



Clark County Local Emergency Planning Committee
THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING

Wednesday, August 30, 2006

- MINUTES -

ATTENDANCE

LEPC Members: Fernandez Leary, Eugene Campbell, Carolyn Levering, Tim McAndrew, Mike McClary, Glenford Parks, Dave Dahl, Ed Day, Warren Glidewell, Robert Marshall (via conference Phone), Irene Navis, Ed Gannon, Michael Petullo, Martin Heiny, Bill Richardson, Jim O'Brien

LEPC Alternates: Richard Brenner, John Otway, Mike McCrimon, Steven Ross, Harry Kelman, Steven Cabrales, Jane Shunney, Lucille Compton, Linda Alonzo

LEPC Members Absent: Terri Davis, Doug Stevens, Dan Lake, Fred Thompson, Patricia Lofft, Michael Cyphers, Dean Molburg, David Petersen, Jim Wilson, Craig Wilkinson, Susan Crowley, John Horton, Mary Martini, Mike Richardson, Timothy Gruber, Mike Moran, Andy Bailey, Manny Bay, Tim Malcolm, Lloyd Clary, Steven Kramer, Dan Shinn, Senator Dennis Nolan, Scott Emerson, Robert Fisher

I. Call to Order

Jim O'Brien, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 30, 2006 in the Pueblo Room in the Clark County Government Center.

II. Roll Call

Quorum not met. No action could be taken on the action items due to lack of quorum.

A. LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. *Recommend the BCC approve receipt of FFY 2006 Homeland Security Grant Program funds
2. *Review and recommend the BCC approve FY07 HMEP SERC grant application
3. *Recommend BCC approve/ratify grant application to the State Emergency Response Commission for funds from the United We Stand license plate fee program
4. Nevada Division of Emergency Management's request to assist UNLV's Emergency Planning efforts

Stacy Cruz the Southern Nevada Regional Coordinator from Daniel Burns' local Nevada Division of Emergency Management (NDEM) office referenced a letter sent to the LEPC members by Frank Siracusa, Chief, NDEM requesting support in the planning efforts for the NBA All-Star game coming up in February 2007 at UNLV.

5. Strategic Transit Workshop

Jeff Mills, Safety and Security Administrator, Regional Transportation of Southern Nevada provided a handout for a free of charge "Strategic Counter-Terrorism Training For Transit Managers" sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security and will take place November 6-7 at the Orleans Hotel & Casino. Since we do not have transit police this course is designed for key law enforcement partners and collaborators who are tasked with safety and security on mass transit systems. Mr. Mills stated there was similar training provided by the LEPC in May of this year that was a five day course. Leadership of the Johns Hopkins University developed this two-day course and the goal is to prepare personnel to develop comprehensive strategic plans and countermeasures that will assist them in protecting their customers.

Jeff will be contacting each of the local law enforcement agencies and will be offering about five or six seats per agency. Also included will be some of the transit managers and others that support the operation. Jeff can be contacted, millsj@rtcnsnv.com or call (702) 400-8705.

6. Propane explosion in North Las Vegas

Patricia Lofft, Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of North Las Vegas had Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Brame from North Las Vegas Fire Department who was actually involved with the incident that started around 9 PM on Friday, July 28 and concluded on Sunday, July 30 at 3 PM, show a video and share details of this incident.

The point of origin was Proflame Gas, 4420 McGuire Street located in a commercial area in North Las Vegas. BLEVEs occur when boiling liquid evaporating vapor explodes, which happens when you take a pressurized container, in this case a propane tank, and there is space in these containers. It is just like a balloon. It heats up and the propane gets going and releases vapors to the point where the container can no longer contain itself, and it does a couple of things. Either the valve operates and blows off, or in many cases they catch fire and this happened, which is okay because it's venting and it's burning the fuel off, and if for some other reason that does not occur and it continues, then an explosion occurs. There were multiple explosions, BLEVEs that occurred throughout this event, with the largest being a 3,000-gallon tank that was mounted on the rear of a truck, and that tank was not at the point of origin, it was in the Amerigas Propane facility, located at 4430 McGuire Street. At the height of the incident, there were about 220 emergency service personnel from different agencies and entities involved.

The Metro Watch Commander had issued a voluntary evacuation on Friday evening for a small number of folks who were located most adjacent to the problem area, on the south side. Security in the area continued to be a problem throughout the incident. D/C Brame ordered an evacuation of the area Saturday morning, and that was based upon the most recent recon of the area where the integrity of a 30,000-propane tank could not be determined. Tim McAndrew with the City of Las Vegas stated there were 8,026 reverse phone calls issued by the Emergency Notification System for the evacuation. The area to be evacuated was a massive area, and as much as the area was secured, there were lots of folks, particularly homeless individuals and those individuals who were scavenging, collecting scrap metal from the debris field still in the area.

To establish the source of ignition for this incident other entities have been brought in, additional interviews and some enhancement and review of security tapes has been done. At this time the source has not been determined.

As a result of this incident the video presented is a work in progress and the plan is to develop an outreach education-training piece. Steven Ross our LEPC Community Right-to-Know Chair requested a copy of video when completed for our LEPC.

7. *Approval of 05/17/06 Minutes

8. Reports and Updates

a. Community Right-to-Know Subcommittee

Steven Ross is continuing to work on completing an application to the Chemical Education Foundation. The Foundation provides community awards for chemical safety and is given to local planning committees. The deadline for application submission is January 7, 2007 for 2005 activities. If your activities took place in 2006 you can pass on this information to Steve also for next year's application.

Mr. Ross has requested the committee's help in providing information to assist him in completing the information:

- Activities that you or your agency has done to provide public outreach to help the community to understand the hazards of chemicals in our community;
- How the LEPC communicates the hazards associated with chemicals in the community;
- Any projects to educate first responders in chemical safety;
- Publications or videos that can support activities accomplished;
- LEPC network with other community organizations such as the CAER Group, Red Cross, RACES and others;
- How many chemical companies are in your jurisdiction; and
- LEPC budget questions.

Ed Day from Kinder Morgan Energy commented they do public outreach for first responders. Dave Dahl with Kern River Gas Transmission stated a mass mailing to individuals in an area of their pipeline and the Las Vegas area as well as first responders, public officials and excavators is an ongoing process and there are periodic mailings. Irene Navis with the Clark County Nuclear Waste Division stated that in 2006 they are using podcasting for public outreach. This Yucca Mountain information is available on the county's website and there have been around 700 hits per month. Future plans include video podcasting as soon as they receive the software. Currently the use of Clark County's TV Channel 4 is being increased to share information with the community. Outreach to the school district is also being emphasized. Richard Brenner will be sharing information on a bulk transport exercise held December 2005.

If you can provide any information, contact Mr. Ross at the Water District at (702) 259-8212; e-mail: steven.ross@lvvwd.com.

Bill Richardson from Nellis Air Force Base offered Mr. Ross assistance on a project that had been mentioned previously; trying to do a media outreach project on using shelter-in-place in the event chemical, biological or radiological contaminants may be released accidentally or intentionally into the environment.

b. Emergency Alert System Update

Steve Scott, Chairman, So. Nv/ Inyo County, CA, Emergency Alert Committee (EAS) was not available to give a report

c. Metropolitan Medical Response System Update (MMRS)

Chris Sproule the MMRS Program Coordinator recapped some the information provided at the May 17 meeting. The wet decon kits are on about 70 fire engines in the valley and 2 at every hospital. There have been a total of 100 kits distributed. Each kit has 12 nozzles. If you have one kit, 12, nozzles, and each person gets a minute under the nozzle, that is 720 people per hour per kit, and if these kits could all be located in one spot, the potential in theory is to do a wet decon of 72,000 people per hour.

At this time, there are 30 dry decon kits on the fire department vehicles and 15 kits in the hospitals. Each kit can decon 100 people. So 4,500 people could receive the dry decon.

Recently purchased were 158 Autovent 2000. These are ventilators to help people breathe and are going to be distributed to the ambulance companies and the rescues in the valley. In the event of an emergency situation, these can be pulled to one location and used for that purpose.

Mr. Sproule recently purchased 38 megaphones to go on all command vehicles for fire department, heavy rescues, the HazMat and battalion chief's vehicles. The hospitals will be receiving 2 each for a total of 30 megaphones.

The Cashman Field play book for using the facility if it needs to be opened to use as a casualty collection point has been completed and next will be the Convention Center. This playbook acts as their bible of how to operate in that facility. Where should the critical care patients be placed? Where should the morgue be located? Where are the showers? These are just some of the facts that need to be planned for before an incident occurs.

The fiscal year (FY) 2006 grant in the amount of \$223,000.00 has been awarded and it is on the council agenda for ratification.

Mr. Sproule stated if the committee would like to see where their tax dollars are going, he offered to bring in some of equipment for display.

An announcement from the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) announcing "Cities Readiness Initiative: A National Priority" to be held October 19, 2006 from 1:00-3:00 PM ET was provided. A Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) and Public Health Training Network Satellite Broadcast and Webcast Program website: <http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn/cri/default.asp> was provided. The CRI program's goal is to assist city leaders and planners in understanding the goals of and their roles in CRI. Site registration will soon be available through *CDC/ATSDR Training and Continuing Education Online* at <http://www2a.cdc.gov/phtnonline>.

d. NV-1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) Update

Timothy Gruber, NV-1 DMAT, Acting Commander was not available to give a report.

e. Emergency Management Coordinators Group

Jim O'Brien, Chairman for the EMC Group introduced Bruce Barnes, a new member. Bruce is a new emergency management administrator for the Nevada Power Company. Prior to his

new job he worked for Clark County, before that he was in the military for 24 years.

f. Planning Subcommittee

Richard Brenner, HazMat Coordinator with the Clark County Fire Department commented on the subcommittee's May meeting. The topic discussed was the update to the Clark County LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan, commonly know as our HazMat Plan. Pat Lofft added more chemical facilities for the City of North Las Vegas. Mike Cyphers, Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Henderson requested changes in different areas of the plan. Those that could not attend emailed their comments in.

Carolyn Levering, Plans and Operations Coordinator, Clark County Office of Emergency Management commented that the HazMat Plan Draft will be submitted to the LEPC for review prior to the November meeting. An action item to approve the plan for submission to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) will on our November LEPC meeting agenda. Deadline for submitting our plan for annual SERC review is January 31, 2007.

g. State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Executive Director Report

Richard Brenner, SERC Co-Chair spoke in Karen Kennard, Executive Director's behalf. Right now they are still working on the new computer system, trying to get the system up and running by March 2007 to get input on the hazardous materials throughout the state with reference to extremely hazardous substances and the State Fire Marshal's Reports. At the present time forms are being reviewed from the State Fire Marshal's office, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), and the SERC, making sure they have fields of information to populate those areas. It is a long tedious process.

The State's new Fire Marshal is James Wright. Richard would like to have him attend one of our meetings and perhaps do a presentation. Mr. Wright has extensive fire service background in California, that will definitely help us in southern Nevada.

h. US Environmental Protection Agency Report

No report received from Mike Ardito, State Project Officer for the US EPA.

i. Community Awareness Emergency Response (CAER) Update

Susan Crowley, CAER Group representative was not in attendance to provide a report.

B. CITIZEN CORPS COUNCIL

Citizen Corps Programs Report

- Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

Paula Martel, MRC Coordinator, could not attend the meeting today. Tim McAndrew, Emergency Management Officer for the City of Las Vegas stated as part of the upcoming September 11 memorial activities on Saturday, September 9 the First Annual Freedom Walk is scheduled to take place. In addition to securities, Paula's MRC is going to provide services and there are 5,000 to 10,000 participants expected.

- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Susan Crowley, CAER Group representative was not in attendance to provide a report.

Mike McCrimon, from Metro reported currently in Overton there are 50 volunteers. There are 35 volunteers in Laughlin, and work is being done to recruit in Sandy Valley and Mt. Charleston.

- Neighborhood Watch

Mike McCrimon stated there are 1,432 active neighborhood watch captains. This represents anywhere from 10 to 30 homes per captain.

- Volunteer In Police Service

Volunteers and police services currently have 350 volunteers with Metro that are doing various types of duties. You might see volunteers in the community performing handicapped parking enforcement. The question of school crossing guards was brought up. These guards are actually paid employees of Metro confirmed Mike McCrimon. Currently there are 374 of these guards.

- Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Charlie Kunz from the ARES/RACES following the North Las Vegas propane explosion incident e-mailed several agencies to offer the services of their trained volunteers with their own communications system to assist with the evacuation notification or whatever else might be needed. Mr. Kunz and other members did participate as Metro volunteers doing traffic control. As ARES/RACES, these volunteers participated in tactical communications training and exercises and will be participating in the October 4 McCarran aviation exercise.

C. URBAN AREA WORKING GROUP

1. Urban Area Strategy Update

The Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) under the umbrella of the urban area strategy is the lead agency in handling local pandemic flu planning. Jane Shunney, Manager of the Office of Public Health Preparedness (OPHP) introduced Kay Godby the district's Senior Biopreparedness Planner. Kay provided business packets and a Pandemic Flu Fact sheet. Kay did a comprehensive presentation on the Pandemic Flu virus. A 10 minutes video was shown giving the basic information on the bird flu and what a pandemic is. Visit the SNHD's website at www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org, on the home page in the hot topics area click on avian flu. Contact Kay at (702) 759-1209 or godby@snhdmail.org to have the link added directly to your intranet within your organization.

To retrieve the SNHD Emergency Plan visit their website mentioned above. On their home page click on Programs & Services; then click on Public Health Preparedness this will take you to "A Message From the Chief Health Officer." On the left side of the page click on Emergency Plans; click on "Pandemic Influenza and Highly Infectious Respiratory Diseases, Annex L Plan."

On the left of the SNHD home page click on "About SNHD;" then click on Related Websites; click on Nevada State Health Division; click on Pandemic Flu on the right hand side of the home page; this will take you to "Nevada Prepares;" click on the Nevada Pandemic Flu Plan.

For the Federal Plan, access www.pandemicflu.gov and click on Federal Planning.

Here are some of the key issues to help you in your own planning:

- Plan to stay in business; planning for an all hazards approach, visit www.ready.gov for a sample plan;
- Use internal communication tools to communicate emergency plans and procedures to your employees;
- Carefully access your internal and external functions to determine which staff, materials, procedures and equipment are absolutely necessary to keep the business operating; and
- Create a Recovery Plan.

The World Health Organization (WHO) is monitoring the current outbreak of avian flu in Southeast Asia on a daily basis with a very strong surveillance system. The concern is that this flu could lead to a human-to-human spread for a worldwide influenza pandemic. It is predicted the pandemic flu may affect over half a million in the United States. Perhaps hospitalizing more than 2 million. Cost to the economy is projected to be between 71 and 166 billion dollars. The WHO has estimated that this flu could affect 25 to 30% of the world's population.

The SNHD assumes a flu pandemic could spread very rapidly. Looking at history the pandemic of 1918 took about a year to circle the globe. Travel standards being what they are today the pandemic could travel here in perhaps two to four weeks. A pandemic is widespread and local jurisdictions will not be able to rely on other government entities for staff and resources. At the present time there are about five companies that have received federal grant funding and are developing a cell attenuated vaccine and the vaccine could be developed within a month and production started after the virus is identified.

The Clark County Chief Health Officer in a pandemic may have to implement dramatic measures, including shutting down businesses that involve high levels of interaction with the public, such as restaurants, theaters, casinos. Community containment measures may be used such as social distancing, no large congregations of people together, and this may include school closures. In a worst-case scenario, business as usual may cease; travel may need to be restricted and quarantines established. If a pandemic flu strikes, the Chief Health Officer will issue information and warnings and work with the media to disseminate advice on how to avoid becoming ill. One of the most important measures is to cover your cough and washing your hands. We do not have vaccine and this is the only protection we have right now. The SNHD have limited antivirals that would go to those already sick.

There will be many difficult days ahead if this virus comes to fruition. These are just a few issues that would have to be considered:

- The medical system in Clark County would be overwhelmed. Where can we expand to provide services to these possible patients?;
- Here in Clark County we are on an island and we get a lot of supplies from LA or Utah. How are we going to receive our supplies?; and
- With much of the work force affected, your business could be disrupted, even force it to close down for a time;

Your companies' managers, human resources departments, and employees should pay very close attention to any guidance provided.

Ms. Godby's presentation today and others she has conducted all over the community is an example of the public health's role by offering technical assistance. Ms. Godby also offered to

help with your agencies planning efforts if needed. SNHD is also establishing ongoing communication with businesses before, during and after events.

A SNHD handout was provided on the "Clark County Poison Control 1-800-222-1222". Jane Shunney introduced Jim Osti from SNHD. Jim explained the phone number provided would connect you to the Denver Regional Poison Control Center. The center handles 36,000 calls a year. The SNHD works with the State of Nevada to administer the program for southern Nevada. The State funds this program with grant funds that are in jeopardy of not being renewed starting September 1. If this is the case the health district will be using their emergency funds for another four months to maintain the program until December 31, 2006. If this service is discontinued then the only option is to contact 911 or your local emergency room for services. This is becoming a very important resource for the SNHD in a lot of different scenarios and it is hoped this service is not interrupted. There are serious concerns on how the service can be funded on an ongoing basis.

Of those 36,000 calls, half of them are for children under the age of five. The other half is information calls primarily for drug identifications. This service diverts approximately 80% of individuals who would go to an emergency room for care. Unfortunately in Nevada we have two services, one for the north and one for the south, and about 300,000 residents do not have any availability of this service. The rurals are primarily left underserved. In most states this service is statewide.

The SNHD would like to continue this service because of the enhanced services with Rocky Mountain Poison Control in Denver also includes biopreparedness. A pan flu messaging system is currently being considered by the SNHD that would be activated should we have the pan flu. Hundreds or thousands of calls could be handled through this automated system. Rocky Mountain has 160 staff at their call center and they have resources that could not be developed locally. In the case of an emergency, phone lines could be switched from the district directly to Denver and would be assisted with the district's investigations, district calls, and actually providing the resources so the district could continue to work in the community rather than having to handle all the phone calls.

Last year this service demonstrated biopreparedness during a gaming expo with a potential outbreak of Hepatitis A.

Richard Brenner inquired about the cost of this service. Mr. Osti replied it costs 22 cents per person to run the line for Southern Nevada. Starting September 1, the cost will be \$390,000 per year. To serve the entire state of Nevada the cost would be about \$550,000.

Irene Navis introduced Amanda Dean from Urban Environmental Research (UER). Ms. Dean has been doing LEPC member interviews regarding one of the Urban Area Security Initiative activities exploring the feasibility of a regional EOC. If you have not been contacted by Amanda or have yet to be interviewed by her, please see her after the meeting so that an appointment can be set up. There are a few interviews missing and the goal is to have this wrapped up within the next couple of weeks. Ms. Dean brought some copies of the survey for those who could not set up a time to meet with her and a request was made for members to fax, mail, etc to her.

2. Regional Transit Security Strategy

Jeff Mills spoke on a \$6,000,000 competitive grant that the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) applied for. Mr. Mills submitted four concept papers. One of the concepts was to support evacuation that is similar to the State's initiative. Also requested were additional cameras along

Las Vegas Boulevard to support last year's funding, and intelligent video for one of the RTC transfer terminals. Funding is being requested for issues with some areas on the double deck buses. Confirmation is expected by the end of September.

Tim McAndrew wanted to know because this was a national competition, was what RTC requested in line financially with other requests. Mr. Mills replied it is hard to tell because some cities have two tiers, Tier 1 and Tier 2. The Tier 1's were the LAs, New York, Chicago, and so on. The Tier 2's were cities such as Milwaukee, Phoenix, and so on. This is Jeff's first time in handling this method for funding.

3. Interoperable Communication Technical Assistance

- Exercise Full House

Jim O'Brien spoke about "Exercise Full House" to be held September 13, kicking off at 8:00 a.m. at UNLV, Naples Street Parking Lot. UNLV is hosting the exercise in preparation for the February 2007 NBA All-Star Game. This is a communications exercise to validate our Tactical Interoperable Communications (TIC) Plan. Jim is requesting a hot wash to go over the lessons learned immediately after the exercise. There will be an after-action review the next day held at UNLV Campus Services Building (CSB), Training Room 164.

There was an implementation workshop held. Carolyn Levering summarized the outcome of workshop. This exercise is being used to validate the written component of our TIC Plan that was approved by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in its written form. This validation exercise tests the assumptions and planning factors that were used to make sure what's on paper really works as well.

Anyone in the working group is welcome to attend the exercise as an observer if you are not already identified as a player. The whole point is to use different and distinct radio systems to demonstrate our ability to interoperate.

III. Public Comments

Irene Navis shared that she had recently attended a working group meeting to update the target capabilities list. These are DHS sponsored working group meetings for volunteers. Ms Navis volunteered for two groups. The Environmental Monitoring Working Group has not met yet. The Reconstituting Government Working Group meeting had emergency management and public safety personnel from all over the country in attendance. The Biloxi, Mississippi emergency manager brought a lot to the table.

It seems that DHS is looking at this project as basically a strategic planning exercise within these working groups. Ms Navis thinks there will be more meetings to flush out the strategies and target capabilities list that will be submitted to the DHS. This is a preliminary exercise to beef up target capabilities, make sure that the right things are in place. Each working group has people who lived through Katrina as an emergency manager or first responder to help bring some of those lessons learned into the mix.

At this time this exercise is not directly linked to grant funding but it will be in the future. Implementation and benefit to the local communities at this point is unclear. Ms Navis will keep us updated.

Jim O'Brien stated that one of the action items on today's agenda was actually to take action on applying for funds to have scholarships for LEPC members to attend the HazMat Explo

Conference taking place, November 13-16. Carolyn Levering, Chair of the conference stated that as LEPC members you are eligible to apply for a scholarship or to have scholarships for members of your agency. Ms. Levering requested that names be submitted to her by e-mail: leverc@co.clark.nv.us so she can get an accurate head count by the early registration October 10 cutoff date so that everybody can be served to the best of our ability with the available funds.

Jeff Smith, Regional HazMat Coordinator with the Bureau of Reclamation in Boulder City stated the EPA was denied to hold their Regional Response Team Meeting at Casa Grande on October 19-20.

IV. The fourth quarterly meeting is scheduled Wednesday, November 15 here in the Clark County Government Center's 1st floor, Pueblo Room at 9:00 a.m.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.