



LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

GLACIER COUNTY OF MONTANA

1210 EAST MAIN STREET

CUT BANK, MT 59427

Executive Committee

Chairperson – Charles Farmer
1st Vice Chairperson – Patrick Strnad
2nd Vice Chairperson – Nora Kennedy
Secretary – Michelle Harrell
Member At Large – Irene Martin

June 23, 2011 Meeting Minutes

LEPC Membership: Charles Farmer-GCDES, Patrick Strnad-GC Deputy DES, Nora Kennedy-TERC Chairperson, Michelle Harrell-GC Dept. of Public Health, Irene Martin-Retired, Ed Gierke-MT State DES Dist. II Rep., Bill Bandel-GC Public Works Director, Carol McDivitt-Director GC Public Health, Celestino Sanchez-USBP, Robert DesRosier-Director Of Homeland Security/DES Blackfeet Tribe, Damon Bunting-GC Extension Agent, Diane Anderson-GC Clerk of Court, Jeff Rutherford-GC Public Works, Joe Gauthier-Animal Control, Tina Gauthier-Animal Control, Wade Johnson-CB Superintendent Of Schools, Michelle Edwards-USDA, Mike Connolly-Browning VFD., Pat Greany-NMIS, Peggy Hartwell-GC Dispatch Supervisor, Roy Nollkamper-GC Airport Authority, Russell Hurst-USBP, Pat Anderson-Cut Bank Fire Chief, George Forsyth-HAM Radio, Tim Freed-CB Fire/Rescue, Robert Bosken-NMIS, Debbie Farmer-GC Deputy DES, Vernon Billedeaux-GC Sheriff, Alice Reuman-Center For Mental Health, Landis Meeks-American Red Cross, Donna Rutherford-District Ranger GNP, Darwin Feakes-East Glacier Fire/Rescue, Ben Steele-East Glacier Fire Chief, Amie Allison-GCEMS Director, Maunay Kelley-GCEMS, Rebecca Schulkoski-Center For Mental Health, Tyson Michaels-City of Cut Bank, Mark Foust-Chief Ranger GNP, Ed Daugherty FSA/USDA, Jeanne Baker-Baker & Baker Assoc., Michael Shelton-USBP, Jared Thompson-Shelby Border Patrol, Michael DesRosier-GC Commissioner (Chairman), Benjamin Campbell-Highline Communications, Jeri Lee Wilkerson-GC Community Development, Floyd Peterson-GC EMS/SAR, Tanya Luchi-NRMC Trauma Coordinator, Angie Murphy-GCEMS, Nikko Lako-GC Administrative Assistant, Dustin Boggs-Browning Fire Chief, Robert Wild Gun-Browning Fire/Rescue, Terrance Crawford-Browning Fire/Rescue, Timothy Welch-USBP, Lyle Salois-GC Maintenance Supervisor, Colin Cadle-Babb Fire/Rescue/Asst. Chief, Mark Frith-CHS Grain Elevator Safety Officer, Tony Sitzman-GC Commissioner, Ron Rides At The Door-GC Commissioner, Tiffany Throckmorton-Customs Border Protection/SAR, Ben Schott-Meteorologist NWS, William Potts-GC Maintenance, Roland D. Schulz-USBP, Tyson Running Wolf-Fire Management Officer Blackfeet Tribe, Jeff Severn-IHS Safety Officer, Jon Wyrzykowski-US Border Patrol, Tony Bale-Wadsworth Construction Safety Manager, Tom Seifert-GC Sheriff Deputy/Sergeant, Grinnell Edwards-Browning Assistant Fire Chief/EMT, Jerry Scott-USBP, Maurice Red Horn-GC Undersheriff, Les Marsh-US Border Patrol, Ron Andersen-GC Sanitarian, Gene Onacko Jr.-BIA Safety of Dams Engineer, Bobby Guardipee-GC Maintenance, Daphne Digrindakis-Tetra Tech Consulting, Betsy Seglem-Glacier Community Health Center, Dennis Seglem-Glacier County Historical Museum, Shawn Lahr-Blackfeet Environmental Office, Dave Allison-GC EMS, Lyle MacDonald-Blackfeet Boarding Dormitory, Alan Lukin-Alderman Town of Browning, Niall Atkinson-NRMC Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Micah Hall-GC Clerk & Recorder's Office/Website Designer

Picture Clips

Call to order at 10:30 am. Those present from the roster: Patrick Strnad-Babb VFD, Colin Cadle-Babb VFD, Niall Atkinson-NRMC, Celestino Sanchez-USBP, Ed Gierke-MTDES, Debbie Farmer-Deputy DES, Dona Rutherford-GNP, Robert DesRosier-Blackfeet DES/HS, Amie Allison-GCEMS, Micah Hall-GC C&R's Office, Landis Meeks-ARC, Maurice Redhorn-GC Undersheriff, Tony Sitzman-GC Commissioner, Nora Kennedy-TERC Chairperson, Bill Bandel-GC Public Works, Carol McDivitt-GC Health Dept., Michelle Harrell-GC Health Dept., Irene Martin-LEPC Executive Committee, Charles Farmer-DES Coordinator

Introduction of new members(s): Niall Atkinson is the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for Northern Rockies Medical Center and has been delegated as the Emergency Point Of Contact for the hospital. Niall is currently working on updating the emergency plans for NRMC and will conduct an exercise TBA. Micah Hall is with the Clerk & Recorder's Office and is currently working on the design and development of the County's website. Welcome to the LEPC!

Old/Unfinished Business:

Minutes will be delayed due to unforeseen circumstances, however they were sent out this morning online.

New Business:

Chairperson Farmer put pictures up on the screen of the BNSF Railway flooding situation and then gave an update on the current Emergency Flood Declaration and opened it up for discussion. Farmer said some of our roads sustained some damage and added that heavy vehicles can damage the roads when they are flooded. The rains are by no means over and we might get hail tonight. One discussion that questioned why Glacier County was not included in the Federal Disaster Declaration. Ed Gierke said Glacier County had not met the threshold of \$43,850 yet. Other related topics included Nora mentioning an Individual Assistance meeting this afternoon at 1:00 pm at the Tribal Planning Department. Individual Assistance has not been declared by the President at this time but Nora is preparing for it just in case. Colin said the water table at Babb has not went down and there is a high potential for flash flooding. Red added that mountain temperatures are still cool which is keeping the snowpack from melting too fast. There was one bridge threatened on the Pardue Road. And Ed said that we could flash flooding due to ground saturation so we are not out of the woods yet.

Niall Atkinson reported on the bus wreck east of Shelby. Niall said he is currently rewriting the Emergency Action Plan for NRMC and the bus wreck kind of woke us up for this. But the current plan seemed to work. Some patients were flown out on site and nine patients were transported to NRMC. There was an overwhelming response from several entities. Parents called in and NRMC staff had to talk to the parents on the phone and some confidentiality issues always come up in this situation. Some of the children brought in had triage tags on them and then they were released to relatives. It becomes a problem for the parents in finding their child because they were

transported to four area hospitals. Ed mentioned that it is the Incident Commander's responsibility for getting the information to where the children were transported to and a protocol is needed for a Mass Casualty Incident; the system needs to work at this point. Amie added that Dan Whitted was the IC and someone took all of the names of the patients on the bus; most of the patients need Basic Life Support but Mercy Flight flew patients to the appropriate hospital. The location was very remote. Amie said NRMC was great! They had their vests on and was set up to handle the incident and Law Enforcement did a great job. Maurice said the Sheriff's Dept. handled security and information with caution due to HIPAA. Red said the IC has the responsibility for information release. The kids had cell phones and some called their parents. Some of the responding nurses thought it was not real until all the patients started to arrive. Triage functions was set up on scene and the Pizza Hut donated pizza to the victims. The accident was south of Shelby or 42 miles from Cut Bank. The Bus driver was hurt so the chaperones had a responsibility for people accountability. Tino added that an After Action Report (debriefing) was conducted at the Marias Medical Center yesterday. Ed summed it up by commenting that the responders did what they were supposed to do or the ICS structure breaks down. This was a two hour event and responders need to know where they fit into the system. Charles added that you really need a good triage officer. Amie mentioned that the IHS was taking care of the costs because most of the children were tribal members.

Charles mentioned that we are planning phase II of the Low Angle Rope Rescue training and the time will be announced. Babb and Browning Fire/Rescue used their expertise and supplies once already. Two lives were saved. Way to go!!

Glacier County Safety Program. Charles mentioned that we are still trying to promote a safety culture within County government and will be sending out Job Hazard Analysis to all the GC Departments to fill out during inspection of their work sites.

Pre Disaster Mitigation Plan. The PDM is still in progress by the contractor with the help of those that have added their input by webinar. We would still like to see more people join in on the webinars and the next call will be in September.

On June 3, 2100 two FEMA Reps. were in Glacier County to do a Public Assistance Application. A Preliminary Damage Assessment will also be conducted and more information will be forthcoming.

The Babb School and Fire Dept. will be having a lunch at Thronsons on Friday – grilled hot dogs and hamburgers on Saturday.

The ICS training courses will be rescheduled and TBA.

Other reports: We are still doing credentialing – both the County and the Blackfeet Tribe. We still need all the fire stats from the fire departments and we have developed a spread sheet to add the data to. Keep up the good work!! **WORKING LUNCH PROVIDED LETS EAT!**

Meeting adjourned Next LEPC Meeting August 25, 2011 Everybody continue to have a good summer – You deserve it!

