



**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
*San Miguel County & City of Las Vegas*

READY BEFORE YOU NEED US.

Dennis English, Emergency Manager

**Local Emergency Planning Committee**

**Minutes of the April 9, 2014**

**Meeting at the San Miguel County Commission Chambers**

Chairperson, Sally Flores called the Local Emergency Planning Committee to order at 10:06am

Roll Call of Officers: Chairperson- Sally Flores	Present
Vice-Chair- Kurt Parkinson	Absent
Treasurer- Don Bovia	Present
Emergency Manager- Dennis English	Present
Secretary- Connie Abila	Present

**Approval of the Minutes from the February 12, 2014 meeting:** Motion was made by David Watson, Alta Vista Hospital, and seconded by Don Bovia, LEPC Treasurer. Motion passed.

**Approval of the Agenda for the April 9, 2014 meeting:** Motion was made by Donte Halleck, DOH; and seconded by Don Bovia, LEPC Treasurer. Motion passed.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. AMERICAN RED CROSS CONTACT NUMBER**

Sally Flores, Chairperson; briefed everyone in attendance, about the American Red Cross contact number that provides assistance during emergencies. It is essential that when contacting Red Cross for assistance San Miguel County Residents should dial 1-800-560-2302 for assistance or Dennis English, Emergency Manager. No longer call Connie Chavez, American Red Cross, local Representative, for assistance.

Bob Witters, SMC ARES; asked where are the calls being answered at?

Sally Flores, Chairperson; said the calls are going to a call center in San Diego.

Terry Bridges, SMC ARES; Statewide Network for Amateur Radio Operators has been canceled for Monday night and don't know what is going on with Red Cross.

Dennis English, Emergency Manager; said the call goes to a National Call Center. Red Cross is trying to account for all the incoming call.

Donte Halleck, DOH; said there is an office in Santa Fe, NM and there is a position open Regional Liaison, but don't know if it's going to be filled.

## **2. LEPC WORKSHOPS**

Sally Flores, Chairperson; mentioned that the LEPC Region 6 Workshop, is being held in different locations in the month of July 2014, (Gallup 7/8, Albuquerque 7/9, and Clovis 7/10). When the Office of Emergency Management receives the location of the Workshops they will email the information to all members.

## **3. NEW MEXICO HEALTHCARE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COALITION CONFERENCE**

Sally Flores, Chairperson; said that the NM Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Coalition Conference took place on March 17 thru 18, 2014 at Albuquerque, NM and Dennis English, EM attended. Healthcare emergency preparedness has the hospital within the State of New Mexico in Regions and we are Region 1. We have from East side to the West side from Santa Fe all the way North. They are trying to reach out to the Emergency Management area to find out how they can better serve us through the Emergency Operation Center. How we can deal with disasters through the medical field. Our Hospital should be able to reach out to other Hospitals within the region. There would be an issue in asking for assistance due to the distance, if having to request certain equipment during an emergency. It's still a work in progress; but during disasters it is a good resource to build up to contact the ESF 8 position in the EOC to have those capabilities.

## **4. DOMESTIC NUCLEAR DETECTION OFFICE**

Dennis English, Emergency Manager; said that the State of New Mexico is working on a Nuclear Plan RAD System. The State of New Mexico is monitoring radioactive toxic waste. A monitoring System devise will be good to assist First Responders in San Miguel County, before they go upon an incident. San Miguel County is in need of a system, so that First Responders are aware of what they may be facing or coming into contact and since I-25 crosses through San Miguel County and surrounding communities. OEM and Fire are in the process of getting a hazmat team together. Eleven San Miguel County Volunteer Fire Fighters have completed the Awareness and Operations course and received a certificate. Eight Volunteers Fire Fighters have showed an interest in attending the Technician Course. In the event of a hazmat incident Colfax and Santa Fe County have the closest Hazmat Team. The distance is approximately about two hours and San Miguel County needs a quicker response.

Terry Bridges, SMCARES; said that Hazmat is good to know when to respond and when not too.

### **Open Discussion**

Dale Wagner, NMSP; mentioned that there are 18 Officers in the Las Vegas Area, Harding, Colfax, Mora and San Miguel County altogether, which there are 12 in Harding, 2 in Colfax as it is a higher traffic area and 4 in San Miguel County. There are a lot of domestic and keep the 18 Officers very busy. One is getting out of light duty and one is getting off from his Coach Officer on Friday and another one gets off

his Coach Officer in eight days; that is the status for New Mexico State Police. Business is the same since I came back in July.

Dennis Esquibel, NMSP Dispatcher Supervisor; at this time we are not fully staffed, we did hold interviews yesterday 4/8/14. There is one candidate possibly going to the next phase. It's been posted in the State Web Site and any that is interested should apply.

Russell Pacheco, San Miguel County Fire chief; said the Fire Districts requested permission from the San Miguel County Board of Commissioners to raise the fire restrictions to the next level. You will need to call the Fire Districts and they will assess and inspect if anyone is doing a control burn. National State Forestry stated that fire danger is extreme. Volunteers have specific trainings to respond to fires. Last year the State of New Mexico lost 34 Firefighters to Wild Land Fires.

Sally Flores, Chairperson; mentioned that Russell Pacheco, Connie Abila, Sally Flores, Dennis English, Kurt Parkinson, attended the Wildland Urban Interface Conference in Taos, NM on April 2 thru 3, 2014. There was a weather presenter that stated that there is no moisture in the forecast for the summer, El Nino is coming and the path is only wind.

Gene Garcia, LVPD; said the Active Shooter Exercise went well. The Memorial Middle school was well prepared; Staff and Students cleared the hall in less than 30 seconds. Communication was an issue.

Donte Halleck, DOH; mentioned DOH is going to monitor the air quality for the fire season and see how they can support IC.

David Watson, Alta Vista, said everything is going good and he attended the Healthcare Coalition Conference in March 2014.

Dennis English, Emergency Manager; mentioned he is working with FEMA on funding which is going into a project worksheet and is being sent to FEMA in Denton, Texas and then to Washington. County Manger sent a letter to Congressman Ben Ray Lujan. The reason he was late he was in a meeting concerning the disasters and was about the State Executive Order on getting funding for the disasters. EMS Regional Plan, have organized a committee City, County, Pecos, and Mora and will be doing research. On April 10, 2014 City Fire, County Fire, and Emergency Manager will be going to Santa Fe to the PRC

Motion for the meeting to be adjourned was made by Terry Bridges, SMC ARES; seconded by Dennis English, Emergency Manager.