

## LEPC MEETING

### NASH COUNTY ALL HAZARDS LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE AND HURRICANE SEASON KICK-OFF TEAM MEETING

06/18/21

Meeting called to order by Brent Fisher.

Welcome – Brent Fisher

Reviewed Minutes from last meeting. Motion made by Jo Anna Robbins and second by Bryant Fisher. No discussions or questions, no opposition. Minutes stand approved.

Administration Announcements

Next 20/21 meeting dates: August 27, 2021 and November 19, 2021 – More information to come on location.

Emergency Management Report

Have met the requirements of the State Emergency Response Commission and have received our LEPC authorization letter for EMPG. Appreciate everyone's attendance.

TIER II Reports – LEPC was formed to discuss hazardous material in our communities with the EPCRA and facilities are required to report on a TEIR II report from January to the first of March. Still gathering information on numbers. Did have good turnout in the E-PLAN. Will continue to gather data and share in August.

TIER II Non-Competitive Grant

Each year the LEPC receives a \$1,000 grant from NCEM – two grants. A competitive grant (which has more money tied to it) and a non-competitive grant which is a \$1,000.00. Received for last few years. Received again. Need to present to the LEPC what the plan is for the \$1,000. Looking at a hazardous materials expert software program. No further ideas presented for the \$1,000. Will continue on with research. Moved from December to January/February end of grant cycle. Will move ahead.

20/21 Hurricane update

Hurricane season started June 1<sup>st</sup> – Possibility of 3 named storms. Anna, Bill, next name will be Claudette. May see rain from it next week. NOAA and Climate Prediction Center are all predicting above normal season. Calling for 13-20 named storms, 6-10 hurricanes, of those including 3-5 major hurricanes.

#### DPR4 Grant updates

2020 – Received a grant to purchase a large animal rescue unit - LARU. Thanks to County Manager and Commissioners for their help in fronting the money for these grants. These resources support the DPR4 region and are great for our community and county as well as for others.

20/21 – Will be looking at Mobile Event Response Trailer. MOA's have been sent out. Have not received them back. Should be coming up shortly. Will have cones and barricades, for any type of event or response needed for parking lots, vaccine clinics, etc. Big response capability seen across the 9 DPR's. Will be Sept/Oct – looking at projects for next year. Eleven (11) disciplines on the grant/DPR – each has availability to bring projects to the table. Big push on cyber security. Will be looking at December deadline to have submitted. Let me know if any projects are out there.

Mark Schell – Area 7 Coordinator - Emphasizing preparedness for hurricane season. Encourages people to plan for that day. Look at continuity planning and personal planning.

James Collins – NCEM - Director Sprayberry is retiring. Interviewing for that position. Hurricane preparedness – keep in mind that FEMA does have non-congregate sheltering right now, but will be moving back to congregate sheltering. The process going forward for homeland security grants will require a THIRA threat assessment that will need to be done at the local level. Everyone needs to look at their current plans, current equipment and operations and find those gaps and holes to help identify projects for the federal funding. Funding getting less and less and more competitive. Brent – THIRA has gotten a little better, things continue to change but will be reaching out with additional information.

#### Jo Anna – Health Department

Update on COVID cases – Past couple of weeks positive cases going down. Past week, Tuesday – Monday - 14 new cases. Break these down by age groups. 30 to > 60, 8 cases; 2 cases for 30-39; 2 cases 40- 49; 2 cases 50-59; and 2 cases 60. Children, 6 cases ages 10-19. Positives are going down. Total positive cases to-date (Tuesday) 11,371; total deaths - 193 currently.

Shannon - Vaccine Clinic – Nash County Health Department has given 22,170 total COVID vaccinations. First doses - 11,440; second doses - 10,730. Total for Nash County 40,827 (43% of population with at least one dose) doses given. People fully vaccinated - 36,825 (39% of population). Still doing first and second doses on Tuesdays. Also visiting Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church every other Wednesday and Pfizer Clinics for 12-17 year old on Friday.

Jamie - Flu Update – Thanks EMS and Emergency Management for all your help through all of this. Seeing delta variant coming through. Information going out on variants. Possibility of false/negative tests is in existence as the virus changes.

Flu is at a zero. Finding that masks, handwashing and distancing will kill the flu. Some good things have come out of COVID. Has cut down on flu and had no norovirus outbreaks.

Bobbi – Based on information from infection control team at hospital – hospitalizations are down. Currently past 4 weeks 4-8 people hospitalized. No one on vent. Came through Memorial Day holiday – did not see spike in cases. Will be looking for spikes with upcoming July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

Zee Lamb – Wants to thank everyone who has been dealing with this issue.

Shannon Lee – Nash County Health Department

12 is age requirement to get vaccine. Probably vaccinated 40-50 children as of time of this meeting.

Jamie working on list of facilities in case needed during the hurricane season for out-sourcing of special needs individuals.

Public Health Preparedness - Actively working on policies and plans and getting up to date to make sure they are ready.

NC State Emergency Management – none.

Other Agencies/Industries:

Brent Fisher - Nash Community College is hoping to be back open in the fall with in-person classes.

Hospital – None

Bryant Fisher – Nash County 911 Communications

Continuing with center lockdown. Have 2 telecommunicators in training. Also in the process of hiring for the open spot and will be making an offer today, and will then get started training. The 911 academy is going good. Had a class graduate a couple of weeks ago. Hired one out of the academy that is going through in-house training now. Overall, the academy is going well. Next academy starts last week in August.

Tony Biondo – Attended national hurricane conference in New Orleans. Covered the science behind the upcoming forecast. Looks very active for this year. Expects more storms this year. Will get with Brent Fisher with further information.

Carla Dunston – Nash Community College - nothing to report at this time.

Dr. Michelle Bouchey - Department of Ag

Very active with exercises and planning. Have had several exercise and is working on re-writing plans. African swine fever spreading across Asia and Europe, in Germany at this point. Concern to keep any affected pork out of our country. Not a human health concern. Animal Emergency Response Working Group – goal is to enhance preparedness and response capabilities involving

animals and livestock especially at the local level. Meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month virtually – always looking new members.

No further agency reports.

Hurricane Kick Off

Everyone continue to make plans.

Continue to reach out to shelter locations to continue the relationship.

Resources for those sites - will need to look at staffing for shelter operations. All continue to look at equipment to make sure ready each month.

David Jones - American Red Cross

Big change coming – will be going back to congregate sheltering. All Red Cross personnel will be wearing mask. They will assist with registration pieces and make sure setting up shelter 6' apart, head-to-toe arrangement – change will be that families can now huddle together.

Still have contracts with feeding partners. Also found a partner who will do specific areas.

Upon initial opening of shelter, will provide snacks and water for the first 24 hours. Red Cross will be prepared.

Amy Pridgen-Hamlett/Shea Neal – Nash County Department of Social Services – nothing to report.

Public Health – Has ability to staff nurses for 2-3 shelters.

Nash County Sheriff's Office/Rocky Mount Police Department – nothing.

Animal Control/Pet Sheltering – nothing.

Brent Fisher – We have two resources in the county - CAST Trailer that has the cages and can house 43 animals, and the CAMET trailer that has 50 collapsible cages.

Special Needs Sheltering – special needs registry. Good right now. Will be looking at shelter boxes and checking dates.

Volunteer Management – United Way is on board to support in any way. 211 is still available. Assistant County Manager, Stacie Shatzer has been serving as the liaison between the County/EOC and United Way.

Mass Feeding – no further questions or comments.

Information Sharing /Situational Awareness – Emergency Management has been sharing information via email and social media.

EM required to submit situational reports to NC Emergency Management two times a day. If you have anything to share, get it to us.

Transportation – nothing to report.  
Brent Fisher – appreciate efforts from transportation.

Aux-Com – stand ready to go. Resources in our suite. Can deploy personnel to our shelter sites.

#### Training needs

EOC Staffing – May be doing some in person briefings. Have 2 -3 people deep in those positions. Want good coverage and good telephone numbers. If have any changes, please let us know.

Damage Assessment – Adam Tyson. May want to do a refresher training on the Orion software program.

#### FEMA Reimbursement

Brent Fisher – Do not self-deploy unless MOA between counties. Need to make sure a mission number is assigned to the team before they go so all costs can be tracked for reimbursement. Things continually change and as they do, will share information.

Main non-emergency phone number for the EOC is 459-9805; Main number for EOC if activated is 459-1202.

Please let us know if any phone numbers or emails have changed.

#### Roundtable Discussion

David Jones – Usually looks at the number of people affected before they stop putting them in hotel and before opening a shelter – number use to be 10. Looking at possibly moving it up to 15 before opening the shelter.

Town of Nashville - Randy Lansing – Nashville now has a high water wheel rescue vehicle for civilian use in Nash County.

Next meeting date is August 27, 2021 – location to be determined. Time 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. More information to come.

Meeting adjourned.