

BIG HORN COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

317 N Custer Ave
BHC Sheriff's Office -
conference room
Haridn, MT, 59034



Members

BIG HORN COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES June 18, 2025 1:00 PM

1. Introduction & Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Sylvan Coversup on 6/18/2025 at 1:17pm. Roll call was taken by Sylvan Coversup.

In Attendance:

Nicholas Spadt - BHC undersheriff
Jose Figueroa - Officer BIA
Sylvan Covers Up - BHC DES director
Kelsey Roebling - BHC Public Health director/nurse
Molly Buechilac - MSUB nursing student
John Wetenkamp - National Weather Service

2. Election of the BHC LEPC officers

This agenda item was moved to postpone motion by Sylvan Coversup. This motion has been postponed until September 8th 2025 meeting.

BHC LEPC Coordinator

BHC LEPC Co-Coordinator

BHC LEPC Secretary / Treasurer

3. Approval of Minutes and Supporting Documents

Bylaws of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) of Big Horn County : motion to adopt has been postponed until the September 8th, 2025 meeting. Motion was approved. Bylaws have been moved to the agenda of the September 8th meeting.

BHC LEPC minutes from 3/4/25: Minutes were approved at 1:23pm on 6/18/25. The initial motion was made by Sylvan Coversup with the second made by Nicholas Spadt.

Bylaws of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) of Big Horn County

BHC LEPC minutes form 3/4/25

4. Communications / Mail Slot

No Communications.

5. Reports of Subcommittees

No subcommittees.

6. Hazardous Materials Discussion

Sylvan would like to hold an exercise based on hazardous materials.

7. Old Business

Kelsey Roebling - BHC Public Health Director/Nurse:

Done reporting on flu season 24-25. Will begin reporting on flu season 25-26 in September. Will begin flu shots in middle of September. Will provide multiple flu shot clinics across the county. Carevan will be there for a hand full. Cities will be Lodge Grass, Crow, Wyola, Hardin, St. Xavier, Fort Smith and possibly Pryor. Other Communicable Disease cases in the county: campy, crypto, and STEC are up due to picnics, potlucks and brandings. Current Measles Epidemic: Up to 20 cases in the State so far. No concern for the 2 cases in Yellowstone. None in Big Horn county so far. Gallatin county is starting to see community-acquired cases of Measles. Gallatin county Health Officer did release a change in recommendation for MMR vaccination to lower the age range to 6-11 months for that first dose. If it did come to this in our county Dr. Mark (Health Director) & Anna Hein (Health Officer) will work with me (Kelsey) to pass this recommendation and other guidelines. We do have a three-month supply (from three different funding sources) in office, including the ability to pull from other organizations and jurisdictions. The three funding sources for the vaccine in office are VFA (Vaccine for Adults-State), VFC (Vaccine for Child-State), and Private supply. There are no differences in the manufacture of the vaccines; it is only the funding source. Will start CPR/AED classes for county employees.

Alyssa Pitsch - BHC Public Health Emergency Preparedness:

Completed the AAR/IP from the Highly Infectious Disease Tabletop Exercise in March. CHEMLOCK done. Narcan training done April 8th. Completed AAR from Power Outage on April 17 for Big Horn Center only due to communication during event. Dept of Livestock held a foreign animal disease. They will create their plan from the tabletops around the state and then invites entities that attended the tabletops to join in on a state wide tabletop with funding they received for HPAI. BHCEH hosted a DOTPHMAS rail car incident response course on June 9th at the Big Horn Center. BNSF has offered training for the ASKRAIL app to identify rail cars. ALL HAZARD has offered to bring the course back if there is more interest in our area. Will be in Texas for the TEEX Cybersecurity course in August.

8. Special Presentations

No presentations.

9. New Business

Kelsey Roebling - BHC Public Health Director/Nurse:

Would like to re-establish the bi-annual Unified Command meeting that Alyssa put on after COVID.

Alyssa Pitsch - BHC Public Health Emergency Preparedness:

Working on list for LEPC with Kelsey from meeting. Requested Sylvan's support with the community preparedness booth on 8/21/2025 at the River Valley Farmers Market. Would like to know if anyone has materials they would like to add to the booth at the RVFM for the public. The QR code for the Code Red sign up no longer works on the Code Red handout. 9/3/2025 will be the next Highly Infectious Disease tabletop at the Big Horn Center between 9am and 11am. Paula is putting on her HERT team training on 9/10-9/11 at the Hospital. Northern Western Energy is also offering, until the end of June, to their residential customers a \$100 rebate on energy star air purifiers, which is a good idea going into wildfire season.

Nicholas Spadt - BHC Under Sheriff:

Has a staff member going to train for instructing active shooter exercise in August for a week. I will try

to gain access to the Code Red app to generate a new QR code. Will send it out once done. Requiring all staff go through the ICS 100 & ICS 200 training.

Sylvan Coversup - BHC DES Director:

Would like to see the participation of both TERC & LEPC members at the meetings for well-informed meetings. For disaster response, we will need everyone educated on NIMS/ICS. DHS has funding for exercise. I will need to create an exercise that will utilize most or all organizations from the LEPC. Hazardous material scenario for the exercise. Contact Megan and Paula to help build the exercise. Will need to complete before the end of the year. I will need Peter Killman's contact information for the Hazardous Materials exercise. Working on key roles of the LEPC. Reaching out for some funding for a county EOC will be the evacuation point. Looking at Threat Mitigation grants, Hazard mitigation grants and THIRA after BRICK was taken away from the EOC. Would like to have a building for evacuees. The previous flood in Crow posed a concern as all shelter locations were in use except the old PH building. The Red Cross did open a shelter for a short time at the old PH building to help Crow. They opened the shelter for 11 days and had 40+ signed up for the shelter. This EOC building would also bring other revenue sources to the county. Working on the damage from the windstorm. Bylaws will need updated during next meeting for dates of meetings. Setting up a tent for Little Big Horn days on Friday in the morning. Asking others to join.

Jose Figueroa, Jr. - BIA-OJS Chief of Police:

Would like to have inventory lists for resource needs in an emergency. BIA IHS Crow / Norther Cheyenne has recently combined the two departments. Has brought new resources: jet boat and body cameras.

10. Public Comments

No public comment

11. Details of Next Meeting

Future meetings are to be held every 4 months (quarterly). Bylaws will be updated before the next meeting with these changes. Next meeting date: 09/08/2025 at 1:00pm (13:00) in the Big Horn County Sheriffs Office conference room.

12. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 2:39pm (14:39) on 06/18/2025 by Sylvan Coversup.