IMA Minutes, February Meeting, 02/17/2022

Daryl Branson, Public Utilities Commission (911 Coordinator)

Ken Lenarcic, Town of Jamestown

Bill Ellis, Town of Raymond

Colleen Sinclair, BCAAA, P2PHHSA, ODM-ESF8/6

Corrin Godar, Supervisor, BCAAA

Karen G, P2PHHSA, BOCO VOAD, BOCO LTRG Marshall Fire

Dawn Baumhover, Town of Nederland, Community Center Director

Cynthia Deputy Zoning Administrator for Town of Nederland, Town of Ward resident

Pam Sherman, Gold Hill

Dennis Whalen, P2PHHSA, MHSC

Kari Middleton, BCPH

Andrew Notbohm, ODM

Patti West, former director of Longmont Communications, represents telephone authority at state meetings

Katie Arrington, ODM

**Steven Silbermann**-Daryl here to discuss regulations, spoke with Lumen on battery backup, last several hours or sometimes longer, need better power from Xcel to get to the boxes

Daryl-what can PUC do about telecommunications outage, bills passed in 2014 deregulated telecom, still regulated-delivery of 911 calls to 911 centers, don’t have regulatory control over areas that don’t have a 911 center, don’t have a lot of authority over CL at local level unless it’s serving a 911 center directly, willing to meet with CL/Lumen to be a helpful presence, this is also an Xcel issue since its power outages are affecting telecommunications

Steve Coles-need to improve the communications system during emergencies, the batteries used to last a day, now only a couple hours

Steve Silbmermann-brought up the back up battery power to Lumen and they replaced batts to AP and Four Mile area, deploy generators during incidents

Steve Coles-is the situation unique to mountain communities?

Steve Silbermann-unsure, need to take this question back to 911

Daryl-this needs to be examined at a state and Western state issue, we are seeing this in other regions (Larimer-continued pressure from the county on CL); this issue extends to cell service as well, terrain in the Western states

Steve Coles: is it reasonable to think we can find an intermediate, interim solution? Batts replaced by generators?

Steve Silbermann-it’s a CL question, and the expense is likely prohibitive, Daryl/Patti/Steve/CL/fire chiefs meeting/committee-could be resurrecting this group to put pressure on CL, helpful to have Xcel brought on as well to discuss power resiliency

Steve Coles: can CL put in propane powered generators at the peds? Independent of the power service

Bill Ellis: during the flood, CL brought a gene up to the ped in Raymond

Karen: representatives from the IMA will join the monthly meeting Steve S was speaking about (Bill and Steve)

Ken (JT): while batts are operating, is it helpful of fewer people are using it? Would that extend the life of the batts?

Steve Coles: increase in battery drain d/t VOIP and internet Wi-Fi calling

Steven S: data is generally NOT battery backup and is separate from phone

Karen: next steps, convening the group to collectively address these concerns with CL and Xcel (both if poss, from Steven Silbermann-will resurrect the group)

**Andrew Notbohm-Deputy Director ODM**

Progress Report from AAR, Marshall Fire

* Collecting info from the various ESFs 12/30/2021-1/8/2022
* Focused on info from the EOC
* Hotwash>Official AAR-lessons learned, what can we do to improve our processes
* Feb was the first MACS meeting
* Collected info via survey, call-in interviews and self AAR
* What went well-good at Zoom/remote coordination, hybrid worked well, integration with partners, good coordination w/ utility companies, staff felt well-supported
* Needed improvements-turnover in gov’t employees (1/3 per year), bench needs deepening, public comm’s issues (alert/warning systems), getting info out to media (capacity issue), multiple tech platforms caused fatigue, how to work with various municipalities and support
* County/VOAD cooperation-funding from FEMA declaration-debris cleanup (money from FEMA and the State-clean up all but foundation, State funding **hydro-mulching** to seal any toxic materials until contracts in place for clean up

Update on the ODM

* Busy finalizing AAR, goal is March to complete, improvement planning in progress
* EOP-guiding document for emergencies on how we operate and coordinate with partners, Disaster Mgmt System, differs from ICS
* Finalizing AA meetings (after 2 years)
* Continuing on Hazard Mitigation Plan, updated in the next couple months
* Were sharing EOC with Comm Ctr, work complete, moving back, new training and coordination in the next couple months, more in person dependent upon COVID

Steve Coles: was Everbridge overloaded and unable to get evac orders out? Is there an additional system?

Andrew: can sign up at bocoalert911 system for multiple properties, WEA (wireless emergency alert)-difficulty with geographic areas, need to coordinate with 911 centers to have a more localized message; multiple platforms for emergency alerts

**Update from Miranda Fisher on Western Wildfire Support Act Committee**

Western Wildfire Support Act Committee met on January 26th. Attendees were Rik Henrikson, Steve Coles, Maya MacHamer, Michael Riechert, Lynette Anderson and Cynthia Bakke. We discussed some of the specifics of the act as well as the current wildfire mitigation/prevention activities that were happening throughout the P2P, such as:

* Big Springs Egress – Town is looking at funding opportunities for this
* NFPD receiving $10k from Boulder Community Foundations to update their radios
* FDPD & Town working with Watershed Collective to submit for the Action, Implementation & Mitigation grant to update the CWPP
* Teens Inc. exploring funding for mitigation work that could be done by Youth Corp
* Wild Bear educational events
* Xcel is working on removing open write cooper throughout the P2P under their Wildfire Reconductor Project
* Roadmap to Recovery is assessing a regional approach to wildfire mitigation & awareness

Steve Coles: still deciding what suggestions they can bring to the table for mitigation efforts

Cynthia Bakke: [https://www.nfpa.org/Events/Events/National-Wildfire-Community-Preparedness-Day funding award of $500](https://www.nfpa.org/Events/Events/National-Wildfire-Community-Preparedness-Day%20%20%20funding%20award%20of%20%24500), deadline to apply 02/28/2022

Pam: Forest Health-starting a committee/initiative and sending out videos and other info on forest health (Mike Reichert-Wild Bear is interested in helping with this group)