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# Minutes of the Denali Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Meeting Denali Borough Office, Healy June 5, 2019

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

The committee meeting was called to order by Chairperson Chris Noel at 6:33PM.

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**ROLL CALL:**

LEPC Members present were: Chris NOEL, Steve LOVE, AS Trooper Sgt Miner, Sam KIMMEL, Rob GRAHAM  
Absent: Joe CHATFIELD, Bill MORROW. Mayor Clay Walker was also present.

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Chris MOVED to excuse Joe Chatfield and Bill Morrow. The motion was seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

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**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

MOVED to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

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**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Mayor WALKER MOVED to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Attendee Introductions:**

True Furrh & Karen Endres with the National Weather Service (NWS), Fairbanks.

Temple Wingfield with Clear Air Force Station Safety Emergency Management.

Douglas Albrecht with Alaska Division of Homeland Security Emergency Management. He is the LEPC Program Manager and is attending to see the Denali LEPC at work and to work with Chris Noel.

Ed Plum, the Warning Coordination Meteorologist with the NWS in Fairbanks, is attending the meeting because the Denali Borough is in their forecast area.

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**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Denali Borough Treasurer provided a written financial report.

Chris NOEL MOVED to receive the financial report. The motion was seconded. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

**Reports of Subcommittees**

There were no subcommittees.

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Revision of the All - Hazards Plan: Update

1 The committee reviewed recommended changes to the All-Hazards Plan, Annex B: Alert and Warning.  
2 Discussion followed including:

- 3 • Ed Plum will follow up with Chris Noel on suggested changes to the document
- 4 • Add language regarding the fire department as a cooperating agency information dissemination
- 5 • Emergency notification system: RAVE, an opt-in service where you set up your account and elect
- 6 how you want to be notified, (cell, land line, email, text), is to alert local residents
- 7 • Troopers would use NIXLE alert and dispatch would also notify local emergency departments
- 8 • NWS is the lead agency for weather related emergencies
- 9 • SEOC (State Emergency Operations Center) would be capable of alerting visitors and local businesses
- 10 via a state-wide alert system
- 11 • RAVE Mobile Safety also works with the Smart 911 system
  - 12 ○ Fairbanks North Star Borough has paid the fee so Fairbanks Emergency Communications
  - 13 Center (dispatch) has that capability
  - 14 ○ If residents of the Denali Borough have created a Smart 911 profile and they dial 911 from
  - 15 one of the lines they've enrolled in their profile, their profile information would come up
  - 16 and they wouldn't need to opt in to the RAVE Alert system
  - 17 ○ The Smart 911 system is different but related to the RAVE Mobile Safety system
  - 18 ○ RAVE Alerts is a subscription service based on our population, we have a three-year contract
  - 19 which began about a year and a half ago
  - 20 ○ The Rave system hasn't been publicized, yet, as there is needed planning on how and when
  - 21 to use the system, defining roles and responsibilities, who has access to it and needed
  - 22 training
- 23 • Comments will be emailed to Chris Noel for feedback

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25 **B. Boroughwide Addressing: Update**

26 Steve Love reviewed the special meeting of the LEPC and the vote to recommend to the Planning  
27 Commission (PC) the Street Length method of addressing. Chris Noel encouraged LEPC members to  
28 attend the PC meeting to voice support.

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30 **C. Borough Training and Exercise Calendar/Table Top Exercise**

31 Chris Noel reviewed a presentation on Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan. This is a grant requirement  
32 and is also a best practice for the LEPC. These plans help guide the state when requesting support from  
33 the Training and Exercise Department on implementing a tabletop exercise.

- 34 • Douglas Albrecht went over the resources the state has for such exercises. They can be catered to
  - 35 the threats associated in a certain area. These exercises can be in the form of a diagram with
  - 36 discussion regarding who does what and when, or a timeline of how the incident command system
  - 37 will work depending on what is happening at a given point in an event, etc. There would be an
  - 38 After-Action Review report completed by the state and the LEPC.
  - 39 • Sgt. Miner suggested that the LEPC do a threat assessment study.
  - 40 • Douglas Albrecht stated that the greatest threats to the Denali Borough are wildfires (for the
  - 41 northern part of the borough), HAZ MAT spill, mass casualty, and active shooter incident
  - 42 • The committee intends to poll the community on what they perceive are the greatest threats to
  - 43 health and safety of borough residents
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1 Sam KIMMEL MOVED to put the threat assessment study on the next agenda. The MOTION was  
2 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

3 D. Ed Plumb – Warning Coordination Meteorologist

4 Mr. Plumb reviewed a packet showing the reevaluating of criteria thresholds for issuing National  
5 Weather Service “advisories” and “warnings” for the Denali Borough.  
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7 Chris NOEL MOVED that the LEPC recommends the National Weather Service (NWS) leave their advisory  
8 and warning criteria at the current levels for wind speed. The MOTION was seconded. The VOTE by  
9 show of hands was unanimous.  
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11 Rob GRAHAM MOVED that the LEPC recommends the NWS leave their advisory and warning criteria at  
12 the current levels for snow. The MOTION was seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.  
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14 Mayor Clay Walker MOVED to standardize the NWS advisory and warning criteria for the Denali Borough  
15 to be in alignment with the Susitna Valley level for freezing rain. The MOTION was seconded. The VOTE  
16 by show of hands was unanimous.  
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18 Ed Plumb noted that there is a Spotter Program where a forecaster provides storm spotter training to  
19 volunteers to provide feedback to the NWS during a storm. He also added that that water gauges have  
20 been installed in Riley Creek.  
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2 **NEW BUSINESS:**

3 Spring Preparedness Conference

4 Chris Noel and Logan Merrell, volunteer firefighter with Tri-Valley Fire Department, shared their experiences at  
5 the conference. A few topics of particular interest were the November 30, 2019 earthquake in Anchorage and  
6 the good public information response, and cyber security threats and ways to mitigate them. The conference is  
7 a good opportunity to network and receive training.  
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9 **Public Comment:**

0 Douglas Albrecht commented that the LEPC budget isn’t completed yet as they are waiting for what happens in  
1 the special session in Juneau. The 2020 applications haven’t been put online yet, but be prepared to fill them  
2 out as there will be a shortened timeline for accepting and approving them.

3 He also commended the Denali Borough LEPC for being one of the most efficient, organized LEPCs and is  
4 thankful for it being financially efficient and utilizing funds correctly as well as having good project reports so  
5 they can ascertain that the funding that they give out is being used properly.  
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7 Logan Merrell commented that he wants the LEPC to continue to move forward with the tabletop exercise ideas  
8 and utilize the HAZMAT training opportunities provided by the state.  
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0 **Committee Member Comment:**

1 Steve Love thanked all who attended including the public.  
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3 Sam Kimmel stated that it is important to get the RAVE alert system rolling.  
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1 Chris mentioned to Temple Wingfield that if there is an opportunity on base to participate or shadow exercises,  
2 Denali Borough staff and other response agencies would appreciate an invitation to participate. Chris thanked  
3 Temple for the invitation to attend a recent active shooter table top exercise on base.

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5 Mayor Walker appreciated the work of the committee and the guests who participated.


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7 **TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:**

8 Mayor Walker asked the committee to consider meeting at 6:00 PM instead of 6:30 PM. It was agreed by the  
9 committee members to change the time to 6:00 PM.

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11 The next meeting will be held September 4, 2019, at 6:00 PM in the Denali Borough office.

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13 **ADJOURNMENT:**

14 Chris NOEL MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM. The motion was seconded. The motion passed by  
15 unanimous consent.

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20 APPROVED:  \_\_\_\_\_  
21 Chris Noel, Chair

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24 ATTEST:  \_\_\_\_\_  
25 Connie MacMaster, Deputy Clerk

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28 Date Approved: 12-5-19  
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