



LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 8, 2024, at 12:00 PM

Zoom Webinar

VIRTUAL MEETING INFORMATION

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

Questions Call: 907-209-9207 or e-mail city.clerk@juneau.org

A. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ed Williams at 12:03pm

B. ROLL CALL:

Establish Quorum: Chairman Ed Williams

New Members: none

Welcome: Lt. Jeremy Weske will be taking the Law Enforcement seat that Scott Erickson is vacating at retirement

Farewell: Our thanks and best wishes to Lt Scott Erickson who is retiring.

Members Present: Paul Kelly, Ed Quinto, Travis Wolfe, Louisa Phillips, Evan Price, Jennifer Pemberton, Britt Tonnessen, Loren Jones, Karen Wood, Ed Williams, Nicole Ferrin, Ken Murphy, Eileen Hosey, Rhonda Butler, Tom Mattice, Michelle Brown

Members Absent: Scott Erickson, Krag Campbell, Destiny Sargeant, Nathan Rumsey, Warren Russell, Chris Russell, Ryan Sand, Steven Karnaze, Sabrina Boone-Grubitz, Elaine Hickey, Jamie Bursell

Others Present: Charles Wisner, Chelsea Swick, Daniel Blount, Erin Walker-Tolles, Mark Keplinger, Michael Pierson, Zachariah Fisher, Jay Kurtz

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: - May 8, 2024 - approved

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. March 13, 2024, Draft Minutes of the Juneau Local Emergency Planning Committee – approved

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

Michael Pierson – USCG – July 19th at 10am there will be a change of command for Sector Southeast Alaska. All members of the LEPC are invited. Please be there by 9:30/9:45am. At the Coast Guard Station Juneau. 345 Egan. Captain Darwin Jensen will depart, and Captain Stan Fields will be taking command.

F. STAFF REPORTS

Elected Official Report - Paul Kelly reported the assembly is working on the budget. They are looking at the future of the Thane Campground. It has been closed and they are looking at alternative options. There is currently no anticipated time for an alternative or temporary campground. They are trying to find a location. Michelle asked if the city is currently providing a fee waiver for other campgrounds. Paul reported that had not been discussed.

Emergency Programs Report - Tom Mattice – Participated in the city staff meeting to train on a new civic platform program. Individuals will be able to sign up and specify information they want to receive from CBJ about emergency alert notifications to local agenda updates.

The suicide basin monitoring is up and running. An additional camera and 3 new sensors were added this year in a multitude of fashions. The data these updates provide this year will give a better idea of scope and size of events and the timeline of when they will occur. The weather service and all the partner agencies have done a lot of preplanning which will enable us to provide the public earlier and more accurate notifications. There are a few studies that will happen this year and next year to hopefully help predict things more accurately. There will be a public information day out at UAS about what has changed and been done with the monitoring program this year and where they're headed for the next year. It will include time for questions and answers.

Clean-up day with CBJ Emergency Programs, Team Rubicon, Fire, and volunteers went well. Team Rubicon sent 5 individuals to be team leaders. Only 1 public volunteer participated. A lot more was done than they thought they could. Debris was piled along the riverbank for safe collection once the river rises. They can then send a boat up the river to pick up the piles and finish that project.

Interviews were done last week for Michelle's position. They are tendering an offer to someone for next week with the hope of a July start. Thank you to Michelle for sticking around a little longer.

Water shed planning is done in the spring every year for a 3-month period over the next 3 years. AELP will be working on the Salmon Creek Watershed and plan. Topics will include what to do if there is zero water in Salmon Creek. There are numerous contingency plans from multiple agencies in the works right now.

CCFR – Chief Ed Quinto reported that Theresa Ross was hired as the new Fire Marshall. She was born and raised here and was a Fire Marshall at UAA. Recently she had been working for the School District. Ed will invite her to future LEPC meetings. Upcoming June 10th a fire fighter 2 advanced fire fighter certification class will be held, other people in southeast communities are invited to participate. If anyone knows someone who is ready to do the 2 certifications have them reach out to the Fire department.

July 22nd a Structural Collapse Rescue Technical course is planned, this is an 80-hour class held over 10 days within 2 weeks. It will include heavy structural collapse and some landslide training. Date is subject to change.

JPD – none in attendance

Hospital – Evan Price reported they have been looking into forming a health care coalition with health care providers in the region. There is a federal requirement for level 4 trauma centers to be involved in a health care coalition and Bartlett Regional Hospital (BRH) is currently involved in the one with the State of Alaska. BRH is looking for a Juneau specific and/or Southeast specific health care coalition. The idea is, if there is a local patient surge event, a coalition of health care providers who are not affiliated with the hospital would be able to lend their services and take care of it together. Nate Rumsey will be taking the priority seat for the hospital and Evan will no longer be in one of the hospital seats for the LEPC.

Red Cross – Britta Tonnessen reported Friday, May 10 would be her last day with the Red Cross during 4 or 5 months of maternity leave. Mark and Loren will be the go-to during that time along with Jay Kurtz the Regional Disaster Officer. Jay is the individual in the interior holding the equivalent of Britta's position as Disaster Program Manager and has been assigned to supporting Loren and Mark. The school fiscal year is ending and many training events were given to students at the schools. Red Cross Southeast did not meet their shelter training goals. The planned June exercise in June was postponed to later in fall 2024.

Mark Keplinger reported that Southeast Red Cross have almost met their goals with the home fires campaign for installing smoke alarms in the homes though they have not met their goals for installations of strobe light or bed shaker alarms for the hearing impaired. The goal is 45 throughout all of Southeast Alaska, they are at 38. He asked the group to please spread the word that the Red Cross provides free smoke alarms, strobe lights, or bed shaker alarms with installation for anyone who needs them, have them contact the local office at (907) 500-3996.

Michelle reported she was able to get ahold of Jay and will have him do the presentation at a future LEPC meeting due to the technical difficulties today. He will be educating us on the specific roles they are looking

to be filled by volunteers. The group was encouraged to reach out within their organizations and help, in an educated way, to promote volunteering with the Red Cross. Southeast Red Cross needs a more robust volunteer taskforce. They are now rebuilding after Covid years depleted volunteer numbers.

Haz/Mat & NWS Preparedness - Nicole Ferrin reported that information was forwarded to the LEPC Committee participants on National Safe Boating week for May 18th-24th. It's through a partnership between the Weather Service, the National Safe Boating Council, and the Coast Guard. Look for daily social media posts throughout that week on specific safe boating things, not all weather related. Contact Nicole if anyone wants to partner with them on putting out social media.

Last month she participated in the State of Alaska Emergency Management Conference in Anchorage as part of a panel discussion that had excellent representation. Last week they participated in the Maritime Festival through a joint booth with the Red Cross.

She reported that short term weather includes a front that came through last night, and another one coming through tomorrow. They're looking at another over the next 36 hours. No flooding is anticipated but these fall type systems are unusual at this time of year.

Alaska Native Tribal – Rhonda Butler reported Sabrina is in Washington right now meeting with FEMA regarding ongoing collaborative work and hopefully getting some trainings going up here in Alaska. They are working on a lot of things. They are working on organizing some Hazmat training.

They attended the Emergency Management Conference last month and were able to bring their First Responders with them. It was very informative. They were able to bring Alicia Sell their Emergency Education Coordinator, she is coordinating CERT classes throughout all of Southeast. They have the first CERT training coming up on May 17-19th. Paul Kelly asked for more details on what the CERT training is. Rhonda explained it is community emergency response training. Tlingit and Haida received a Homeland Security grant to hire someone as the first responder CERT coordinator to provide training for all of Southeast Alaska, not just Juneau. The first one is happening in Juneau. Tom explained that the program is implemented differently in each community. The volunteers are trained in triage, basic fire suppression, stabilization, and more. Juneau had a robust program in the past but did not embed them as volunteers in emergency response organizations, which is part of the plan for the future in Juneau. Michael Lopez has volunteered to head this up for the Juneau area and will get recertified to organize and host continuing classes in Juneau again. The plan is to include Fire and Police optional training to be able to utilize participants as trained volunteers when needed. Michelle reported that during the Emergency Conference, many teams reported that several CERT team members went on to be hired by police or fire departments as a career path. The CERT training T&H are doing is 3 full days of training to become certified. In the past, CBJ Emergency Programs did shorter trainings over a longer period of time outside of main work hours and that worked well. This 3-day training is long days but one set of training and then they're done instead of taking weeks or months. Both work and provide the flexibility needed to serve different individual's needs.

Rhonda finished by reporting that they are working on Celebration, coming up in June. For the last 12-18 years communities have traveled to southeast from the south and the north. This year they are very excited, to have upwards of 22 canoes coming and 2 separate landings.

Other Member Reports – Louisa reported on the upcoming Wellness Fair this Saturday May 11th from 11am to 2pm. The event takes place at the National Guard Armory/UAS Rec Center, 12300 Mendenhall Loop Road. It is open to everyone but geared towards service members, veterans, and their families and might be changing the name next year to "Veterans Wellness Fair". There will be a resource fair in the gym along with simple light snacks and lemonade. There will also be free wellness workshops including a mind body wellness workshop by the Red Cross. The schedule of events with the workshops and which resources will be attending are listed online by following the link the email Michelle sent out or scanning the flyers. We still have space if anyone wants to host a resource table, they can reach out to me.

G. NEW BUSINESS

Red Cross Volunteer Opportunities Presentation by Jay Kurtz, Regional Disaster Officer (RDO) For more information contact Jay at jay.kurtz@redcross.org

Was postponed due to technical difficulties to a future LEPC meeting.

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

All Hazard Mitigation & Whole Community Input Planning – Tom Mattice reported they have the grant in hand, they are getting ready to hire a contractor. There will be a lot of public participation that goes into the all-hazard mitigation plan review. Will probably have a kick-off scheduled where there will be a contractor in town to share and gather information. Will probably have the contractor come to the LEPC meeting to talk to all of us about it.

LEPC Future Monthly Meetings Discussion – ongoing - Michelle Brown

For June and future meetings, we are back at the Nat'l Guard Armory/UAS Rec Center (12300 Mendenhall Loop Rd – Room 116). We will continue blended meeting but encourage everyone to show up in person. The Airport is working to figure out how to allow free parking for meetings there. Michelle is leaving it up to the group to provide her and Tom with information on other potential locations. The university works but people have said it's a long way to go. If you have suggestions, please give us alternative options.

Thank you to Ken Murphy and DOT for the use of this room for the May LEPC meeting.

I. ACTION ITEMS

J. INFORMATION ITEMS

Wellness Fair

In honor of National Mental Health Awareness Month, the National Guard Warrior and Family Services is hosting a Wellness Fair. The event will showcase local, state, and federal National Guard, Coast Guard, and Veteran resources along with local mental and physical health resources. There will be a couple of resiliency workshops happening simultaneously, more info on that to be released later.

The event is free and open to everyone **but specifically geared towards service members, veterans, and their families, and all branches of service regardless of current status.**

Sponsor: National Guard Warrior and Family Services

Date: Saturday, May 11, 2024

Time: 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Location: Juneau National Guard Readiness Center/UAS Rec Center – Joint Use Facility, 12300 Mendenhall Loop Road, Juneau Alaska

Cost: Free

POC: Louisa Phillips, Military and Family Readiness Specialist, 907-321-1157, louisa.d.phillips.civ@army.mil

If you are interested in hosting a resource table, please reach out to me. Flier coming soon

AlaskaEx 2026 – SE AK Regional Exercise with events beginning in 2025 through 2026. More information to come.

POC: Tom Mattice (907)209-9207 – tom.mattice@juneau.gov

I. NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Blended Meeting w/Zoom Webinar Capabilities

Location: Nat'l Guard Armory/UAS Rec Center (12300 Mendenhall Loop Rd - Room 116)

PLEASE ATTEND IN PERSON WHENEVER POSSIBLE

**Regular meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month*

J. ADJOURNMENT – 1:01pm

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.