



**Central Peace
Regional Emergency Management Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Thursday March 10th, 2022
at Saddle Hills County ECC (and GoTo link)

Supper: 6:00 p.m.
Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

Attendance:

In Person:

Brice Daly - SHC
Emily Bolch - SHC
Peter Thomas - Rycroft
Lorne Johnson - AEP
Jo Chelick - Rycroft
Paul Reum - BHC
Chris Graham - AEMA
Diane Nellis – MD of SR
Don Hoffart - SHC
Nick van Rootselaar – MD of SR
Phil Sauder – ATCO Electric
Cary Merritt - SHC
Shelley Abram – ATCO Electric
Jenna-lee Natrasony - AER
Darryl Martin (joined 6:51pm) - AHS

GoTo Meeting:

Debi Cardwell – Victim Services
Mike Kingsbury – AB Ag & Forestry
Paul Reum - BHC
Chris Graham - AEMA
Tom Morgan - BHC
Larry Davidson – BHC (joined 6:34 p.m.)
Brian Kroes (joined 7:01 p.m.)

1. Call to Order / Introductions

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Agenda

MOVED by Nick van Rootselaar to adopt the agenda as presented.

Carried Unanimously

3. Minutes

MOVED by Don Hoffart to adopt the December 2, 2021, minutes as presented.

Carried Unanimously

4. Administration

- Regional EM Plan updates
The Emergency Plan is in the process of being updated and will be distributed in the following weeks. The updates have been mostly housekeeping in nature, not operational.
- ESS Plan
Catch up work to do with ESS team now. Will need to confirm active members and complete some training. There is a new online reception center registration program, but only two people from the Central Peace have completed training. Training can be offered in webinar format. This new program will be worked into the live training exercise.
- Central peace Fire Mutual Aid Plan
5-year term, which expires in April 2022. Emily emailed Tom Morgan and Brian Kroes a draft copy of the new agreement.

5. Response Operations

- a) COVID 19 (ongoing)
 - Most restrictions have been dropped. 7000 active cases in Alberta. 2-500 new a day.
 - Will continue to do public updates on social media, website etc. Returning to regular operations.

6. Recovery Programs

- a) Active DRP's

March 1 was the start of wildfire season. Mike Kingsbury advised that there is currently one dispatcher, and one person issuing fire permits. Alberta Agriculture & Forestry is busy hiring staff, training, and getting contracts signed. The original plan was to have additional 20-person crew in Happy Valley, but that has changed due to budget cutbacks 3 years ago. Facilities plan is underway to make best use of resources at White Mountain camp. A fire base will be maintained at White Mountain, but not as large as was planned originally when the camp was planned out.

Cary Merritt provided an update on 2018 and 2020 DRP projects at Saddle Hills County. 2018 DRP nearing completion.

Peter Thomas advised that Rycroft's 2020 DRP is wrapped up, with 2018 also being complete as of the last CP-REM meeting.

The MD of Spirit River received their 2018 payment. 2020 DRP regarding the Burnt River is still a work in progress. Contract has been awarded for riparian work. \$620,000 committed, but \$900,000 project. Hoping to have remainder paid for.

Chris Graham – unsure of any official changes regarding funding partnerships/allocation for Disaster Recovery. The operational side well-funded but takes a long time.

7. Mitigation Programs

MD 133 has applied for the current FRIAA grant but have not heard back at this time. May be able to offer public education programs now that restrictions are lifted.

8. Training & Preparedness

a) Course worksheets

ICS 300 is being offered in May.

Currently taking new students in online portal. When registering for BEM and ICS 100 use municipal email address to avoid delay in email verification. Scribe course still being taught. Will fill in courses based on demand and location. ICS 300 has less demand in the region. ESS course instructor driven online, but this may change to in-person. Planning P Course will focus on after ICS 300 - using planning process to go through any incident. Anyone with ICS 300 is eligible (ICS 200 eligible by exception). Target audience is primarily senior municipal staff, or anyone in command post of command centre as section chief, etc. The course should be ready by the Winter. Courses also available to the partners – Agriculture & Forestry, etc.

Mandatory course deadlines not extended. Attempting to give lots of notice to order course materials, etc.

b) Mandatory training deadlines

- MEO course for Elected Officials

All elected officials in G5 now have completed the MEO course

- BEM, ICS 100 for Agency staff
- BEM, DEM and ICS 200, for DEM's and DDEM's
- c) EM training currently available
 - Online BEM & ICS-100
 - Online AEA training
- d) Course availability for 2022
 - Will hopefully have a schedule soon
- a) Alberta Emergency Alert - transition to National alerting system in 2023

Alberta Emergency Alert is transitioning to national alerting centre as of March 1, 2023. The transition will be seamless for the public. By the Winter training will be provided for the new dashboard. Alberta does not want to lose any functionality that already exists within AEA and will stay deeply involved. The funding model for this new alerting system is not set to change in any way. Some costs will remain with the province, but no indication that municipalities will have to take on the costs.

9. Regional Exercise

- a) ____ 2022 in Saddle Hills County

Live training exercise was tentatively booked for this month but has been postponed to later in the Summer of the Fall. A tabletop exercise will be held first.

 - Alberta Emergency Management Agency
 - Chris Graham – Hazard assessment for year. Emergency preparedness week is the first week of May.
 - Agriculture & Forestry
 - New information dashboard this year. Will be similar to BC's website. Online fire permit request system in testing stage right now. May be live to the public later this spring.
 - Alberta Health Services
 - Darryl Martin – pressures on hospitals dropping. Transitioning to routine business. At one point only covid patients in hospitals. Headed back to other things. Behind in training etc. May have courses that may be of interest, so will let everyone know. Some ramifications around Ukraine, such as supply chain, but have a very robust system.
 - Alberta Support & Emergency Response Team
 - Lorne Johnson sent staff to BC for floods. Did structural assessments. Have decided to practice provincial flood plan for the

first time in 6 years. Cultural significance requests were common during BC flooding - GPS points for cemeteries, churches etc.

- Alberta Energy Regulator – FIRST
 - o Jenna-lee Natrasony: Energy Support Plan (previously Upstream Plan) moving forward. Involved with ERX at the end of the month. Revisiting field centre training. Exercising field centres. Things are picking up.
- AHS/EMS
 - o New STARS helicopter in GP base. EMS record high numbers for responses.
- RCMP
 - o Acting detachment command from Fairview covering right now. The job has been posted and there have been 6 applicants.
- Alberta Transportation
- ATCO/BHNGC/CPNGC
 - o ATCO – business as usual. Very busy. High load moves. Transitioning back to office.

10. Round Table

Peter Thomas – Rycroft - nothing new to report.

Diane Nellis/Nick van Rootselaar: wildlife officer should be able to stay in community, and have forwarded plans to provide them with office space. Reasonable commitment to keep them in community. Brownlee building is currently being used for archive work. FRIAA application for hazard assessment for Burnt River residences to create a map of area for access by fire department, fire smart, training fire department to do assessments with public, pre-suppression plan.

Larry Davidson – BHC – no update provided

Next Meeting:

July 14, 2022

Location: MD#133

Supper at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting to begin at 6:30 p.m.

MOVED by Don Hoffart to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Carried Unanimously