**MEAGHER COUNTY LEPC**

**Minutes April 14th, 2009**

**Training Center @ 1200**

**Present:** Otto Ohlson, Marc Hamlen, Bernie Lucas, Rick Seidleitz, Jess Secrest, Julian Theriault, Herb Townsend, Kari Jo Kiff, Dee Kinnick (guest), Jake Odom, Jon Lopp, Bj Hawkins

**Minutes were approved as read.** Nobody has received minutes from the last few minutes via email. The minutes from Jan 20th were read out loud and approved.

**Every 15 mins**: Bj reported on the “Every 15 Minutes” program that was conducted at the High School. This encompassed drills for the emergency and rescue teams as well as educational components for the students. Bob Fry was the evaluator and thought they did a great job. The tape is being logged and edited and should be ready by June 30th.

There was a lot of cooperation with Mr. Bartos and the school. The plan is to continue doing the activity every 3 years. The students liked it as well as the teachers. It was felt to be needed and well done. Rick stated that he has received favorable comments and that it is still making an impression on the kids. Jon stated that it went well and received a good response from the kids.

An after action report was done the following week. Based on those results, some modifications would be made for the next time.

**Community Education:** Bj reported that there have been lots of articles sent for the web but they have not been posted. We need to get the website fully functional and some coordination with Jake will be helpful. The articles that were done emphasized winter survival and road conditions and she planned to do wilderness/hiking survival for the summer. Everyone is encouraged to write and submit articles to the committee.

**Grants:** Otto reports that tomorrow starts applications for new FEMA grants. Last year’s money was spent on extrication equipment and a generator. Have applied for a BAIR grant. Maebeth has not heard back from her applications.

There is a new stimulus grant that will pay for a deputy’s salary for three years. Would not be an additional deputy, but an existing one.

**EOP:** A meeting was held with Jess, Otto, Maebeth, and Rick and they walked through about 80% of the plan. The hospital and school reviewed their pieces. They could attach their EOP’s to the main county document. Rick is going to be putting changes together and it will be posted. They need to include the City Road plan.

**PDM Plan:** Bruce has found that people need to “sign in” for each LEPC meeting to make them official in the state’s eyes. The required 2 public meetings for the reading of the PDM have been satisfied. The plan still needs several names updated.

**CWPP**: This plan has been signed off.

**City/County MOU:** Has been completed.

**EMPG:** DES grants and funds that the feds pay half. We should be getting the money for that. State got additional $1 million to help with support of DES Coordination. Meagher needs about a half time position filled.

**Communications:** The trailer is 100% operational and the truck is 80% according to Jake. It would be ideal to duplicate the functions of the trailer as close as possible. Unsure of the cost of an internet module.

An ambulance was donated from the Air Force and Jack Berg got it running. It is good for a small incident with some command functions, i.e. search and rescue.

**Search & Rescue Plan:** Given to Helena and Gallatin Forest Services, Wheatland, Sweetgrass and Lewis and Clark for review. Meagher County’s goal it to develop a universal plan that will translate to any other county. We are often involved with one or more counties/agencies on these rescues. It does not make sense to support a separate plan for every incident with each county. It would develop a common communication plan and would be reviewed every year.

**County Commission:** Nothing new to add

**County Roads:** 2 spots in Ringling that were washed out and some flooding on Leupold.

**City of WSS:** A new culvert was put in. A contractor was chosen for replacement of city water storage reservoir. Public meetings will be starting. They have to figure out the costs and price of water.

**Forest Service:** New Fire Response plan is ready. They will give a presentation to the Commissioners.

**City Fire:** Apply for more new radios that are digitally compliant, Type II Engine (rural) FEMA grant

**EMS:** Put on another training, they are losing some EMT’s

**Public Health:** No news on what is happening with the county and the hospital

**911 System:** Need the system replaced. Still have some state grant money available. CenturyTel gave a presentation and will be at a lower price than the other company. Some of the functions are better and the state is backing them. There are new federal mandates that will have to be met. Functions will become automatic whereas they are manual right now. It has the ability to be redundant from any other location if Sheriff’s Office becomes disabled. Phase 1 and 2 enhanced ability with cell phones. No longer can get replacement parts.

**Sheriff’s Office:** Looking for a grant to update the in-car video system. Currently have VHS tapes. New system is digital and has wireless download to archive data.

**Community Guest:** Dee Kinnick attended the meeting today and would like to get involved with disasters. Kari JO will get her some contact information with the Red Cross.

**Elections:** We failed to conduct officer elections at the annual meeting in January. Otto made a motion to retain all three officer positions. Bernie seconded and the motion passed. Rick is retained as President, Marc Hamlen as Vice President, and Kari Jo Kiff as Secretary.

**Next Meeting:** July 14th (Realize that this is fire season. We still can meet is there are others that are gone, however, please let Kari Jo know)

**Adjournment** @ 1315.

Submitted by Kari Jo Kiff, LEPC Secretary