

Latah County
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
Latah County Courthouse
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LEPC Minutes
Meeting of August 8, 2013

Elizabeth King opened the meeting at 9:05 am., and the minutes were approved as e-mailed for the June 13, 2013 meeting. The meeting began with introductions.

There were in attendance (20):

*Randy Martz, Lewiston Area Coordinator, Operation Lifesaver
*Rev George Abrams, Inland Northwest Community Organizations Active in Disasters
*Todd Parker, Inland Northwest Community Organizations Active in Disasters
*Robin Cocking, Project Analyst, Whitman County Emergency Management
Laurel Caldwell, Information Technology Services Director, Latah County
Peter Steinhoff, System Administrator, Latah County Information Technology Services
David Duke, Police Chief, City of Moscow
Dan Carscallen, North Latah County Highway District Clerk/City of Moscow Council Member
Alan Martinson, Noxious Weed Superintendent, Latah County
Dick Hodge, Representative, Resource Conservation and Development Association
Michael Doherty, American Red Cross/CERT Volunteer, Latah County
Elizabeth King, LEPC Chairperson/WSU Emergency Management Program Coordinator
Charles Craig, Life Safety Coordinator, Gritman Medical Center
Matt Dudley, Planner, Public Health Idaho North Central District
Debi Ruppe, North Central Idaho Field Officer, Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security
Wayne Rausch, Sheriff, Latah County
Dave Glasebrook, Commerical Pilot/Concerned Citizen, City of Moscow
Andrew Brown, Warning Coordinator Meteorologist, Spokane National Weather Service
Alan Boe, Maintenance and Operations, Good Samaritan Society of Moscow
Sandy Rollins, Disaster Services/LEPC Coordinator, Latah County

(* Indicates new attendees)

1. Special Election for a New LEPC Chairperson

The Latah Board of County Commissioners signed a letter of recommendation for Elizabeth King to be the new LEPC Chairperson. She was presented with a letter from Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security at the meeting.

2. Safety at Railroad Crossings – Don't Get Hit By A Train

Randy Martz provided a very informative presentation, with handouts to the group. Some information included:

- a. Every 180 minutes someone is hit by a train.

- b. Trains don't have steering wheels, and is three feet wider than the track.
- c. It takes a mile or more (18 football fields) for stopping distance at 55 mph.
- d. The engine is 12 million pounds of steel.
- e. If your vehicle stalls on the track, get out and run towards the train. Call 9-1-1; if not you can get into trouble.
- f. Problems: going around gates and multiple tracks to cross.
- g. It is the responsibility of the motorist to avoid collision: look/listen before crossing.

Operation Livesaver was established in 1972. Randy is more than willing to come out and provide a presentation to your group. Contact information: 509-758-8389; oli.idaho@gmail.com

3. Disaster Long-Term Recovery

Rev George Abrams provided a very in-depth power point of this subject.

Emergency Response = 4 days
 Relief – 4 x 10 = 40 days (one month plus)
 Recovery 40 x 10 = 400 days (1.10 year)

Recovery can be a roller coaster ride for individuals/families. The goal of recovery is to: identify unmet needs; develop a recovery plan; verify the needs and resources; coordinate with partners to support clients until they achieve recovery. Recovery is slower paced than response. THE MORE AGENCIES FAITH BASED AND LOCAL THE BETTER THE RECOVERY.

The National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (NVOAD) is faith based and includes Salvation Army, American Red Cross, to name a few. The faith-based organizations play various important roles in recovery such as: electricians; plumbers; builders; day care; damage assessment; just to name a few. Each state as a VOAD. Some regions/counties have also formed Community Organizations Active in Disasters (COAD). These organizations are a valuable asset and provide funding, expertise, counseling among other areas of assistance.

Local members bring resources to the table, along with visiting members. Resources may include: donations management; warehousing; technical assistance; account assistance; experience; staffing; etc.

If anyone is interested in assisting with establishing a Long-Term Recovery Group for our area, please contact Sandy Rollins at the information provided in the letterhead.

Since George's presentation is too large to attach, if interested in receiving a copy I'll be happy to mail one to you.

4. Training/Events

August 13-15 = 2013 10th Annual Tribal Emergency Preparedness Conference (Spokane WA)
 September 14 = Juliaetta Blackberry Festival
 September 15-17 = Idaho Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters Conference (McCall)
 September 19-22 = Latah County Fair (Latah County Fairgrounds)
 September 28 = University of Idaho Homecoming
 October 5 = Whitman County Humane Society Mutt Strutt (Reaney Park, Pullman), (9:00 am – 1:00 pm)
 November 9 = Lewis-Clark Emergency Preparedness Fair (Nez Perce County Fairgrounds), (9:00 am – 3:00 pm)

5. Other Business

- a. Andrew Brown of NWS said hot and dry threat continues with possibilities of fires and flashfloods.
- b. Please check out the Latah County CERT facebook.

The next meeting is October 10, 2013 at 9:00 am. (We will have two guest speakers)

Thank you Randy Martz and Rev George Abrams for taking the time from their busy schedule to provide two very informative presentations.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Rollins