

Carroll County Disaster Preparedness Group/Local Emergency Planning Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2021

In attendance via virtually: Valerie Hawkins (CC Emergency Management); Jacob Hill (CC Emergency Management); Bryan Kernan (CC Emergency Management); Capt. Thomas Kowalczyk (WPD); Tony Krauth (RACES); Chris Letnaunchyn (DPW); Chief Brian Lintz (CCC); Jocelyn Pope (Carroll Hospital); Matthew Rodriguez (CC Emergency Management); Chad Seymour (DSS); Cheryl Webb (CCHD); Duane Williams (CCPS)

Meeting was called to order by Valerie Hawkins at 1:03 p.m. Attendees were welcomed. Capt. Kowalczyk made a motion to approve the February 3rd LEPC meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Chris Letnaunchyn and the minutes were voted to be approved unanimously.

Disaster Preparedness Jeopardy game was played by attendees.

Agenda Items

LEPC Discussion

- Tier II reporting season is now complete.
 - All Tier II reports are now integrated into CAD.
- Trainings:
 - CISA Hurricane Preparedness Webinar: Critical Infrastructure Hurricane Response During a Pandemic
 - AWR – 333: Improvised Explosive Device Construction and Classification (IED-CC)
 - AWR – 334: Introduction to the Terrorist Attack Cycle (ITAC)
 - AWR – 335: Response to Suspicious Behaviors and Items (RSBI)
 - AWR – 337: Improvised Explosive Device Explosive Effects Mitigation (IED-EEM)
 - AWR – 338: Homemade Explosives and Precursor Awareness (HME-P)
 - AWR – 340: Protective Measures Awareness (PMA)

Emergency Management Report:

- COVID-19 response activities are ongoing. The EOC remains **ENHANCED**-virtual.
- Investment justifications are now submitted, awaiting approval and funding levels.
- EM has adopted the Community Lifelines Structure, which FEMA recently developed and implemented
 - A framework that provides response agencies with a reporting structure to establish rapid incident stabilization.
 - The primary goal while utilizing this construct is to reduce threats and hazards to public health and safety, the economy, and security.
 - Construct allows for unified coordination across many different agencies and promotes unified effort from the whole community.
- Have begun planning for upcoming special events.
- The next quarterly WebEOC training is scheduled for May 12th
- Reminder that the Spring and Summer seasons bring Severe Storms to Carroll County.
- Reminder that Hurricane season begins June 1st.
- Matt is working with Ben to update checklist and SOPs for several EM resources.
- Matt will seek guidance from MEMA regarding ICS 300/400 training.
 - Expect to begin ICS training in late summer or early fall.
 - Planning to create a refresher ICS course with basic concepts.
- Carroll Alert:
 - Continues to be utilized for incidents.

- Matt is working to put together additional Carroll Alert training for response agencies.
- Continue technology upgrades for MC-2.
- Updates to the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan will resume soon.
- The EOP will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on Thursday, May 6th to discuss all plan revisions.
 - The Plan is expected to be formally adopted in late May.
- Continue to work on the local food and water response plan.
- Have begun Mass Care and Sheltering Plan.
- Established the Carroll County Food/Water/Shelter taskforce, in coordination with the Department of Social Services.
 - The lack of a taskforce was a gap we discovered through our work on the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP).
 - The initial Kickoff meeting took place on Monday, May 3rd.
- Ben and Jacob continue to release monthly blog posts on the Prepare Me Carroll smartphone app and social media platforms.

MEMA Report:

- State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Activation level remains **ENHANCED** in support of the COVID-19 response.
- Continue to work through recent legislative changes.
 - Will be renamed Maryland Department of Emergency Management, establishing the Department as a principal department of the Executive Branch.

Agency/Facility Updates:

Carroll Hospital

- Reported that overall patient census was elevated in April.
- Reported that the positive COVID patient population has declined.
- Operations remain stable

CCC

- Preparing for upcoming graduation ceremonies.

CCHD

- The Ag Center Testing site will close on May 23rd due to the decreasing demand and commercial testing availability.
 - CCHD reported that the center tested over 12,000 individuals over the past year.
- Vaccination operations continue.
 - The primary clinic has moved from the Westminster Senior Center to the TownMall of Westminster.
 - Reported challenges with filling appointments.
 - Continue to work with LifeBridge to vaccinate the homebound population.
 - Investigating strategies for utilizing CCHD RV as a mobile vaccination clinic during upcoming community events.
 - Planning for authorization of Pfizer vaccine for 12-15 year olds.
 - The Moderna vaccine is expected to be authorized soon after Pfizer

- Environmental Health staff continue to be utilized for fielding and responding to COVID-19 compliance complaints.
- Reported community COVID cases are trending downward.

CCPS

- Continue testing operations for students and staff at Westminster High School, Manchester Valley High School, South Carroll High School, and Francis Scott Key High School.
 - By appointment only
- Making preparations for in-person graduations to take place at the last week of May and the first week of June.
- Completed closed vaccination clinics for staff.

DPW

- Continue to assist CCHD with vaccination planning and logistics.
- Continue to plan and respond to severe weather this Spring season.
- Construction projects will resume soon.

DSS

- Continue to work with limited staff. All staff continues to work in shift rotations.

RACES

- Next drill is scheduled for Tuesday, May 11th.
 - Final drill for this season; next season to begin in September.

WPD

- Continue to plan for upcoming special events on a modified scale.

Other:

- Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 4, 2021.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:21 p.m.