

**MINUTES
of the Meeting of the
Carson City
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
September 14, 2021**

The Carson City Local Emergency Planning Committee held a public meeting on September 14, 2021, beginning at 1:31 p.m. in the meeting room of Fire Station No. 51, 777 S. Stewart Street, Carson City.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Sean Slamon.

2. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Voting members present were Nicki Aaker, Rick Cooley, Jason Danen (by phone), Andy Hummel, Aaron Lowe, P.K. O'Neill, Taryn Peirce, Craig Robinson, Sean Slamon, and Sandy Wartgow which constituted a quorum.

Voting members absent were Ann Cyr, Ken Furlong, Mark Stearns, Jerome Tushbant, and Dave Yohey. Non-voting members absent were Jerry Evans, Keith Forbes, and Chris Smallcomb.

Also present were Zach Lamebull (Nevada Division of Environmental Protection) and Danielle Knight (Redwood Materials).

3. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

4. For Possible Action: Approval of Minutes – June 1, 2021

It was moved by Andy Hummel, seconded by Craig Robinson, with all ayes in favor that the minutes of the June 1st meeting be approved as submitted.

5. For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a mid-cycle grant application for \$975.00 to the State Emergency Response Commission (“SERC”) to fund planning and training to prevent, mitigate, and respond to hazardous materials incidents. (Jason Danen)

Jason Danen reported that this is a grant that Carson City LEPC applies for each year and the money goes toward tuition to pay for FireShowsWest Hazardous Materials track. Members of the Quad County HazMat team can sign up and attend. This grant application

for \$975.00 will allow five people to attend. There is no match for this grant.

It was moved by Nicki Aaker, seconded by Sandy Wartgow, with all ayes in favor to approve the mid-cycle grant application for \$975.00 to the State Emergency Response Commission (“SERC”) to fund planning and training to prevent, mitigate, and respond to hazardous materials incidents.

6. For Discussion Only: Update on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. (*Jason Danen*)

Jason Danen provided an update on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. He reported that this is a five-year FEMA requirement to receive certain grants and keep everyone prepared for those hazards. He said this is going before the Board of Supervisors on Thursday, September 16th for adoption. It has received preliminary approval from FEMA pending Board of Supervisor’s approval.

Sean Slamon added that this has been a yearlong process. RO Anderson was hired as the consultant to complete this. This Plan keeps the City in compliance with FEMA.

Jason noted that LEPC members were used as the Planning Team/Governing Board for this update.

7. For Discussion Only: Report and discussion on activities associated with the Citizen Corps Council Initiatives. (*Jason Danen, Jerome Tushbant, and Jeanne Freeman*).

Jason Danen reported on the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) activity for the quarter. He said CERT activity started out slow during Covid. There are five very active members at this time and their most recent support was with the Caldor Fire Evacuation Centers.

Nicki Aaker reported that the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) was folded into the Battle Born Medical Reserve Corps. She said two RN volunteers assisted them with the Caldor Fire.

No update was given for Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS).

8. For Discussion Only: Reports of Committee Members.

Aaron Lowe reported that an Active Assailant Drill will be held at the Carson City Courthouse in October. One objective is for the fire department to practice the strategies and tactics of a rescue task force and law enforcement will be training on securing the site and protecting the rescue task force. This will be coordinated by Battalion Chief Pedrini.

Danielle Knight introduced herself to the Committee and said she was in attendance on behalf of Redwood Materials which is a new industry with their headquarters in Carson City.

P.K. O'Neill apologized for not making meetings in the past, but said he is here to support the Committee.

P.K. asked Sean Slamon if there would be an After Action Review of the Caldor Fire Evacuations. Sean said there would be, and we could include this on the December LEPC meeting agenda.

Taryn Peirce reported that she had a meeting today with hospital management staff and they are still fighting to find staff. She said currently the hospital has 44 Covid positives. 40 plus nurses will be starting Monday.

Craig Robinson reported that Western Nevada College (WNC) is still doing Covid case management. He said they have about a 65% vaccination rate and they are doing a public vaccination event on Friday. The WNC President's Office was in contact with the Mayor's Office during the Caldor Fire offering assistance and Craig said WNC is ready to help as needed.

WNC has a lot of in person teaching and learning. WNC Emergency Management is starting to hold meetings more on campus. They are working on making sure CARES money is going to WNC.

Sean said the best way they can offer assistance is to call the main phone line for Carson City Fire which is where Emergency Management is.

Zach Lamebull said he helps run the 24/7 spill hotline for the State. He added that the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection is in the process of updating their geographic response plan for Carson River.

Nicki Aaker reported that Quad County Public Health Preparedness is doing Covid testing and vaccinations in the four counties. They try to get to each county once a week and have added testing to vaccination events either before or after vaccinations.

There will be four flu events scheduled for October. Nicki added that they are waiting for the federal decision regarding booster shots; this is not currently approved, only the third shot for immunocompromised.

Nicki reported that the following staff from the Health Department assisted with the Caldor Fire response:

- Medical Branch Leader
- RNs for assessing evacuees
- Carson City's County Health Officer who was able to assist with some prescriptions and provide other guidance.
- Healthcare Liaison which was important to be informed on what was happening at other healthcare facilities within agencies in the Quad Counties since they had patients transferred to them.

- PIO (Public Information Officer)

Nicki reported that they have a Regional Behavioral Health Emergency Operations Plan which was developed by the Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator, Jessica Flood. From this plan they were able to request crisis counseling partners which turned out to be a very useful resource. They were requested on Friday morning and by that afternoon they were ready to talk with individuals that were still at Fuji Park.

Nicki asked if the Committee would get a representative from the Humane Society to join.

Andy Hummel reported that it has been fairly quiet on the Wastewater side. He noted with Caldor Fire evacuations and all of the RV's that he had contracts ready to go if needed for coordination of pumping them, etc.

Rick Cooley had nothing to report on the Transportation side.

Sandy Wartgow reported on Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and said due to all of the evacuees, Covid, and breathing problems from the smoke, call volume increased last month. In addition, for the first time ever Carson Tahoe diverted which meant EMS could not take patients to Carson Tahoe. The Reno hospitals were also on divert and EMS had to figure out where to take patients. Renown Main opened their ER and told EMS they would need to wait on the wall for 3-5 hours before they could give report off on a patient.

P.K. O'Neill referenced the Governor's Emergency Declaration and asked what he could do to help including should it be expanded to allow medics to supplement some of the nursing staff. Sandy said one of the things that would have helped was if EMS had the ability to transport to alternative sites that had the staffing available such as someone who is not as ill to an urgent care (which can't normally be done) to not bog down an emergency room and transfers patients to appropriate facilities.

9. For Discussion Only: Next Meeting Date: December 7, 2021.

10. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

11. For Possible Action: To adjourn

It was moved by Andy Hummel to adjourn the meeting at 2:07 p.m.

Recorder: Shelby Price