

## Southwest PET Region Meeting Minutes, August 11th, 2021

McCook Public Safety Building, 505 W C St, McCook

Regional representatives from all of the 7 counties were present. Chase-EM Duane Dreiling (Zoom) ; Dundy- Region 51 EMA Director Brandon Myers and Deputy EM Pam Reichert (Zoom); Furnas- Region 17 EMA Director Roger Powell; Hayes County-EM Char Hamilton (Zoom) and Deputy EM Joe Miller; Hitchcock- Region 51 EMA Director Brandon Myers and Deputy EM Kyle Clapp; Perkins-Sheriff/EM James Brueggeman (Zoom); Red Willow- Sheriff /EM Alan Kotschwar and Deputy EM Diana Wilkinson.

Also Present: Billie Cole, Red Willow Western Fire/Hazmat; Mike Hotchkiss, Nebraska Corn Processing; Heidi Wheeler, Nebraska Plains Healthcare Coalition and SWNE Public Health Dept.; Shawn Jacobs and Ryan Husted, National Weather Service; Marion McDermott, American Red Cross,, Logan Lueking, NEMA; Heidi; Tux Jackson, Plains All American Pipeline

Call to Order – Open Meetings Law. Meeting was called to order at by 10:30 by Chair Brandon Myers Review and approve the agenda: Roger moved, seconded by James to approve the agenda. Motion agreed to.

Review and approve the minutes from the previous meeting: James moved, seconded by Duane to approve the minutes. Motion agreed to.

NEMA Report – Logan Lueking reported the agency sent an incident mgmt. team to the Banner Co. fire, which was over 7,000 acres. Next week is the beginning of the next phase of Bold Planning workshops, continuing through the end of the month. DHHS and NEMA are hosting a disability training at locations across the state. Sign up is on the NEMA website. There is a half-day or full-day option.

ARC Update: Marion McDermott reports an extreme blood shortage. They are also experiencing a lack of Disaster Action Team responders. She will be circulating a flyer, and they are scheduling an 8-hr. 'boot camp' to quickly train new volunteers Sept. 18-19. She is trying to complete the collection of MOUs between the ARC and counties. They have resumed wearing masks in their offices, and some offices remain closed.

MRC- Brenda Peterson: not on the call today, no report.

NPHCC- Heidi Wheeler: Advanced Burn Life Support Trainings are being planned in September with St. Elizabeth's Hospital. This is a certification course for ems and hospital care providers. It is four hours of virtual learning, as well as hands on. One class will be in McCook. She will send out more information. She also reported on continued Covid 19 response activities in light of the Delta variant.

Region II: Shannon Sell: They are requiring masks for all staff and visitors at their facilities. She reported an upcoming mental health first aid class in McCook on September 16<sup>th</sup> and youth mental health first aid training on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>.

NWS- Goodland/LBF: Ryan reported national WEA testing today, if you opted in. High end thunderstorm warnings will now be pushed out over WEA. Lower level warnings will not. Shawn reported the NWS is very interested in participating in any exercises. Please let them know. He discussed drought conditions. GLD and LBF will be issuing fire weather watches and red flag warnings.

LE Group-They are looking into training opportunities. Nothing set to report.

#### Old Business

Pam attended via Zoom, and sent out an email on the status of the various grant years:

2018 Grant – Update: Our only expenditure was for the annual Wauneta Tower rent, \$9,820.46. Grant closes in August of 2022

2019 Grant – Update: No Changes , also August of 2022.

2020 Grant – Update: No expenditures.

Dues- July invoices. Please get these submitted to get them done for the year.

Training Calendar : Brandon listed potential trainings that have been discussed, and encouraged everyone to work toward getting trainings scheduled.

Update on approved training classes: Nothing new to report.

NPSCC /NRIN/ CNRI – Roger: Brandon reports they are looking to replace Solar Winds, the vendor that experienced security breaches. Work continues on infrastructure development. They are pushing everyone to get on and use the system.

New Business: Election of Officers: Duane nominated Brandon to remain as chair. Roger seconded. All were in favor. Pam nominated Roger for Vice-Chair. James seconded. Alan moved to close nominations. All were in favor. Roger nominated Kyle for Secretary, seconded by Duane. James moved to close nominations. All were in favor.

B: CERT: Brandon reported 5 out of 15 tablets work with the rapid tag software. Brandon moved, seconded by Roger, to purchase new tablets that are compatible with our credentialing equipment. All were in favor.

C: Bold Planning : Southwest region emergency managers are scheduled to be back here on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> for a planning workshop.

Good of the Group: none. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 11:20. The next meeting of the SWPETR will be October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021, immediately following the SWLEPC meeting at the McCook Fire Dept. Meeting Room.