

**Minutes of the Denali Borough Local Emergency Planning  
Committee (LEPC) Meeting  
Denali Borough Office  
Healy  
March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The committee meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steve Love at 6:12 pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

Steve Love, Chairman – Mariel Fonteyn, DHS+EM – Clay Walker, Mayor – Marge Nord, Cantwell VFD – Celia Jackson, American Red Cross Interior – Bill Morrow, American Red Cross Mat Su - Chris Noel, Coordinator

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Marge moved to approve the agenda, Clay seconded. Approved

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Clay moved to approve the minutes. Chris seconded. Approved

**REPORTS:**

The LEPC coordinator gave a brief status report. The committee thanks all present for coming. The LEPC held a successful outreach event at the Denali Winterfest dinner. There were approximately 100-150 folks in attendance at the dinner and talent show and the public safety booths were a nice addition. Next year it would be great to get the word out well ahead of time so everyone knows to expect them. The smoke detectors generously donated by Home Depot, Sam's Club, and Arctic Fire and Safety were raffled off. We still have a few detectors left. The Borough is in the process of purchasing mass-care winter sheltering for the Volunteer Fire Departments. Tier II reports are coming in and we will send out notice in mid April. The LEPC is pleased to partner with the American Red Cross and appreciates their efforts to attend our meetings. A reminder that the Borough VFD "All Chiefs" meeting will be held on March 31<sup>st</sup>, at the Healy Community center.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Update on the Canyon Evacuation Annex to the All Hazards Plan- Clarify request for State Assistance. Mariel from DHS recommended using the States Evacuation Plan template. She suggested we leave out portions of the plan that are not relevant for our situation. Once we have the plan paired down, we can break it up into sections and distribute these sections to various other entities. This should be collaborative. DHSEM Operations is willing to help at any time if we need assistance. IT was suggested

to check with Forestry, as they may already have evacuation plans in place. The lodges must also play a role as their plans will be the first steps in an overall response.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. *Introduction to Alaska Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. (DHSEM).* All present are familiar with the organization and its mission and capabilities. There was discussion as to whether state budget cuts will affect Borough grants. LEPC grants will likely be maintained at current levels. If the EMPG program is defunded in part, the federal match will be impacted.
- b. *American Red Cross applicant introduction:* The American Red Cross members are happy to partner with local government to prepare for all hazards. The Interior and Mat Su representatives hold seats on numerous LEPC's. They are interested in a partnership that could allow them to stage mass-causality supplies in the Denali borough. Cantwell would work well due to its close proximity to the Denali Highway. Red Cross will visit Cantwell VFD to check out what supplies they currently have. The Red Cross can offer Sheltering training for local identified shelter locations. Borough schools are primary sheltering points and we will work towards arranging a meeting between District staff and the Red Cross. There are 4 shelter models and not all involve the Red Cross.
- c. *Spring Preparedness Conference registration deadline:* The deadline for the Spring Preparedness conference is Friday March 6, 2015. The LEPC coordinator is registered and we can have one additional state funded representative from the LEPC.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

There was a question as to when an SHSP Grant opportunity might open up. Mariel mentioned that the current grant cycle recently opened and some of the funding will be reserved for training and some for equipment. This grant has been used in the past to purchase equipment in use by the Volunteer Fire Departments.

The 103<sup>rd</sup> Civil Support Unit of the National Guard recently reached out to the LEPC. They are interested in attending a meeting to showcase their capabilities and network.

American Red Cross would like to partner with local organizations to distribute smoke alarms. They need to be installed by the participating organization. Some suggestions were faith based groups, Boy Scouts, and the Volunteer Fire Departments.

**TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting is June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Borough office. The following meeting will be held September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm.