



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

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Website: <http://www.lake.sd.gov/custom/lepc>

Meeting: LEPC

Date: 10-18-2023

Meeting called to order by Kody Keefer, Lake Co EM at 7pm

Present: April Denholm, 911 Manager ; Brady Christiansen, Ramona Fire, Kathy Hansen, MRHS, Wren Murphy, Madison Daily Leader, Shae McClanahan, Manitou, Bryan Bisson, Nunda Fire, Kelli Wollman, Lake County Commissioner; Terry Reck, Wentworth Fire, Justin Meyer, Chief of Police; Tate Hayford, MRHS EMS, Mark Nelson, State OEM

**Agenda:** Approved. #1 Tate Hayford #2 Justin Meyer All ayes.

**Public Comments:** none

**Minutes:** Minutes were reviewed and approved as written.

**Treasurer report:** Kody reported as of 7-14-2023 the amount was \$20,991.81. One outstanding expense of \$85.74 for purchasing pizza for the county wide extrication education, brings total to \$20,906.07.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **SARA Tier II Reporting**

Kody explained the purpose of the SARA reporting. It is required by the Federal government for businesses to provide a list of Class 3 hazardous materials to the Emergency Manager/fire chiefs.

#### **VHF Radio Project**

Tabled till January in the absence of Robbie Boetcher/Kelly Dybdahl. Concerns were voiced regarding the timeline in completing this project. The project consist of 2 repeaters and 122 Radios for Fire and REACT. Discussion was had on an option for a special meeting instead of waiting till January.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **P25 Radio Update**

April and Kody reported the tower was updated on Saturday, Oct.14<sup>th</sup> and now is P25 compliant. All radios in 911 communications connected. Testing with response agencies, Madison PD and Sheriff went well. Terry Reck reported only 1 radio flipped over to P25, it was noted Vantec will need to work with local fire chiefs to check every radio to make sure their radios can switch over to P25. Discussion was had on “keying up” the radio. If you do not talk or key the mic you will be clicked off. Kody is going to contact Kevin Smit, to check timeframe to key up each radio. Tate stated EMS is having some issues hearing scene updates.

## **LEPC/DANR Grant Application**

Kody stated he will be completing the LEPC grant. He stated the LEPC should qualify as the LEPC meet all the requirements. Typically the grant consists of \$1500-\$1900/year. Deadline is November 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **SD 511 County/Tribal Access – Postings**

SD DOT is allowing local officials within the County to be able to open/close county roads due to hazardous road conditions. It is important to contact the DOT supervisor if a road is going to be closed or need to divert traffic for example a MVC.

## **OPEN FLOOR DISCUSSION**

### **Spill Response**

Kody reported on a hazardous spill involving a sprayer that lost a hydraulic line and blew hydraulic fluid on the ground. The Madison PD, Fire/City Street department/ and Lake Co. Emergency Manager responded. 12 bags of floor dry from the Haz-Mat trailer was utilized. The farmer will be billed for the floor dry and the trailer will be restocked.

Terry R. asked what he should do with the foam at fire station. He stated there is about 800 gals at Wentworth Fire, and another 800 gals at the Ethanol plant. The foam cannot be used for training because of the potential side effects. Kody stated there was conversation at the State Conference and know it is an issue and the State is working on a resolution.

### **Active 911**

April provided a FAQ sheet for Active Alert by 9-1-1 and a flyer for IPAWS, Integrated Public Alert & Warning System, explaining it can be used for local emergencies. See Attachments.

April discussed an incident where an accident had occurred and the responding agency did not go thru 911 Communications to contact EMS. She reminded members to go thru 911 Communications.

April told the group that any member of the public is invited to sit with 911 Communications to see how it operates.

Terry R. asked if anyone calls in when the sirens are tested monthly to let the County/City know if the sirens are functioning or not. Kody stated once a year they check to make sure all sirens are functional.

Prior to adjourning the meeting, Terry R. made a few comments regarding it being a “Bad Summer” for 1<sup>st</sup> responders, and the importance of taking care of members and their mental health.

Meeting Adjourned

Motion #1 J. Meyer #2 K. Wollman All ayes.

Respectfully Submitted

Kathy Hansen

LEPC Recording Secretary

## ATTACHMENTS:

### How do I get Active 9-1-1?

First, your phone number has to be enrolled in Active 9-1-1. You will need to speak to the head of your agency to get enrolled. You will need to provide your name, email address, phone number, and whether your phone is an android phone or an iPhone.

After you are enrolled, you can install the Active Alert app on your phone. Once the app is installed you can text yourself your device code through the app. Put in the device code you receive and you should be ready to go. Your agency head can provide the device code directly if you have trouble getting it.

### What do I do to get started?

You should automatically receive alerts for your agency. The alerts will contain the location and any additional information available.

### What settings should I change?

- You need to set your Background GPS setting to 'Precise Accuracy for 15 minutes after a response'. This will allow dispatch to see the responders to a call on the map. Foreground GPS should be off.
- You will need to make sure Auto-open Mode is set ~Z to Original Auto-open or Popup Dialogue to be sure that you see alerts.
- If you are a heavy sleeper or work in a loud area you may want to enable Continuous Repaging – this will have your phone continue to notify you with sound/vibration until the alert is viewed.
- Ringtones – you can set agency specific ringtones here. This is what you will hear when you receive an alert for that agency.
- Pagegroups just shows which groups you receive alerts for.
- For most agencies Duty Status and Assignments do not matter but for some if you set your status to Off Duty you will no longer receive alerts.
- You will need to set Chat Notifications to Closed so that you receive a notification when a new chat is created in your group chat even when the app is closed (can be important)

### What do I do when I get an Alert?

When you get an Alert, it will either automatically open on your phone or you will need to click it to open it (depending on which setting you chose).

Once the alert is open you need to choose your response type. There are several options: **Copy, Responding, On Scene, Disregard, NotAvailbl**. Choose the response that best fits. You should always choose a response. You can open the alert and change your response as well – for instance from Copy to Responding and then to On Scene when you arrive.

You can check the Responses (under the buttons) to see who is responding to the call. You should be able to see their location on the map as well.

The Details of the call will be under that with the Date/Time, Groups the Alert was sent to, GPS Coordinates, and details of the call if available. Any nearby map markers (such as fire hydrants) will be shown under the details as well.

### What is the Chat?

You will have access to a chat room for each group that you receive alerts for and the Everyone Chat as well. Your agency may use their Chat room for important announcements and the Everyone Chat is frequently used for important county-wide announcements.

IPAWS Advisory: Alerting is a Local Decision

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) <fema@service.govdelivery.com>

Wed 08/30/2023 14:10

To:Lake 911 <lake911@lake.sd.gov>

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# IPAWS ADVISORY



## Alerting is a Local Decision

The IPAWS Office continues to receive reports that Alerting Authorities (AAs) declined to use the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) to alert and warn the public, because the incident did not meet FEMA emergency requirements.

FEMA's position is that emergencies are local, and it is at the discretion of local officials to provide timely notification to their jurisdictions.

- The decision to issue an alert to the public is a matter of local emergency official communication plans, policies and procedures.
- FEMA does not place limitations or restrictions on criteria for AAs to issue an alert to the public.

FEMA does not monitor, review, modify, approve or disapprove the message text content of alerts drafted and disseminated over IPAWS by AAs. Alert content, time of transmission, event code, targeted area, duration, and the decision to update or cancel an alert is the sole responsibility of an AA.

For more guidance on making your alert decisions, please consult the [Best Practices for Alerting Authorities Using Wireless Emergency Alerts](#).

Contact the IPAWS Office at [fema-ipaws-stakeholder-engagement@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-ipaws-stakeholder-engagement@fema.dhs.gov).

**IPAWS 24/7 Technical Support Services: 1-84-IPAWSLAB / 1-844-729-7522**

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