



# LEPC Local Emergency Planning Committee

Gem County LEPC Meeting Minutes  
December 15, 2009 at 08:30  
Gem County EMS Building

**Attendance:** Linda Anthony, SWDH; Judy Bedal, LEPC Co-Chair/Community Volunteer; Bill Butticci, Mayor; Shannon Crays, Emmett City Fire; Mike Knittel, Emmett PD/LEPC Co Chair; Steve Nebeker, Emmett Police; Mark Rekow, Gem Co EMS; Autumn Roberts, CERT/LEPC Sec; Chuck Rolland, Gem Co. Sheriff; Michele Sherrer, Gem Co Commissioner; Lan Smith, Gem Co Commissioner; Anita Taylor, Gem Co. Emergency Mgr; Joanna Taylor, Gem Co EMS; Dennis Weaver, Gem Co. Fire #2; Rick Welch, Gem Co Fire #1

**I) Meeting called to order**

A) Called to order at 08:35 by Judy Bedal.

**II) Introductions**

A) Persons present introduced themselves and their organization.

**III) Review of minutes**

- A) November 17, 2009 Minutes Reviewed
- 1) Motion to accept minutes by Rick Welch
  - 2) Seconded by Shannon Crays
  - 3) Approval: unanimous.

**IV) Special Election for LEPC Secretary - Anita Taylor**

- A) Anita requested that Autumn Roberts be elected to the position of LEPC Secretary
- 1) Motion made to accept request by Michele Sherrer
  - 2) Seconded by Lan Smith
  - 3) Approval: unanimous

**V) Governance Board - Lan Smith/Mike Knittel**

A) They have defined interoperability as the ability to talk to each other within and between counties. They have worked through some difficulties with some counties wanting to benefit more than other counties. Each county gets 2 representatives at the district level. Each region is made up of 10 counties and will be represented by 2 individuals. The faster this group is organized and operational the faster we will be able to apply and receive grant money. The next meeting has a great agenda lined out with by laws as the main focus. Mike and Lan will report back at the January LEPC with more information.

**VI) I Am Responding - Shannon Crays**

A) The Emmett Fire Department uses this web based program to assist with response. Each volunteer enters his availability into the system so that it is easy to see the response capability on any given day. Updates can be sent by email or text message. License information can be entered; the system will then send an email to remind the individual when it needs to be updated. When the volunteers are paged out they call into the system and their response status will then appear on the system. The fire department has a large

screen in the bay area so everyone knows who is responding and their estimated time of arrival. The annual cost is \$300. The system is 100% redundant so there are no problems with outages. There is a \$50 set up fee and a charge of 16 cents per phone call, not to exceed \$300 a year.

## VII) General Reports

- A) Gem Co Commissioner – Lan Smith
  - 1) There are many web based trainings and helps for law enforcement and fire.
  - 2) Very slick roads today. Sweet and Ola roads are being addressed better now that they have changed the way they respond.
- B) Gem Co Commissioner - Michele Sherrer
  - 1) The County has a Facebook page. 80 fans the first day. The first wall post was on County Disaster preparedness capabilities.
  - 2) The county is in the middle of a Federal audit. Please postpone non critical communication with Shelly Gannon until it is completed.
  - 3) State of the County meeting took place at the Emmett Theater. 75 people attended.
- C) Gem Co Fire #1 - Rick Welch
  - 1) Earl Defur elected as the new County Fire Commissioner
  - 2) Repeater is up, coverage is better. Everything is complete on the repeater site except for the fencing. Cascade Fencing will complete project when temperatures get above 30 degrees. \$70,205.00 is the final cost. The power pole, underground trenching, and upgrades to the road were done without grant assistance with a total cost of \$4,048.63. That cost will be split between each agency with a cost of \$1,012.16. He would like to have everyone visit the site.
  - 3) The old repeater will be used at Crown Point.
  - 4) Quotes and grant requests submitted to BHS to update radios and repeaters to narrowband.
- D) CERT – Autumn Roberts
  - 1) CERT has assisted with 4 H1N1 community clinics.
  - 2) Volunteer vests were purchased to identify volunteers not associated with any agency. They will be used when people volunteer with CERT, but are not trained members.
  - 3) 2010 meetings and trainings have been planned. A volunteer code of conduct has been drafted.
- E) Gem Co Emergency Mgr - Anita Taylor
  - 1) Submitting HS grant for Rick Welch.
  - 2) Ran the EMS generator for 45 minutes yesterday.
  - 3) Revising interoperability plan. We will send out another draft and next LEPC we will adopt.
- F) EMS Department - Mark Rekow
  - 1) Attended a Homeland Security class. It was geared toward the private sector (Idaho Power etc) about terrorist devices that could be found while on the job.
  - 2) Recertification is set to take place before the March deadline.
  - 3) New ambulance will be here by the weekend. It will be replacing 34 which will be moved to Sweet. They will be doing dual response first while working into preparing volunteers to respond regularly. They need a proper facility for this equipment.
- G) EMS Department - Joanna Taylor
  - 1) They are doing unnecessary facility transfers. She is sending a letter to the doctors.
  - 2) She is looking for a better way to verify death so that they do charge offs.
- H) Gem Co Fire #2– Denny Weaver
  - 1) Tried out the new hall with the Ola pancake supper.
- I) SWDH– Linda Anthony
  - 1) H1N1 clinic at WKMH Friday the 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - 2) Two Pods’ at old Sportsmans Warehouse on Saturday.

- 3) Planning Pods' in January with shorter hours.
  - 4) Expecting another wave of H1N1 after Christmas holidays.
  - 5) Increasing the availability of vaccine. Pushing out to pharmacies and doctor's offices.
- J) Emmett Fire Department – Shannon Crays
- 1) The cold is causing smoke detectors to go off in empty houses.
  - 2) Had a banquet for firefighters on Saturday.
  - 3) Mike voted firefighter of the year
- K) Emmett Police Department – Steve Nebeker
- 1) Hired Tysend Faulkner. Has an officer down with an injury.
  - 2) Upcoming Christmas party for kids.
  - 3) 5 applicants for reserve officers.
- L) Emmett Police Department - Mike Knittel
- 1) Getting some used Varda boxes. They can be hooked to the radio channel and will play a recorded message when tripped. This will trigger an immediate police response.
  - 2) Nampa is going 700 MHz so they will not need their VHF radios anymore.
- M) Emmett Mayor -Bill Buttici
- 1) Small items like "I Am Responding" doable in this difficult economy.
- N) Gem County Sheriff -Chuck Rolland
- 1) Next meeting January 19 to discuss governance board. Proud of the dynamic group we have because of regular LEPC meetings.

#### **VIII) Next Meeting**

- A) January 19, 2010 at 08:30 at the EMS Building.
- B) Meeting adjourned at 09:55 by Judy Bedal.

Autumn Roberts  
Gem Co CERT Coordinator