

## Panhandle PET Meeting Minutes

January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Scottsbluff EOC, 1801 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Scottsbluff, NE 69162

Attending: Heidi Gillespie, Troy Shoemaker, Tom Schingle, Michelle Hill, Tim Newman, Nan Gould, Phil Lukens, Evie Flessner, Tyler Rexus, Tabi Prochazka, Tim Rice

Called to order at 10:00

Publication of open meetings laws – A copy was on the wall in the EOC during the meeting. Additionally, notice of the meeting was published in the Star-Herald.

Introduction of visitors – Michelle Hill, Sue Krogman, Leo Larkin, Donelle Nelson, Molly Bargmann, Alyssa Sanders, Michelle Fries, Ray Richards, Sue Teal, Megan Eckels, Marissa Alvares, Lexy Hindt Elizabeth Huggins, Becca Blizzard, Kyle Winchell, Grace Fennelly, Patrick Conway - all from various NEMA departments except Michelle Hill and Ray Richards.

Disposition of absences – motion to excuse absences by Phil, seconded by Nan, motion carried unanimously.

Grants management report (handout) – 2018 runs out in August, if you have items on there, get them spent. In late 2020, it was voted that NRIN sustainment funds were going to be sent back to NEMA except for expenses on tower rentals and utilities. A total of approximately \$35,000 will be sent back. It is still pending, since the end of the grant was extended and will be sent closer to the current closing date. We will probably not spend approximately \$5k in NRIN travel expenses that will be sent back as well if voted on. 2019 grant expires in August 2022 as well and will probably not be extended. The rest is self-explanatory.

Old business – none

New business – election of officers, currently Tim Newman as chair, Nan as vice chair and Heidi as secretary. Motion to keep the officers as they currently are made by Nan, seconded by Phil, there was no discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Jake Pittman to IMT for MED-L – the PET subcommittee has already recommended his approval. Nan motioned to approve, seconded by Tom Schingle, no discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Begin IJ project ideas for 2022 process. This usually starts sometime in January; they generally need to be submitted by the February PET meeting. Any questions on what's acceptable or not, contact Tim Newman for guidance.

Nan advised wildfire academy in Crawford set for April 23<sup>rd</sup> through May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Donelle will be representing panhandle as exercise training officer. Training opportunities are on the NEMA website. She discussed current opportunities that are coming up over the next three months. Most of them were in Kearney, Grand Island, Omaha and Lincoln.

Michelle Hill – On 1/13/22 a virtual grief community outreach will be held, and the theme is around everything that has been going around lately. They are also working on stigma reducing for first

responders. Can ask for peer support team through Scottsbluff Comm center and they will put you in touch with the appropriate people.

Lexy – Is with the recovery section of NEMA. Currently they have 3 panhandle projects, a generator in Sioux county, NRD for North Platte and South Platte. HMGP grants are open if anyone is looking for sirens, there's a vast amount of funding for that. If there are any other mitigation projects, contact Lexy. She will be getting out of the office more frequently in the near future and plans to attend more meetings like this.

Megan – Is with the NEMA public assistance team, and they are closing out old disasters. 4325 currently being closed. 4375 has been inspected and waiting next in line to be closed out. 4420 – most has been inspected, waiting on validations from the panhandle. 4416 – Alliance had a project obligated yesterday. Any damages for the 12/15 storm – get financial amounts submitted even if they do not meet the threshold.

Molly – Federal disaster 4521 is FEMA disaster for COVID. Did extend fed funding at 100% until 4/1/22. If you have not submitted a request for public assistance, get it in sooner than later. Any questions on policy, reach out to me or DeLoy.

Alyssa – Is with NEMA's SERC – emergency plans coming due in March. She will attend the LEPC meeting in Scottsbluff next Thursday.

Michelle or Sue – have put in multiple training opportunities requests with SISA. Have 2 instructors that can do state sponsored LT courses. NRIN project is getting completed on Eastern part of the State. Once that is done, we will backtrack to see if anyone who had not yet opted in wants new information.

Ray – this week RWMC and Scotts Bluff County Health dept will be saying thank you to the many agencies helping over the past 18 months with vaccinations at the end of this week. A total of 18 organizations. Will be continuing with helping with shots for the many variants.

Leo – keep pressing on with the BOLD program with the LEOP.

Next meeting 2/1/22 in Alliance FD training facility.

Adjourned at 10:28am by consent.