

# Buffalo County Local Emergency Planning Committee

Quarterly Meeting October 25, 2004

Chairman Loewenstein called the meeting to order at 7:34 P.M. at the Country Inn and Suites breakfast room. The meeting was moved at the last minute due to a scheduling conflict.

## Roll call

**present** (13): Matt Boerkircher, Don Engel Jr, Vern Fiala, Greg France, Dale Gibbs, Judy Jobman, Jim Kowalewski, Darrin Lewis, Tim Loewenstein, Mike Martinosky, Wesley Quail, Dan Saathoff and Kim Schmidt

**excused** (4): Robert Anderson, Allen Johnson, Dan Lynch, and Ken Tracy.

**absent** (1) Harlan Simmerman

There was a quorum present.

## Approval of Minutes

Motion made by France, seconded by Martinosky to approve the minutes of July 26, 2004. Motion carried.

## Oral Communication

Chairman Loewenstein extended a sincere Thank you to Kelly Krier and the Country Inn and Suites for allowing the LEPC to meet at no cost in their facility and for providing the coffee for the meeting.

## Old Business

A Tire Recycling Grant update was shared with the group by Judy after receiving information from Buffalo County Grant Writer Janna Pierce. A grant was received from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality in the amount of \$31,261.30 for 349.57 Tons of recycled tires. The clean-up was run at the Kearney Landfill for Buffalo County residents where they accepted tires from May 17, 2004 to June 26, 2004.

Appointed LEPC point person Dan Lynch sent information with regard to the Clean Community System Hazardous Household Cleanup Day. Dan spoke with Kirk Stocker from the City who was working with Allen Grell of Keep NE Beautiful. The City will be applying for a grant from the Environmental Trust to build a storage/collection building at the recycling Center. The agreement would establish the Kearney Area Recycling Center as a regional Household Hazardous Waste collection facility. The City would operate the collection facility and the KASWA Landfill would pay for the disposal of the household hazardous waste from our area. If this is approved the grant would benefit the City of Kearney and Buffalo County and the LEPC could advertise a "day" for collections.

## New Business

Emergency Manager Darrin Lewis and Amy Elwood Emergency Response Coordinator for Two Rivers Public Health Department were in attendance for a presentation of the plan and overview of the relationships, responsibilities and guidelines for a coordinated response between the Two Rivers Public Health Department, Buffalo

County Emergency Management, the medical community, regional, state and federal support systems in responding to public health emergencies. The Sub-Hub orientation exercise is done to improve readiness by affording participants the opportunity to ask questions and offer different views, approaches and suggestions for improvement of the current resources, plans and training.

### **Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on January 24, 2005 at the (KVFD) Kearney Volunteer Fire Department Station I, 2211 Avenue A, Kearney, Nebraska at 7:00 P.M.

### **Reports**

Lewis announced the LEOP was updated and copies delivered. He invited all members of the LEPC to a LEPC Conference which will be held at the Kearney Ramada Inn on December 3 and 4<sup>th</sup> 2004 from 8:00 A.M. until 3:30 P.M. both days.

Discussion was held and it was decided it would be a good idea to have a representative from the Two Rivers Public Health Department as a member of the LEPC. Chairman Loewenstein will make recommendation to the County Board in November for the appointment of Amy Elwood as a member of the LEPC representing the Two Rivers Health Department.

Martinosky advised the Fire Department needs for more space for Hazardous waste equipment, therefore the Mobile Command Unit is possibly going to have to move. He wondered if Buffalo County grant writer Janna Pierce would pursue a grant for expanding the building space at Fire Station II. This expansion would provide secure housing of the Mobile Command unit and also the ability of daily checks of the command unit. The committee was in agreement, and Janna will be contacted.

A possible decontamination emergency call in Gibbon was discussed and the Hazmat team was not required. The questions arose as to when needed what is the cost for the Hazmat Technical team. Martinosky and Lewis reported the team is trained, they have the equipment and the team has their own paging tone and would be activated for a possible contamination at a cost depending on the resources required.

Judy shared some information on polo shirts which were purchased from a vendor by the former Emergency Manager and discussion was held on whether the members of the LEPC would like to purchase individual shirts. It was decided most were interested, but further research should be done on what local vendors could provide and the cost.

### **Adjournment**

Chairman Loewenstein adjourned the meeting at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Judy Jobman, Secretary