

North Central Healthcare Coalition (NCHC)

May 5, 2014

Attendees: Mel Johnson, Nez Perce County Emergency Manager
Don Gardner, Clearwater County Emergency Management
Sandy Rollins, Latah County Disaster Services
Debi Ruppe, Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security
Dave Hasz, Lewis County Emergency Management
Jerry Zumalt, Idaho County Emergency Management
Katy Quinn, St. Joseph Regional Medical Center
Jamie Johnson, Lewis County PIO
Travis Myklebust, Lewiston Fire Department
Alan Martinson, Latah County Disaster Services
Jesse Shepherd, Clearwater Valley Hospital
Patty Barnett, Nezperce Ambulance
Richard Frank, St. Mary's Hospital
Charles Craig, Gritman Medical Center
Mike Neelon, Latah County
Cheri Holthaus, St. Mary's Hospital
Eric Keeling, Idaho State Veterans Home – Lewiston
Dave Reynolds, Moscow Fire Department
Lisa Bomley, St Joseph Regional Medical Center
Gaylon Waits, Lewiston Fire Department
Ed Marugg, Public Health – Idaho North Central District
Matt Dudley, Public Health - Idaho North Central District
Kayla Moehrle, Public Health – Idaho North Central District
Casey Schooley, Public Health - Idaho North Central District
Ryan Bender, Public Health - Idaho North Central District

Katy Quinn, St. Joseph Regional Medical Center

- Katy welcomed everyone.
- Roundtable introductions.

Updates:

Advisory Committee Update

- Looking to bring in Dr. Reiser as a guest speaker on the response efforts during the Oso, Washington landslide
- Working on elderly assistance and streamlining the process to finding the appropriate support
 - Invite agencies to attend a NCHC meeting for presentations on their organization and the services they provide
- Also looking at ways to involve elected officials into the NCHC

EMS Taskforce

- Bill is looking into the development of a Time Sensitive Emergency (TSE) group that will meet prior to NCHC meetings
- EMS is still working on MOUs and protocols for the sharing of the trailer

North Central Information Network (NCIN)

- Jamie Johnson served as a PIO during a multi-agency incident and discussed the steps she took before distributing the information

Mental Health Issues – Lisa Bomley, Mental Health Speakers Bureau, St. Joseph Regional Medical Center

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- St. Joe's is now an acute unit and patients must show improvement within their 3-5 day stay
- Long-term mental health patients are often not admitted due to the inability to improve with the 3-5 day time frame
- St. Joe's Mental Health has a triage team for patients that come into the emergency department
- Transportation from outer hospitals to St. Joe's Mental Health unit can come from law enforcement, EMS, and family members depending on the situation.

Regional Tabletop Exercise Overview – Casey Schooley, Public Health Preparedness Exercise and Trainer Coordinator

- On April 29th the region participated in a winter storm medical surge exercise
- All five hospitals participated along with county emergency managers
- The exercise focused on continuity of operations and maintaining operations when key players are not present
- The exercise challenged the facilities capability to work with at-risk individuals and accommodate an influx of patients from evacuated facilities
- Crisis standards of care and liability issues were areas of concern that hospitals need to continue working on
- Documentation of challenges during the exercise can assist with changes in healthcare requirements
- Prepare the community throughout the year to lessen the burden during an event
- Addressing the reallocation of resources through a cooperative agreement from the five county commissioners will be discussed at the next Emergency Managers Workshop (EMW)

County/Tribal/Regional Updates

- Lewiston Fire Department:
 - Travis Myklebust is filling in as interim fire chief until the hiring process is completed
 - Gaylon Waits is filling in as interim operations chief
 - Lewiston Fire Department is getting ready for their last live emergency response mass decon training on June 4th at the Nez Perce County Fairgrounds (Volunteers are still needed for the training)
- Clearwater County:
 - Started working on evacuation plans
 - Preparedness fair is Saturday, May 10th
- Idaho County:
 - Pre-fire season meetings with state and federal agencies
- Lewis County:
 - Rewriting their Emergency Operations Plans
 - Joint LEPC with Idaho County on Wednesday, May 14th with guest speaker, General Brad Richy, director of Bureau of Homeland Security for the state of Idaho
 - Jamie Johnson will be attending an advanced information officer training at EMI
- Moscow Fire:
 - Tentative mid-June date for their disaster exercise
 - Moscow's Fire Chief is resigning July 1st
- Latah County:

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May 5, 2014

- Sandy will be stepping down as Latah County Disaster Services October 1st and continuing as the C.E.R.T. manager
- Mike Neelon will fill the role of Disaster Services August 1st
- Nez Perce County:
 - Working on the hospitality center concept
 - June LEPC meeting will include a facility tour of ATK
- St. Joseph Regional Medical Center:
 - Addressing gaps identified during the regional TTX at their internal emergency management meeting
 - Will be using the regularly scheduled generator test in June to find gaps in critical equipment being hooked up to emergency power
- Nez Perce Ambulance:
 - Purchasing a new ambulance with some of the funding coming from the state EMS grant

NCHC Strategic Planning – Matt Dudley, Public Health Preparedness Program Manager

- Allotment funding will no longer be available
- Continuity of Operations and Med Surge are capabilities the region will continue to work on in an effort to improve healthcare preparedness
- The DIGB can assist with planning and improving communication plans
- At-risk populations will be an area of focus next year
- There are opportunities to work on the Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) through exercises and trainings
- Funding opportunities are out there and the group should be looking for them
- St. Joe's will work on training staff to setup the inflatable shelter and possibly provide the tent and training to outer hospitals
- The group will look to start setting achievable goals at the August NCHC meeting

Mass Fatality Management – Kayla Moehrle, Public Health Preparedness Planner

- Kayla discussed updates to the regional mass fatality plan including additions to cold storage throughout the region
- The Public Health mass fatality trailer is available to all counties
- Public Health will send out the mass fatality hospital supplement document which can be included as an attachment for each hospital's mortuary operation plans
 - The mass fatality hospital supplement document helps cross reference the hospital's fatality plans with regional fatality plans
- Hospitals are urged to refine and update their plans yearly as well as continue to develop their standard operating features
- A mass fatality tabletop exercise is the next step that will be looked at in early 2015

Epidemiology Update – Anna Olson, Public Health Epidemiologist

- Pertussis (whooping cough) continues to circulate through our district with over 40 cases in 2013, up from single digits in 2012
- Rabies post-exposure prophylaxis increased in 2013 by 45% from the previous year
 - Avoid wild animals and get your pets immunized

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May 5, 2014

- The first case of MERS-CoV (Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus) in the United States was a healthcare worker who recently traveled from Saudi Arabia to Indiana.
- MERS-CoV is commonly linked with people who have recently traveled to the Arabian Peninsula and surrounding countries
- There is no vaccine for MERS-CoV and treatment consists of standard supportive care for a respiratory illness

Closing Items

- Syringa Hospital is providing a Severe Weather Plan training on Tuesday, May 13th through DQE that is open to NCHC members
- Public Health has provided a closed Point of Dispensing (POD) agreement to the hospitals to pre-identify medication for staff and family members
 - Public Health will begin looking at sharing this POD agreement with skilled nursing facilities, clinics, long-term care facilities, Veteran's Home, prisons, and other facilities in the area
- Evacuation planning and training was discussed to encourage planning for large scale events
- CHEMPACK and SNS training will be taking place over the next couple of weeks in order to train authorized staff to request these materials
- The group has decided to table the discussion on meeting dates for FY 2014 until the August 5th meeting
- NCHC meetings will continue in Lewiston, with outer facilities having the option to host
- Next meeting site is TBD with Public Health and Idaho Fish & Game as the two options

Meeting Adjourned

**NEXT MEETING OF THE
North Central Healthcare Coalition
Tuesday, August 5th ~ 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**