



Local Emergency Planning Committee

Gem County LEPC
February 16th, 2021
Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

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|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Will Babcock, Emmett Police Dept. | Angela Booker, Valor Health |
| Laurie Boston, Gem Co. EM | Jay Breidenbach, NOAA |
| Bill Butticci, Gem Co. Commissioner | Curt Christensen, Emmett Fire Dept. |
| Liz Gochnour, LEPC Secretary | Tahja Jensen, Prosecutor’s Office |
| Bev Martin, Gem Co. Sheriff’s Posse/
Fire Dist. #2 | Dave McCarville, US Bureau of Reclamation |
| Gordon Petrie, Emmett City Mayor | Steve Nebeker, Emmett City Councilman |
| Clint Seamons, Emmett Public Works | Mark Rekow, Gem Co. Commissioner |
| TJ Wilson, Southwest Dist. Health | Denise Sorenson, Emmett City Councilman |
| Donnie Wunder, Gem Co. Sherriff | Craig Woods, Emmett School Dist. |

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Gem County Local Emergency Planning Committee is an organized gathering of community members, response agencies, organizations, and public officials, sanctioned by Congress to work together prior to any emergency, natural or man-made disaster, or hazardous material incident, in an attempt to improve planning, response, and coordination as well as the mutual understanding of capabilities and resources to the situation.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Gem County Local Emergency Planning Committee is to enhance capabilities in order to successfully mitigate, respond to, and recover from emergency situations in Gem Co community.

Meeting called to order by Curt Christensen at 8:30a.m.

Approval of January Minutes:

- Motion to approve January minutes as written by Mayor Petrie. 2nd by Bev Martin.

COVID-19 Community Partnership Vaccination Clinics – Angela Booker, MBA, RN Provider Practice/Nurse Manager Emmett Medical Center:

- Background work started to determine how they were going to vaccinate the community as soon as vaccines were approved by the FDA for use.
- Population information based on age groups was used to determine numbers to get an estimate of how many 65+ would be vaccinated based on Tier groups. Numbers showed that there would be approximately 4000 patients 65+. Of that 4000, it is estimated that 75% will get their vaccination bringing the number to nearly 3000. That will be 6000 patient contacts for the two vaccinations.
- The decision then became: How do we vaccinate large groups of people when the traditional way of vaccinating individually would not work. A single, safe setting for an Idaho winter would be needed.
- Valor Health worked with the City, County, and Southwest District Health to create a vaccination team that includes Laurie and Curt.
- Smaller trial clinics were done using those patients in the Tier 1 and 2 groups of First Responders and Educators. Takeaways from those first clinics were that to use the EHR (Electronic Health Record) to register and document the vaccine given would take too much time for each patient and there would be too many paper handouts (8-9 per person). Everyone is required to be monitored for at least 15 minutes after receiving the injection, which requires a lot of space to accommodate six feet of separation. They determined that they could not continue to hold the clinics in a sufficient manner by using their EHR and bringing the patients in one-by-one.

- Prepmo is an online scheduling and charting/documentation software that the CDC has provided. One of SWDH and CDC requirements is that reporting of a patient receiving the vaccine has to happen within 24 hours. Prepmo automatically updates IRIS (Immunization Reminder Information System). Prepmo will also send a link to a specific patient population to contact them about receiving the vaccine and will send out a reminder email to schedule their second dose. For those that do not have an email, they can be registered into the system over the phone.
- The City Fire station will be used to hold outdoor vaccine clinics for the 65+ group to easily accommodate mobility concerns by allowing patients to stay in their cars. The oldest person vaccinated in the drive thru clinic is a 103-year-old. Prepmo also allows a larger number of patients to be vaccinated at the fire station location model.
- Several locations have created waiting lists. They are working on consolidating all the lists to one single waiting list.
- A Second-dose clinic is scheduled for Wednesday at the City Fire Station. Depending on the number of doses received, they are looking at a clinic on Friday. They are planning to move future vaccination clinics to the Valor Health campus and will continue with the outdoor model. The current vaccination team and volunteer group will continue and have done an amazing job calling patients and answering questions.
- The Emmett School District held a single day vaccination clinic for School District employees and plan to have another day for their second doses.
- There is a meeting scheduled to create a link for people to get signed up on the waiting list.

Public Comments: No public comments.

General Reports:

- **Dave McCarville, US Bureau of Reclamation:** The Bureau of Reclamation has been working on getting their essential workers vaccinated. They will be monitoring the weather and how it effects the dam.
- **Jay Breidenbach, National Weather Service:** There has been quite a bit of snow in the lower elevations. Thursday night will bring more snow for the Gem County area. The snow pack is normal for this time of year.
- **TJ Wilson, Southwest District Health:** Congratulations on all the hard work for the drive thru vaccination clinics. SWDH will be expanding their operations based on the number of vaccines they receive. They are finishing up helping some of the smaller outer counties with getting vaccinations done.
- **Mark Rekow, Gem County Commissioner:** High Valley has reported 4 feet of snow. High Valley Hill has places with tracks up to 10 - 12 inches deep. Logs are still being hauled out of High Valley so the truck activity is high. Pearl reported 15 inches of new snow. The County is continuing to have a lot of land use issues and is working on lack of space issues with new employees.
- **Laurie Boston, Gem County Emergency Manager:** There has been 5 new COVID cases reported this week with 1 new death for a total of 30 deaths. The vaccination clinics have strictly adhered to the Tier priorities based on the amount of vaccines available. Saint Alphonsus is creating a vaccination clinic in one of the open spaces at the Village in Meridian. Their goal is to vaccinate 1000 people a day. Bi-Mart is also planning on vaccinating patients.
- **Tahja Jensen, Gem County Prosecutor:** The Supreme Court has issued an order that jury trials will resume March 1st. They will have to be creative to adhere to restrictions. There is quite a significant back log of court cases to work through.
- **Bev Martin, Gem County Fire District #2/Ola Community:** No fires to report in the last month. The fire department is assisting the EMT calls out at 5-6 a month. Training and drills have resumed as normal.

They have had 15 inches of new snow in the last four days nine miles above Ola. The roads are breaking up again creating deep trenches and road hazards.

- **Donnie Wunder, Gem County Sherriff:** The jail is back in the Orange category allowing visitation again. The Sherriff's department have been responding to a lot of slide offs.
- **Mayor Petrie, City of Emmett:** Work continues on two major projects with a completion date of March 11th.
- **Curt Christensen, City of Emmett Fire:** City Fire worked to get some gravel laid around at their training facility, which will be used for live burns and Class A fires. The building will be two stories tall with doors that can be forced. Most of the funding has been provided by grants with the exception of a few hundred dollars. Another thing the fire department has been working on is their Community Risk Reduction Program. It is a preventative program by doing walk-throughs to identify hazards that would be an economic impact to the community or a mass casualty event. City Fire has resumed in person trainings. Car seat technicians are available by appointment only for installation checks and to replace car seats if they have been in an accident or if there is a need for one.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 am. TJ Wilson moved to adjourn. 2nd by Bev Martin.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 16th at 8:30 am. Direction will be provided at a later date on whether the meeting will be in person or remote.