

**Eastern Madera County
Emergency Preparedness Committee
Meeting Summary
January 8, 2009
Sierra Ambulance Training Headquarters-Oakhurst, CA**

Meeting Attendees: Charles Banks, Barry Beyer, Tracy Cheek, Chris Dragoo, PJ Grant, Ed Guzman, Christi Hansard, Anne Jenny, Jere Miller, Bernie Smith, Janet Stanovich, Jerry Thompson, Tom Wheeler, Dave Wolin

Meeting called to order: 0730

Committee Introductions:

Old Business

New Business

Discussion/Roundtable

Tom Wheeler reports that the upcoming year will be very busy keeping the County afloat, and is happy to report that it is still running in the black. There is currently a hiring freeze with the exception of priority personnel such as the newly hired Fire Marshall. Due to the recent resignation of the County Auditor, the Board of Supervisors will be deciding how to permanently replace the county auditor; as an appointed position or an elected official.

Janet Stanovich will be acquiring updates for resolving emergency operational plans. Currently, she is working on validation for animal rescue volunteers. There will be American Red Cross training on two separate dates; January 26th and 27th. There will be two tabletop exercises planned: one on January 29th for correctional facilities and one scheduled in April for wildfire and evacuation plans in the Oakhurst area.

Jerry Thompson has nothing to report but is standing by when needed.

Charles Banks has nothing to report as well.

Christi Hansard is moving forward with their emergency preparedness plans.

Barry Beyer states that it has been a very busy cold and flu season. Kaiser will be adding an audiology department soon.

PJ Grant reports that the damage from the electrical fire Sierra Telephone experienced yesterday was kept to a minimum and caused a temporary outage in internet services. Sierra Telephone is working on their emergency preparedness plan.

Tracy Cheek states that interviews for the next unit chief are currently being held.

Chris Ferbrache has nothing to report at this time.

Jere Miller reports that calls are down and has been pretty quiet.

Anne Jenny has nothing to report at this time.

Bernie Smith states that the department is in a budget crunch and is very stringent on money. Children's Hospital requires more funding. CHA will be taking this on as a main project. On January 26th & 27th will be the ICS/NIMS class. On February 23rd there will be a tabletop exercise on pandemic flu regarding patient surge and movement. Currently, she is waiting on the gap analysis which will be used as a tool for the tabletop. Gordon Graham will be speaking on March 19th & 20th on pandemic flu. There will be a functional exercise in June. All of these classes will be held at Social Services in Madera. The Madera Tribune will be running an informational article on cold and flu symptoms and when to see the physician.

Chris Dragoo reports that the drill held at CMC-Oakhurst went very well and appreciated the information provided by Jerry Thompson and Jere Miller on the effects of an earthquake and flooding that could occur in our mountain area. CMC staff also trained on the new stryker chair for stairway evacuation. Community Hospital has initiated visitor restrictions due to the flu season.

Ed Guzman states that the due to economic issues and Medi-Cal reimbursement, the Board has tabled all expansion plans and projects for the time being. Ed gave kudos to the Public Health Department since they are usually the unseen heroes during disaster events.

Next Meeting: February 12, 2009

Meeting adjourned at: 8:10am

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Hayes

