

**Sierra County Health Care Coalition and
Operational Area Emergency Council
Joint Meeting, Minutes**

**Thursday, July 24, 2018
10:00 A.M.**

**Downieville Community Hall
Downieville, CA.**

MEETING MINUTES

In attendance: Le Tina Vanetti; Health and Human Services; Lee Brown SCOES; Steve Folsom, Cal-Trans; Cherry Simi, public; Eric Petterson, Forest Service, Sierraville; Tammy Muldoon, Child Abuse Council; Jessica Camp, Tobacco Use Reduction Program; Peter Huebner, Supervisor; Joyce White, Downieville Fire Dept.; Jacie Epperson, Downieville Fire Dept.; Dave Keyes, Sierra City Fire Dept.; Mary Wright, Child Abuse Council; Rick Maddalena, SCFPD# 1; Lindsey Stanley, Cal OES; Andrew Harris, WSMC; DeeDee Clark, EPHD; Tim Beals, SCOES; Evelyn De Mello, Environmental Health; Elizabeth Morgan, Environmental Health; Victoria Fisher, Fire Safe Council; Bryan Davey, Sierra City Fire District; Ned Cusato, Alleghany Fire Dept.; Mike Galan, DFPD; Kevin Kem, 95th WMD-CST Ca. National Guard; Kathy Whitlow, SCOES

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting is called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Lee Brown, OES Coordinator. Introductions and announcements are given.

2. **Approval of PHCC Minutes:** April 24, 2018
Approved: Whitlow/Epperson

Approval of OAEC Minutes: November 15, 2017
Approved: Maddalena/Epperson

3. **Guest Speaker-Cynthia Haynes, Senior Public Safety Specialist, Emergency Preparedness & Public Safety** spoke on PG&E's new Community Wildfire Safety Program: Mrs. Haynes gives the background and reason for the proposed project and explains the technical aspect of the project. Mrs. Haynes informs that PG&E has a program directed toward fire department, and she is happy to come and speak on the topic.

4. **Status of Hospital Preparedness (HPP), Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) and Pandemic Influenza (Pan Flu) Grants.**
 - a. **Last grant cycle review.** LeTina passed out a list of some of the activities conducted last grant cycle July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 which included a chart of how the funds in general are spent. There are three separate work plans and three separate budgets. In a nut shell, all the funding is intended to be used for all aspects of planning for events which exceed the local abilities to address health and medical needs within Sierra County.

 - b. A key deliverable, which relates to what Cynthia was discussing today, is ensuring planning and preparedness for individuals at higher risk during emergencies. A strategy in place prior to LeTina starting as the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator is the Medically At-Risk Registry. She has continued to maintain the registry by up-dating the information annually, and promoting self-registration. There is medical information associated with an individual on the forms, so it is protected under Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The current form has a signature line at the bottom indicating the information can be released in order for first responders to help during emergency. Due to the responsibilities to HIPAA, the laborious process of keeping the information up to date, and the fact it can't be shared unless it's an

emergency, LeTina asked the group what might be a more useful strategy to ensure these populations are accounted for during energy.

Discussion and questions:

- What information is really needed?
- It was voiced “everybody knows who those people needing extra help are already and check on them.”
- Maybe there could be a legal disclaimer which allowed for more information sharing?
- Do we want to get legal counsel involved?

c. Health Care Coalition (HCC) Partnership with Plumas and Lassen Counties.

LeTina shared last year a Tri-County Health Care Coalition was formed including Lassen, Sierra and Plumas Counties. There is a possibility Modoc County maybe joining the coalition in the future. With all three counties being rural and fairly small in population, if something widespread occurred it is likely resources will not be allocated to our rural areas over a more populated metro area. The purpose of the coalition is to work out how to leverage all resources to assist each other in emergency events. They are still in the early phases of meeting all the State of California’s requirements of the coalition. Last year they conducted some joint training and exercises and have more planned for this year. An example is the CISM Training Sept 11-13 which is free to all participants from any of the 3 counties. The intent being all three counties will be operating from a similar training base in order to support each other more effectively as well as leveraging funds. At this time each county is still administering their own HPP Funds, there could be a change in the future.

5. Review of Expenditures request and progress of the 2016 & 2017 HSG

Lee Brown refers to the spreadsheet handouts, noting changes due to the need for an HVAC unit for the server room (\$10, 605.00) and a Spillman Data Transfer unit (\$15, 686.00) for the Sheriff’s Office. Changes made as Follows:

GPS units for Search & Rescue moved to FY 18

\$5,500 from EOP consultant moved to buy SO security cameras, and splitting the consultant fees between two grant years.

SCFPD#1 notes the hydraulic Ram money can be moved to Loyalton Fire for jaws.

- 6.** Review expenditures priorities for the 2018 Homeland Security Grant. Coordinator Brown notes the 18 grant is in progress, expecting release date in September, and that a match of funds may not be required on this grant. Cal OES is talking with FEMA to allow fire department turnouts, for the entire department, as an allowable expense. Currently only one supplemental unit is allowed.

7. Discussion on proposed table top and functional exercise for FY 2018-2019.

Coordinator Brown notes he feels it would be best to hold two exercises, one on each side of the County due to the different terrain and therefore needs, and suggests a table top this year with a functional exercise next year. Continuing Lee notes that a committee should be put together to set up these exercise and asks for members: LeTina Vanetti , Kevin Kem, Mike Lazano, Jessica Camp, and possible Shawn Burt, and Graham Rice.

8. Updates by Agency including Exercises & Trainings

- DeeDee Clark, Eastern Plumas Health Care (EPHC) applied for and received a grant for \$150,000.00 to purchase a new ambulance. They will pass on the old ambulance to Loyalton.
- Eric Peterson, Sierraville Forest Service notes they are fully staffed, as well as the lookouts.
- Larry Peabody, Yuba River FS shares his research on SC General Plan Buttes Special Treatment Area and the ability to place another antenna at the Buttes Lookout shed. Continuing he notes currently there are two antennas and two sets of solar panels, and adding a third would not, in the Forest Service opinion, disrupt the view shed the project is now in the hands of the County Planning Dept.

- Jacie Epperson Downieville Fire Dept. reports that a paramedic-Marty, was hired and has fit right it. A big asset to the community and dept.
- Lee Brown OES: informs on 211 and FEMA reimbursement during large events.
- Jessica Camp, Tobacco Use Reduction Program informs on a new coalition program with a first meeting held in Loyalton, expecting good things to come out of this group.
- Elizabeth Morgan, Environmental Health introduces her new assistant Evelyn.
- Lee Brown reports on SAR and recent training he attended.
- Rick Maddalena, SCFPD#1 reports on the annexation through LAFCo of Verdi, and Long Valley into their fire district, and a mutual contract with the City of Loyalton for fire service.
- Victoria Fisher, SC Fire Safe Council reports that they are working with the Co-Gen plant in Loyalton. Discussion pursued on the ability of placing a trailer at the transfer stations for green waste.
- Lindsey Stanley, Cal OES reports on changes to the regional areas, and notes she is available to assist the county with un-met needs, sheltering, supplies, etc.

Next meeting: October 23, 2018 at Sierraville Ranger District

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Whitlow
Department Specialist,
Sierra County Department of OES