

In attendance were Rebecca Lawrence and Karelle Scharff – Ward; Harry Hempy – Bar-K Ranch; Randy Lee – Nederland; Amy Hardy – Gold Hill and Foothills United Way; Keith Carr – Boulder County Area Agency on Aging; Marta Dowell, Bill Ellis- Allenspark; Joe Callahan – Red Cross and BECARES; Nicky Mor- Boulder County District Attorney’s Office

1. **Status of the Mountain Community/Bicycle Coalition**- Mike Chard brought this up with OEM staff. No new information was available. It didn’t seem that there was any plan to reactivate these meetings. Rebecca suggested that this might be an individual community effort. Karelle said there are still problems with bicyclists leaving trash and using private property for personal needs. There are contacts available within the bicycling community who might remind their members about how to conduct themselves in mountain communities and in the canyons. If your community finds this to be a problem, contact Rebecca for more information.
  
2. **Mountain Emergency Radio Network (MERN)**  
-Network status: Equipment Distribution, Repeater installations, Future Trainings: No real leadership aside from Sal and Harry. Would like to get an organized weekly check-in with all the MERN members. Harry proposed a weekly Thursday evening check-in at 8pm. Amy will send out an e-mail to all the MERN members to get this going to develop operator skills and more cohesive coverage across mountain communities. Joe Callahan reported Allenspark repeater is still in the works, all parts are available, need a workcrew to schedule to come up and put it together. Joe said that BCARES is working on getting a channel assignment for Eldora. Karelle will e-mail the MERN master list to Joe Callahan. There is some confusion about the money that was granted by the OEM for the AP repeater. BCARES purchased the AP equipment with other funds. Amy will follow up with Mary Leach about the \$\$\$ and will keep Rebecca and Joe informed. We don’t want to lose money that we got through the grant.
  
3. **Foothills United Way Mountain Community Liaison-Amy Hardy**  
Working on a mountain transportation route from Central City. Looking for matching funds. Foothills United Way is willing to kick in about \$40,000. FHUW is looking for community buy-in. Boulder Valley Schools is interested as it would allow students to get to extra-curricular activities.

Community Navigator Training was successful. Over 30 people from across the communities attended. Part of Nederland Mayor’s Health and Human Services network. Will have another training in September or October.

Rebecca and Amy went to Denver to educate the 211 staff about mountain communities special needs. Met with the actual operators and the supervisor. In an emergency, 211

gets all their information from OEM. Would it be beneficial to have someone from the IMA with the 211 folks during an emergency? OEM contacts 211 and feeds them information. We need a list of contacts for 2 people from every community. Members of the community could be notified by OEM to activate a portion of the community emergency plan, such as large animal evacuation. Amy and Rebecca suggested that they say “Would you prefer your services in the mountains or in Boulder? They explained to them that the mountain folks prefer to stay in mountains and will not seek services down in Boulder. Also let them know that they may be the only contact this person may have, so to be especially supportive of the person who is calling. The goal was to help the operators understand and be able to refer mountain residents to mountain locations for assistance. Amy is creating a color-coded map for them that will identify mountain communities with their zip codes. Stephanie Sanchez from 211 and United Way determined that a mountain person might be helpful to have at the OEM desk during an emergency. Community services and Robin Bohanan

Emergency Plans: Mike Chard said that OEM will utilize phone numbers we give them to notify members of communities that need to activate emergency plans. Each community will give the OEM their emergency plan and Karelle will get each plan up on the Mountain Resource website or Dropbox. Karelle will take the lead on this and get it up and running. Plans are available from Nederland, BarK, Ward, OEM, USFS will have a master list of numbers for each community to call to activate pieces of the community plan. Mike Chard felt that a check in from communities was important and he and Mary are trying to design a way to make this workable, probably the Community Service Desk.

#### **4. USFS Wood-Amy Hardy**

Amy has been working with West Range to design the firewood project for locals to have firewood. It would be best if they could leave the wood on site, but the FS doesn't have the ability to manage that. We need to find locations for the logs to be stored so that residents can get the wood. Amy asked if the sort yards could store the wood. Randy brought up the issue of liability for whoever stores the wood, and also the idea that we don't want to put our local wood providers out of business. Someone suggested that these guys are providing wood for people who don't get their wood for themselves anyway. Sylvia has been working with Megan Davis at Boulder County Commissioner's office and has talked with Scott Golden at Boulder County Parks and Open Space and he might be able to help with the best ways to do this. Harry asked about the FS contracts and what the time frames are for clearing out slash vs. usable wood. Sylvia said that they do have a deadline, but that the FS doesn't qualify what to do when. The FS takes care of the slash left behind. Most contracts last a year. The FS agreed to give West Range a certain amount of work over the next few years. Still working on how to manage the wood and where to store it. Rebecca would like to have communities identify individuals who need wood first and to find ways to get this wood to the high-needs residents. This is a good idea but it takes someone to manage it. Possible suggestions for managing this were to having certain times for neediest folks, etc. Wood will be in logs and will need to be bucked up. We might be able to use Saws and Slaws sawyers to help with the bucking of the wood. Keith suggested that there not be any restrictions on who could have the wood.

This is a great opportunity to create good will in our communities with the Forest Service. Each community should identify areas where this wood might be stored, and check out the liabilities related to allowing people to get wood at that location. Amy asked if the FS could provide a piece of property where the wood could be left for people. Mike Chard suggested that the FS might sell the wood to a non-profit where the wood could be stored and sold. Sylvia said that the wood belongs to the contractor, so the contractor might donate the wood to a non-profit, but the FS cannot just give the wood away without accounting for it. Hold off notifying folks until we know more.

## 5. Check-in with Communities:

A. **Ward-** Rebecca and Amy are working on putting an insurance information night together for Ward residents. Coal Creek Canyon will have a presentation on June 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at Coal Creek Community Center Room. Many mountain residents are underinsured if insured at all. Insurance companies are dropping mountain residents and StateFarm and American Family Insurance are already saying that they will not issue any more mountain policies. Fire danger is going to severe in about 2 weeks according to Mike Chard. Sheriff's Dept will respond to calls about campfires. Forest Service is probably going to restrict fires soon, and the county can enforce fire restrictions on FS property. Harry suggested that insurance companies might have a firewise certification for individual properties that have been mitigated that would also reduce your rates. This would require working with insurance commission and legislators.

Rebecca would like to have 4-6 women to go through the Saws and Slaws training and participating in other events. Eventually the men will follow. She is working on that.

B. **Jamestown-** Harry Pod system is well organized on paper. Will have a test of this system in the next week or so. The whole area is covered with at least one coordinator in each of 11 areas. Any pod coordinators who receive a reverse 911 call will notify the other 10 coordinators.

Jamestown/BarK trash days are happening and being very successful. BarK will have one Saturday, June 19. BarK will have a chipping day on July 13<sup>th</sup>.

Dust suppressant by the county will be applied on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Cooperation with Jamestown Fire Department: They are watering the new grass on the ball field. The BC Commissioners put off new drilling in BC for 18 months with encouragement for residents to work with at the state level to stop drilling statewide.

-

C. **Gold Hill-** Amy had a successful safe site meeting with a liaison from the Gold Hill Fire Department present. A group is checking all the things in the Safe Site Storage Shed to be sure they are ready. There is a group working on the Emergency Plan. They figured out how to use the propane generator in the BCARES emergency shed.

- A sign reading Property of BCARES was removed so that all will feel that they can utilize the generator and supplies in the shed. The next step is to have a test of the system. There is now a procedure in place to allow OEM to launch an EAS message over TV, radio and weather radio. If Everbridges are going out, then a weather radio message will be going out as well. Tell your residents to get a weather radio to receive these messages.
- D. Allenspark - There will be a meeting of the ANEN on June 27 at 7pm at The Kelley House on Highway 7. Maps have been printed that have property lines and that identify where people are who are participating in the ANEN. Currently hoping to get more people involved as a result of the current fires and to identify more neighborhood coordinators. Large animal evacuation is a topic that will be addressed at a future meeting. Marta will attend a meeting with Tahosa Valley Landowner's to try to recruit more neighborhood coordinators, and we are trying to get together a group of people in AP who are interested in Saws and Slaws.
  - E. Nederland- Randy reported that there was a Saws and Slaws Community Event on April 30<sup>th</sup>. Big Springs will have an event on June 29<sup>th</sup>. There have been some very successful mitigation events there with 5 events scheduled for Big Spring. Nederland has submitted an application for recognition as a FireWise Community. Nederland did accept pine needles at their last town clean up and are accepting bags of pine needles through today.
  - F. Lyons- not available

**Red Cross**- Joe Callahan felt that it would be very helpful from a Red Cross standpoint to have community input about what each individual community wants and how the Red Cross might help each community. Red Cross could use the master list of community members to be contacted in event of an emergency. Karelle will get him the list of the MERN members in each community as well.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at Jamestown Town Hall.

Watch for updates for Amy for FS Wood updates, E-mail to all MERN membership, and creation of a Dropbox for Community Emergency Plans