**MEAGHER COUNTY LEPC**

Minutes January 11, 2011- Annual Meeting

@ Training Center

Attendance: Deen Pomeroy, County Sanitarian; Marc Hamlen, Forest Service; Bj Hawkins, Public TV; Jane Atkins, Public Health Emergency Preparedness; Lonnie Ripple, City Works & Animal Control; Rocky Vinton, City Works; Otto Ohlson, City Fire; Jess Secrest, Forest Service; Julian Theriault, City Mayor; Bob Fry, DES District Rep.; Herb Townsend, County Commission; Kari Jo Kiff, Public Health; Rick Seidlitz, DES; Maebeth Seidlitz, Dispatch.

Education Subcommittee: Bj reported that the TV station is currently upgrading the station. This will allow broadcast of short emergency video messages of 30-60 seconds through its Bulletin Board. Longer emergency segments can be broadcast live or by tape delay and inserted into the regular programming schedule. It will allow 24/7 broadcast without an operator present. They will test the system for 30 days after install using PSAs on Influenza and Handwashing.

The committee asks that current informational articles be submitted to Rick for the LEPC website. Bj is trying to get a full schedule of seasonal related articles and information, including links for weather and road conditions on the site. So, if you are writing articles for the newspaper, these should also get posted on the website.

Exercise & Design: Kari Jo reported that the new task order for public health emergency preparedness will require an EOC drill this year. The committee will make plans for this to take place in the next 2-3 months. Rick is also getting the computers set up in the EOC/Training Center so that it is technologically ready when the operations center needs to be activated.

Grants: Maebeth reported that 911 has received a Federal Grant passed through by the State to improve the policies and procedures that are now out of date with relationship to the recent system upgrade. The money can be used to pay a contractor to write these for them.

State Fire grant of $21,000 is nearly complete. The fire truck needs some minor tweaking for completion. The revision on the EOP (emergency operations plan) up to $15,000 would be reimbursed.

Hazard Assessment: Jess reported that the EOP is being revised and had sent out the link to the membership. (www.lepc.meaghercounty.net) Your changes can be submitted to Rick by either electronic means or by paper. We have about two months to complete the revisions.

The suggestion was to meet in about 2 weeks as a group and go over the document page by page via projection and get it done. A date of February 8th, at 10:00, at the Training Center was set. Please plan for about three hours and some food will be provided. If you have only minor changes and cannot attend, send those to Jess. Otherwise, send your changes to Rick or bring them to the meeting. The ultimate goal is to have the document done by the end of February for Bob to review.

 It was noted that there is some confusion with the other site that still remains on the web- lepc.meaghercounty.org. We should do a google search for Meagher County LEPC and see what is out there. There is also an additional Sheriff’s Office website. This may cause confusion to the public.

Bylaws: There were no suggestions for revisions.

Election of Officers: There were no nominations. A motion was made to retain all three officers (Rick- President, Marc- Vice President, Kari Jo- Secretary) and it passed.

CWPP: There was discussion about whether the document had a legal requirement for revisions every five years. Regardless of that cycle, there were changes that needed to be made this year. Bob suggested that the original document be retained and then revisions be added, rather than revise the original document. But, it is per our preference. Bob also suggested using the website tools.

Public comment needs to be sought when it involves the receipt of grant money. Otherwise, there is no requirement for public comment. However, it can be offered and displayed to the public for more feedback. The goal is to get this done this spring after the EOP is done.

PDM Plan: Bruce Stern is still working on this document. The State did not approve the plan for the other two counties that would be similar to ours. Cascade County is starting over and Choteau has sent their copy to Rick. There needs to be a better assessment of the infrastructure and value and Rick will be working on that information.

Public Health: An important project as part of the task order is to get some baseline data on the usage of the LEPC website and conduct an awareness campaign to make sure the public know about the site and uses the site regularly. Heading up this project is the new public health subcontractor- Jane Atkins. She will be assisting Kari Jo with the public health emergency preparedness grant.

A Rabies task force recently met to discuss the issue of animal bites and human rabies exposure. Any human exposure to rabies must be reported to the health department as a state law. Humans are exposed to rabies from an animal bite, and therefore a determination of the risk to the human is assessed and whether they need rabies vaccine or not. More commonly, a person is bit by a dog and then the dog must be quarantined or tested for rabies. This has been a troubling issue for some time because of the lack of a Veterinarian locally, limited quarantine facilities, and limited City staff requiring 24/7 response at times. They are working on a policy that will encompass the City/County/Public Health responsibilities. Deen has experience with this and gave the name of someone who may help.

\*\*\* State DES is available 24hrs 324-4777 \*\*\*

Sanitation: Deen reported on the DWES kit recently located in Meagher County. DWES stands for Drinking Water Emergency Sampling Kit. This kit is located at the Sheriff’s Office for emergency sampling and looks like a nice cooler on wheels. Deen was under the assumption that anyone needing to conduct a sample was able. This would be different than the DEQ sampling that is required of the City and personnel must be trained to do that. All of the containers and instructions are located in the kit and each county in MT received one this last year.

Deen mentioned that all truck wrecks involving food need to be reported to the Sanitarian. A new policy is being developed with the state and would be forthcoming. Maebeth stated that they were aware and would make sure the dispatch is reminded of this also.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the LEPC will be on April 12th, at 12:00, at the Training Center.

Don’t forget that the EOP Revision Meeting will be held on February 8th, starting at 10:00, at the Training Center.

Adjournment at 1313.

To review the EOP- Emergency Operations Plan- for the County:

1. Your input is valuable. Each agency knows their own procedures and capabilities better than anyone else. So, please take the time to review the plan.
2. Go to [www.lepc.meaghercounty.net](http://www.lepc.meaghercounty.net)
3. Click on EOP draft revised, then Click on Attachment
4. Click to Open the document. You may then print it off, however it is 107 pages. Or you may just read through it and make notes about changes (be sure and reference the page number). Bring your notes to the Revision Meeting or turn them into Rick.
5. If you are more tech savvy, then Click on Save the document and save it onto your computer in any file you like. You may then make changes right onto the document. Be sure that it is highlighting or coloring your changes.
6. Once you have completed your revisions, save the changes and email it back to Rick: rick@meaghercounty.org
7. At the meeting, the document will be projected from the laptop and we will review it page by page as a group. We do not plan on providing copies of the document, but will be making electronic changes during the discussion. If you have a hard copy, you may bring it to refer to per your preference.
8. If you have any questions, please contact Rick or Jess.