

HIDALGO COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
April 17, 2019

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**BE IT REMEMBERED** that the Local Emergency Planning Committee met in regular session on April 17, 2019 at the hour of 11:00 a.m., at the Board of County Commission Chambers at 305 Pyramid Street, Lordsburg, New Mexico, for the purpose of business matters to come properly before the Board.

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

David Whipple, Chair  
Oscar Sosa, Vice Chair  
Scott Richins, Alt Vice Chair  
Priscilla Maxwell, Secretary

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Elizabeth Escobar, Rodeo Fire  
Tisha Green, Hidalgo Mgr.  
John Hill, Lordsburg Fire  
Andrew Arredondo, HCSO

Ramon Escobar, Rodeo Fire  
Marsha Hill, Chamber of Commerce  
Tommy Chavez, Hidalgo Fire  
Riley Allen, NMSP

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Whipple called the meeting to order at 1:00 am.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Chair Whipple advised board needs to approve the Agenda for 04-17-19. Vice Chair Sosa made motion to approve the Agenda for 04-17-19. Alt Vice Chair Richins seconded the motion. Chair Whipple advised motion made and seconded to approve the Agenda for 04-17-19, motion carried. Chair Whipple advised board needs to approve the Minutes for 03-20-19. Vice Chair Sosa made motion to approve the Minutes for 03-20-19. Alt Vice Chair Richins seconded the motion. Chair Whipple advised motion made and seconded to approve the Minutes for 03-20-19, motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Discussion - Hidalgo County Video Surveillance Policy - Tisha Green advised that the County recently adopted a video surveillance policy. There are cameras in the managers administration buildings along with all levels in the court house as well as the outside perimeters of the buildings. In the event of an emergency for example active shooter situation we have granted law enforcement access to view cameras. Law enforcement can obtain the website and log in information from dispatch and will have live feed access. Priscilla added that dispatch also maintains keys for the Lordsburg High School and Dugan Tarango Middle School in the event of an emergency situations. Chair Whipple advised to check on the access to the Central School and RVT schools as well. Andrew Arredondo asked if in the event that audio was needed as well as video if that feature can be turned on for example in a hostage situation. Tisha advised that there is the capability of turning the audio on in the event that it is needed.

Discussion – After Action Report Javelina Chase – Scott advised the event when fairly well. Andrew advised not much traffic on the road however they continued to just monitor it. No issues were reported. Chair Whipple advised EMS covered one end and Fire covered the east end. The ambulances remained at the stations and would have responded if needed.

Discussion – After Action Report Road Closure – Scott wanted to review the last incident on the road closure. Oscar advised dispatch had put out the incorrect direction of travel and NMDOT was putting the incorrect information on their website. He advised that they do have a lot of new dispatchers however it is imperative to get the correct location. Andrew advised as far as the Sheriffs Office part he had no incidents to report. Tisha had received reports that when individuals would google directions it would lead them down Animas Street. A lot of semi got stuck and had to be turned around and vehicles were still going down the road at about 10 pm at fast speeds. The City of Lordsburg Mayor suggested that he be notified so that he can send his team out there to block off that road. Scott advised NMDOT can put barrels on Motel Drive & Animas. The City Police can get a road closure sign put at Animas & Cactus Street. Chair Whipple stated that this incident has never happened before. Tommy Chavez asked if there was any way to expedite OMI. Chair Whipple suggested that the county submit a letter requesting resources down in this area.

Discussion – DHSEM & Hidalgo County Communication Update – Scott advised the governor did sign the bill which will give us 3.1 million dollars for communications for Hidalgo County. We will have a meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> and will have an updated at next meeting. Oscar advised this will also help NMSP coverage. Scott advised residents call BP directly. So, dispatch and other law enforcement agencies do not know what is going on. Scott has been notifying residents to call 911 to report any incidents so that it can be dispatched to all law enforcement agencies.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

Chair Whipple advised next meeting will be Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 1:00 pm.

### **Round Table Discussion:**

Elizabeth Escobar – The Rodeo Community Association is having their annual yard sale this month on Sat April 27<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 5pm.

Riley Allen – One thing we ran into was a problem with water issues. The City Fire Dept is limited to 1000 gallons. The Hidalgo County does not have a tanker. Scott advised Cotton City is in the process of getting a tanker and Animas is the next closest dept with a tanker. Riley suggested paging out Animas for the tanker. Chair Whipple advised fire departments need to call for their resources sooner. Chair Whipple advised the tanker that was given to the road department, one of the agreements was that they would respond to calls with it if needed.

Scott Richins - Reminded all to complete the NIMS training. Cochise County is doing a 300 class May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> if anyone is interested. Scott advised hoping to have the 400 will be done in the spring of 2020.

Chair Whipple - GRMC went live April 1<sup>st</sup> with their trauma level 4. We had a workshop here for local staff for orientation and we will be doing one in Animas as well. We will continue to fly our patients to El Paso from here however it will be a good resource in the event we cannot fly anyone out we will take them to GRMC to have them stabilize the patient until they can be flown out. Chair Whipple asked if the signage on I-10 has been fixed. Oscar advised does not have a date when it will be fixed from NMDOT.

