

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES

August 14, 2024 at 12:00 PM



In-Person with Zoom Capabilities

LOCATION: In-Person at the Nat'l Guard Armory/UAS Rec Center (12300 Mendenhall Loop Rd - Room 116)

OR via Zoom: <https://juneau.zoom.us/j/99118835453> or 1-253-215-8782 Webinar ID: 991 1883 5453

Questions Call: (907) 209-9207 or email cityclerk@juneau.gov

A. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ed Williams

B. ROLL CALL

Establish Quorum - Michelle Brown

Introductions – Online and In Room

Vacant Seat – Hospital Alternate Seat

Welcome – 103rd WMD-CST, Alaska Army National Guard Members

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - August 14, 2024 - Approved

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - July 10, 2024, Draft Minutes of the Juneau Local Emergency Planning Committee will be available at a future meeting

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (10-15 Minutes)

F. STAFF REPORTS

Elected Official - Paul Kelly spoke about the Monday, August 5 Mendenhall River flooding. Details are still developing. As of this morning it was reported that over 280 homes were impacted. A local emergency was declared Tuesday, August 6. He deferred to Tom Mattice for more up to date information. Tom reported that at least 298 residences impacted. A lack of flood insurance was an ongoing issue. No significant injuries reported at this time. Impressive number of individual volunteers and organizations have come forward including Team Rubicon to begin clean-up efforts. Michelle Brown advised the group that discussions about the recent flooding should be held to that section under New Business to allow time to get through the agenda.

Emergency Programs – Michelle Brown added that the State was helping us develop a strong Request for Proposals (RFP) to hire a consultant to move our Hazard Mitigation Plan revision forward. The State has done this many times and has the knowledge to ensure we have a strong RFP.

JPD – Commander Weske had nothing outside the flood to report at this time.

CCFR – Teresa Ross reported that they have had a couple of fires and are dealing with access issues caused by the flooding.

Hospital – Nathan Rumsey gave an update on services and program changes at the hospital. Based on recommendations from the Board of Directors and Assembly, the hospital has closed the Adolescent Services Unit, and those services are now available at the hospital. More service reductions, including the Residential Rehab Unit, are being discussed. More to come as critical decisions are made. They are in the process of updating their Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and will continue to reach out to partners for clarity on the hospital's role in that. The hospital is in their survey window with the Joint

Commission, who is the Accrediting Institution. They will evaluate everything under the roof including their Emergency Management Program. More to come on that.

Red Cross – Michelle Brown reported that CBJ set up a Floyd Dryden shelter in response to the flooding. The shelter was supported by the Red Cross and CBJ Parks & Recreation. 43 individuals were served. We had a lot of untrained support at the shelter. Red Cross needs more training to increase efficiencies and decrease the need for spontaneous volunteers. The shelter response went well. Individuals came after the flood forced them out of their homes. They were cold, wet, and in distress. Lessons learned included the ongoing need for dry socks, clothing, and warm blankets to get people warm and out of cold wet clothing. That need has been added to the Red Cross list of items to stockpile for a shelter event. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday after the flood the Red Cross went to effected neighborhoods and performed damage assessments to create an accurate map of the homes effected in the area, to focus strongly on areas where individuals can no longer safely stay in their homes. This allows us to provide temporary assistance for housing, food, and transportation. Intake center open this Thursday and Friday at the Valley Library 10 to 2 and 3:30 to 6:30pm. Those effected can get information about available services at this event. Tom added that the State will follow with additional damage assessments and FEMA will follow the State with more damage assessments. Red Cross damage assessments are the initial assessment used by the State to establish a general dollar figure of damages.

HAZMAT & NWS Preparedness – Nicole Ferrin reported that for the last two weeks flooding has been their major focus. Weather has been more cooperative with warm dry days that will help those in the flooded areas.

Alaska Native Tribal – Tom spoke during their absence, crediting them with an excellent job. They stood up their EOC right away, stood up a shelter, and had many people in the field helping with the response; which is where they are today.

Public Health – Elaine Hickey said that there was an increased need to have updated Tetanus vaccinations when working with contaminated materials. There is an increase in Pertussis currently. Vaccinations are important. Watch for symptoms and get medical attention when needed. Download and check the App called Docket for up-to-date information on your vaccination status. New COVID protocol wear a mask in public until you are fever and cough free for 24 hours.

Community Group – Karen Wood advised that during a disaster people want their pets to stay with them. Unfortunately, there were some animals lost in the flood. It is important to have shelters that include pets. The Juneau Animal Rescue always offers emergency boarding and continues to provide shelter services for pets effected by the flooding at no cost as long as there is enough space available.

Right-to-Know – Evan Price for Ryan Sand reported that UAS will have an influx of students coming into housing for the first day of school. Faculty who coordinated volunteers at the park with United Way are looking for incident command volunteer services and encourage a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). He will get information to Michelle and Tom. Tom asked UAS lodging/bed capacity. 80% was the answer.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. ORCA 2025 Exercise in Juneau – Presentation by 103rd, Alaska Army National Guard

Kyle Rehberg gave a PowerPoint presentation overview of this upcoming exercise and provided a handout reference sheet that outlines the 103rds mission, capabilities, and resources. The Orca 25 exercise on June 9 -13, 2025 will be a 24-36 hour all-hazards CBRNE Joint Training Exercise (JTX) to test interoperability among local stakeholders in the City and Borough of Juneau, testing our ability to maintain operational response procedures during an incident of national significance. They will be bringing Civil Support Teams (CST) from the region (Washington, Oregon, Montana...potentially 16 CST teams). Multiple incidents overlapping the timeline of the exercise will affect and involve multiple

agencies in Juneau and the State. This will be a full-scale exercise involving agency and field operations from National Guard, Local, State, and Federal Agencies. The National Guard anticipates bringing 175 to 200 personnel to Juneau. This does not include the other agencies and organizations that will participate. This will be the largest Weapon of Mass Destruction (WMD) exercise in the FEMA Region and Indonesia Specific Command (Indopaycom). Exercise funding is being provided by Indopaycom who will direct the exercise. This is an opportunity for Juneau partners to use the National Guard's pocketbook to cover expenses associated with participating in this exercise. National Guard is asking organizations who wish to participate to send in their organization's exercise objectives so that they can be built into the exercise as it is being developed. Leading up to the exercise, the National Guard will host additional training events to make sure we are trained and ready to exercise by the Orca 25 event. Role players may be required within the community. This exercise will overlap the June 2025 LEPC meeting and participation in the exercise by many LEPC participants may cause a lack of quorum. Need to consider cancelling the Juneau LEPC meeting in June 2025.

POC: CPT Rehberg, Kyle J – kyle.j.rehberg.mil@army.mil

2. **Mendenhall Flooding Updates** - Discussion lead by Tom Mattice

Tom Mattice reported that the CBJ is still working on a lot of things to support the flooding response. Mental health, housing, feeding, continued coordination of resources, debris collection, future mitigation. Basin did not hold more water than past events, but it released more water quicker than in the past. It was a unique event and could happen again. Paul Kelly asked if individuals affected homes were expected to be livable by winter. Tom said it was dependent on a lot of factors, contractors, equipment, and supplies. Outside resources are coming to town, local contractors are booked far past the winter. Public comments included that contractors from out of town do not find it cost effective to come to Juneau due to lodging and cost of living here; asked if the CBJ was doing anything to bring additional contractors and other resources into Juneau; insulation and sheetrock were sold out, people were going to have higher heating costs, are suppliers being encouraged to offer discounts and bring in more supplies, we only have two vendors in Juneau-are outside suppliers being sought, sirens like tsunami alert systems, could supplies from down south be purchased by the City and barged to Juneau and purchased by the community; are lodging arrangements for volunteers and contractors being considered; need to get people warm, dry, and insulated before the cold weather, those with disabilities need extra help to navigate the processes, ongoing mental health, crisis, and trauma resources, asked that flyers with mental health and other pertinent information be distributed door to door to help individuals with mobility issues, find more ways to get information to people, predicted water peak time changed several times recommendation made to re-alert when time changes. Tom answered that a lot of things are being done on the resource side, and CBJ would continue to find ways to streamline the processes to get resources. A lot of people have turned their VRBO's into long-term rentals and we are working with multiple agencies to catalog the housing needs. He did not know if the city was making efforts to bring contractors to town, he said that was more of the private end. CBJ may be able to find ways to support the housing needs of contractors. Paul Kelly said he would need to bring the needs being identified at the LEPC meeting back to the Assembly. Tom said that United Way and CBJ are working to coordinate volunteer resources. Destiny encouraged anyone feeling mental health needs based on this crisis to seek online resources, community resources, and to talk to others about their feelings. She emphasized that they are not alone. Info flyers about mental health resources would be available at the Mendenhall Valley Library. Team Rubicon has 15 people on the ground working to determine what resources are needed to support the community. Michael Pierson asked who was taking the mitigation lead to lessen the damage in future events. The Assembly will be supporting mitigation efforts along with local Tribal Governments to have a common message to take to the State and Federal Governments. Tom mentioned that a year ago he brought up drilling a bore hole through the mountain and was laughed at. This year after this event Lisa Murkowski asked what's the solution and Tom said he needed a bore hold through the mountain and he needed the senators support to push

it through State and Federal agencies. She then brought it forward during the media briefing right after the event. He advised that Public Works and the Public Works Committee were the incident commander and lead authority for this event. Prior to the event Silver Jackets maps were increased to 16 ft flooding and will continue to be updated. It is a natural event, and we can predict only with the best of our knowledge from past events and monitoring, but there is no way to exactly predict. Wireless emergency alerts were activated, JPD and CCFR went door to door to notify people flooding was eminent. The National Guard advised of a Department of Defense program called the IRT program that utilizes guardsmen to rebuild homes and infrastructure for recovery. UAS has a construction department, and their representative Abi Spofford asked if they could be utilized to assist in disaster recovery. Currently the Wireless Emergency Alert System is activated by the State at our community's request. We are working on implementing a local Wireless Emergency Alert System. National Weather Service (NWS) Nicole Ferrin advised that they are working with the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) so that when the CBJ requests a wireless emergency alert it would trigger NWS Civil Emergency Alert which would alert through NOAA radio to spread the message beyond mobile phones. Online question: Is there a document that exists or could be created by this group to list all emergency resources and the order of operations and how they come into play in a disaster? Ed Williams advised us to meet with all partners because each emergency has its own response plan, not one size fits all.

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. **All Hazard Mitigation & Whole Community Input Planning Update** – Tom Mattice -Tabled to next meeting

I. AGENDA TOPICS

J. INFORMATION ITEMS

4. **AlaskaEx 2026** - SE AK Regional Exercise with events beginning in 2025 through 2026
More information coming soon.
POC: Tom Mattice (907) 209-9207 - tom.mattice@juneau.gov
5. **HAM RADIO LICENSE CLASS**-The Juneau Amateur Radio Club will hold a HAM radio license class. This class is for the entry level Technician Class License. An FCC license examination will be held at the end of the class.
Date/s: September 03 through 26 (Every Tuesday and Thursday evening)
Time: 7:00 pm -10:00 pm
Location: National Weather Service Office on Back Loop Road
POC: Jerry Prindel - (907) 723-5750
6. **ORCA Exercise**-103rd WMD-CST, AK ANG
SAVE The Date: June 9-13, 2025
POC: CPT Rehberg, Kyle J - kyle.j.rehberg.mil@army.mil

K. NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

Hybrid meeting w/ZOOM Capabilities

Location: Nat'l Guard Armory/UAS Rec Center Joint Use Facility. Room 116

PLEASE ATTEND IN PERSON WHENEVER POSSIBLE

*Regular Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at noon

L. ADJOURNMENT – 1:40 pm

ADA accommodations available upon request: Please contact the Clerk's office 36 hours prior to any meeting so arrangements can be made for closed captioning or sign language interpreter services depending on the meeting format. The Clerk's office telephone number is 586-5278, TDD 586-5351, e-mail: city.clerk@juneau.gov.