



**LAKE COUNTY**  
**Local Emergency Planning Committee / Citizen Corps**

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Meeting: LEPC

Date: 01-18-2023

Meeting called to order by Kory Reck, LEPC Chairperson at 7pm

Present: April Denholm, 911 Manager ; Kody Keefer, Lake County EM, Kelli Wollmann, Lake County Commissioner, Dan Hansen, Nunda Fire, Brady Christiansen, Ramona Fire, Robbi Boettcher, Ramona Fire, Kathy Hansen, MRHS, Deb Reinicke, Lake County Commissioner, Wren Murphy, Madison Daily Leader, Mark Nelson OEM Regional Coordinator; Shae McClanahan, Manitou, Mayor Roy Lindsay, Brian Bisson, Nunda Fire, Terry Reck, Wentworth Fire, Aaron Talich, Madison PD

**Agenda:** Approved. #1 D. Reinicke, #2 R. Lindsay

**Public Comments:** none

**Minutes:** Minutes were approved as written. #1 T. Reck #2 D. Hansen. All Ayes

**Treasurer report:** Kody Keefer reported the balance is \$21, 329.20 with an outstanding check for \$161.25. Treasurer report approved. #1 R. Lindsay, #2 B. Christiansen All Ayes.  
Discussion had on representative from Chester Fire to attend LEPC. K. Keefer will reach out to Chester Fire.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **P25-Radio Update**

April presented a handout that summarized the State P25 Radio Upgrade Call on 11/16/2022. P-25 upgrade is scheduled in November. She stated the profiles are ready to go from the Smart Zone to P-25 and has been informing individuals and other organizations that this switch will be occurring in November so everyone will be ready to switch over.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **VHF Project**

R. Boettcher, presented a proposal to improve communication. He provided the following quotes:

- 2-way Radio-Motorola radios- 122 radios, 2 -100watt repeaters, necessary FCC licenses, and installation cost of project **\$157,000.**
- Vantec-Kenwood radios - 122 radios, 2 - 40 watt repeaters, necessary FCC licenses, and installation cost of project **\$65,000.**

Discussion was had for funding options.

April reinforced that Dispatch needs to have a designated channel so they have one channel to page out on.

Discussed the need for education/training for radios. April also stated that one person needs to be designated for an incident and inform Dispatch who to communicate with at an incident.

April reminded members to tell responders to use Active 911App. The page may not go thru due to ½ power until a new repeater gets replaced. This would not affect the VHF discussion.

April reported that on 1/19/2022 the Dispatch phone system would be getting an update of the server software. She will notify responders using Active 911 when upgrade is completed.

### **2023 Homeland Security Grant**

Kody reported that the Homeland Security Grant deadline is on 2/15/2023. He stated 25 % is designated to law enforcement. He emphasized that this is a regional grant with monies being divided among local counties.

Discussion on a possible grant proposal: have each fire station receive State a digital mobile radio for each truck and 1 base radio. Robbi stated he could get quotes.

Aaron stated PD was working on a project and would work with Kody for the grant proposal.

### **Annual SD Pipeline Association Responder Training.**

Kody reported on the training. The training is located in Brookings, SD on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 1130. It is free to attend but must register.

### **Open Floor discussion**

- April informed members to be aware the iPhone 14's , phones and watches, crash detection system may automatically call 911 when participating in high impact activities. She stated it has not happened locally but other areas have seen an increase of 911 calls due to this.
- Kody reported he had attended a Joint Council meeting that included Fire Chiefs, EM, EMS, and Fire Instructors. Talked with the lobbyist to promote State bills. The State did allocate monies and have 2 mobile burn trailers, and are working on getting instructors certified.
- Kody report that the State will stop funding free mental health resources for 1<sup>st</sup> responders unless Legislation extends the program.  
Discussion was had on the importance of 1<sup>st</sup> year responders Mental Health. It was noted that Lake County has a Chaplin, Adam Welton and Brookings has a Critical Incident Management team.
- Kody reported the Federal 1<sup>st</sup> responder Public Safety Death Benefit increased to survivors from \$375,000 to \$400,000. He stressed the importance of wearing required traffic safety vests.
- Reported on future training opportunities:
  - Wildfire Symposium March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> in the Black Hills
  - Fire School in Watertown from 3pm on Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, thru Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.
  - NVFC-National Volunteer Fire Council 2025-Rapid City SD

Adjourn

#1 D. Reinicke and #2 T. Reck All Ayes.

Respectfully Submitted

Kathy Hansen

LEPC Recording Secretary