Nicole defined the steps in developing the dam emergency plans: 1: event detection, 2: emergency level determination, 3: notification and communication, 4: expected action, 5: termination and follow-up. She also mentioned the three emergency levels, and the need to identify whom to call as water levels rise. Maps were presented showing which roads would need to be closed if either or both of the dams are breached. Immediate next steps include identifying location of critical facilities on the evacuation maps, finalizing emergency contacts, selecting evacuation limits and obtaining signatures. This information must be submitted by October 31, 2011 to the OSE

NEW BUSINESS

1. UP-DATE ON WATER SITUATION

Ken Garcia, City Utility Director, gave an update on the City of Las Vegas water levels. The current water is at 74% aided by monsoon season rains. The public still needs to conserve water. The City is still looking at resolving the problems of Storrie Dam leakage of the Dams. Ken presented a spreadsheet of the daily capacities for August 2011 showing Bradner at 306.718 acre feet, Peterson 167.398 acre feet and Storrie Lake 185.676 acre feet for a total storage of 659.792 acre feet. The river diversion is at 342.120 acre feet, and the production on Well #4 is 35.676 acre feet.

Mr. Garcia shared with the members the drought contingency and emergency plans to reduce water consumption during times of water shortage in the City of Las Vegas. The City maintains a surface water system from the Gallinas River. The City was forced to draw on stored water due to the drought that diminished the Gallinas River flow. Available surface is slightly increased by draws from (Taylor Well #4. The current action plan is to continue to conserve water and thereby to extend the existing limited water supplies. The following notification methods will be used to inform employees and customers.

- Employees and customers e-mail notices,
- Posted notices at municipal buildings,
- Utility bills,
- Las Vegas Optic,
- KFUN-KNMX, TV Stations
- City web-site

Implementation of water shortage stages is based on remaining water storage levels. As of September 21, 2011 City of Las Vegas is at stage 5, which requires a multi-

agency coordinated response. Also in process is development of a public awareness campaign for water conservation in the City of Las Vegas, identifying the critical infrastructure and major water users within the community. The City of Las Vegas would have to implement the plans stages according to drought conditions.

Mr. Garcia also shared with the LEPC members the Executive Summary “Draft Preliminary Engineering Report, City of Las Vegas Water System Improvement Project.” On June 21, 2010 the City adopted Ordinance 09-18, requiring its citizens and businesses to comply with prescribed water conservation regulations. The objective is to analyze and address the City’s requirements to be able to deliver sufficient water at acceptably quality for years to come in a cost contained manner.

2. OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LOGO

Dennis English, Emergency Manager, gave a status update on the public awareness campaign project. Parametrix was awarded the contract since they were the only company that submitted a bid. He also showed the choices of logo and slogan for OEM to LEPC members. There was general agreement on the choice to be made.

3. SEPTEMBER PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Dennis English, Emergency Manager, mentioned that September is designated Preparedness Month.

4. NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGERS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

New Mexico Emergency Manager’s Association meets September 26-30, 2011 in Gallup, NM. Niki Sebastian, LEPC Chairperson, will be a guest speaker on the topic of relationships between emergency managers and home health agencies.

Open Discussion

Niki Sebastian, Chairperson, suggested water conservation alerts be sent out along with utility bills.

Connie Chavez, Red Cross, reported that the Health Fair went really well and that the public was concerned and asked for preparedness information. She invited them to attend LEPC so that they can be informed. She also asked about the City’s website and what information the City had there on water issues. It was clarified that the OEM website has not been updated recently.

Diego Trujillo, IT, said that the City provides updates on the City website.

Ken Garcia, City Utility Director, stated that sending information on utility bills would be outdated. Niki Sebastian, Chairperson, clarified that utility bill inserts should be general educational information, not alerts.

Dennis English, Emergency Manager, asked Russell Pacheco, San Miguel County Fire Chief, Kenny Lujan, Department of Transportation, and Carlos Ortiz, City Public Works to see what roads to barricade if the any of the three dams were to break.

Request for a motion was made by Niki Sebastian, Chairperson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Dennis English, Emergency Manager, and seconded by James Leach, Member. Motion approved at 11:26 a.m.