

**Public Safety Collaborative
Minutes
January 19, 2006**

1. Meeting was called to order at about 9:00 a.m. by Joye McElwee
2. Attendance listing is available at the end of these minutes.
3. Minutes of October 20, 2005 meeting approved. No changes proposed for the Agenda.
4. Summary of the meeting:
 - a. **Old Business:**
 - 1) Community Safety Initiative:
 - a) Commissioner Coonrod discussed the following:
 - Proposal being offered by several area banks to provide a loan to cover renovation of the old L.E. Cox building so that a crime lab could be established by the Highway Patrol in that building. Jack Merritt explained how this type of offer does not come along often, and we need to take advantage of it.
 - How the county tried to include too many things in the Community Safety Initiative. Nonetheless, he expressed concern over the number of individuals and organizations who could have helped but did not. The apathy within our community is a concern. Roads receive funding but other things go unsupported.
 - He expects a basic law enforcement initiative that includes the jail, crime lab repayment to banks, sheriff's patrol, and prosecutor staffing will be put before voters sometime in 2007—possibly February or April. Anything past April places the Sheriff's Department in jeopardy.
 - b) Shelia Wright explained how 60 percent of the voting precincts in her Council area voted for CSI. That's amazing given most of those folks are working class. The rest of the City did not support it for whatever reason.

- c) Jack Merritt explained that he has received a large amount of correspondence saying that if the Child Support portion of the referendum had not been included they would have voted for CSI. He said that made him want to put it back on the ballot in February 2006 but others advised him that would be a political error.
 - d) Commissioner Coonrod, Jack Merritt, and others discussed at some length the rapid increase in medical costs to support jail prisoners. It was not long ago that we averaged \$8,000 per month for medications for prisoners. This month it was \$31,315. Something has to be done to control this growing financial impact to the county.
 - e) A motion was made and unanimously approved that the PSC send a letter to the city supporting acceptance of the loan proposal being made by several area banks to fund remodeling of the L.E. Cox building in preparation for its use as a the crime lab. (Note: That letter was written and sent. It was eventually used as a letter to the Editor in the News-Leader as well.)
- 2) Communications:
- a) Webster County is the only adjoining county to Greene that as yet to install the 800 TRS desktop unit. The other adjoining counties have them installed and are being tested.
 - b) The regional communications planning committee only lacks collecting frequencies from two counties in Troop D. A new Chair for this committee has been elected—Udell Mentola.
 - c) Joye explained that 45 people participated in a Table Top Communications Exercise on January 12 to address how amateur radio communication would be used during a major earthquake exercise. OEM is working with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) to develop an agreement between ARES and OEM for disaster and exercise communications support.
- 3) Storm Ready Status: The city of Springfield and Greene County have now been formally recognized by the National Weather Service as being Storm Ready. The only issue remaining is whether the city or county wants to place road

signs on major arterials that tell people about this status.

- 4) WMD Grants: Joye explained how WMD grant funds are drying up and how the State is seeking to regionalize the WMD Grant process using the Regional Planning Councils. Some expressed how this move could be a recipe for disaster. Sheila explained how she is on a Regional Planning Council Board and has not received an invitation for a meeting in 9 months.
 - 5) Exercises: Joye explained that we are becoming overwhelmed with exercises and how they must include a terrorism ingredient for OEM to receive credit toward their Emergency Management Program Grant funds they receive annually. Exercises in 2006 include:
 - a) Bomb Threat Exercise at Greene County
 - b) Aircrash Table Top in March
 - c) Full-Scale Aircrash in September
 - d) Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Exercise June 14th.
This exercise is a regional event.
 - 6) Automatic Vehicle Locater (AVL) System: Since no one from 911 or CU were present, there was limited discussion on this issue. Jack Merritt asked if it would only be \$5800 for the Sheriff's Department to interface with CAD or was that a per vehicle cost. Joye indicated he understood from the last meeting that the \$5800 was for everyone in the Department.
 - 7) National Incident Management System (NIMS) Training: Joye explained that recently Dan Wichmer, City Law Department, identified City Council members and the Mayor would be required to attend NIMS training. OEM is contracting with a person to teach a condensed class for City Council. The County Commission will be invited to that class.
 - 8) Risk Communications Class: Jaci McReynolds, Health Department, will be teaching another Risk Communications Class on February 3, 2006 for those interested in attending. The Commission has attended. It is an important class for anyone who might find themselves in front of a media camera or microphone.
- b. New Business:** Joye explained that a new Chair for the PSC needs to be identified as he will be retiring. Commissioner Coonrod recommended the Emergency Management Director be the Chair as they seem to be involved in about everything.

5. Next meeting is April 20, 2006 at the Emergency Management EOC, 833 N. Boonville (Basement).

Respectfully Submitted,

Joye G. McElwee
Chair

Attendees

Dave Coonrod	Greene County Commission
Lynn Hollandworth	Republic Fire Department
Carl Buckner	Fair Grove EMA
Bill Covey	Pleasant View
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM
Sheilia Wright	City Council
Richard Berry	Missouri State University
Jack Merritt	Sheriff
Ruby Smith	Community Partnership of the Ozarks

Attachment 1
Attendance Listing

Roger Brogue	City Utilities
Shelia Wright	Springfield City Council
Dave Coonrod	Greene County Presiding Commissioner
Roseann Bentley	Greene County Commissioner
Becky Jungmann	911 Center Director
J. R. Webb	911 Center Assistant Director
Rick Williams	Emergency Management Director, City of Republic
Lynn Hollandworth	Republic Fire Department
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM
David Hoover	Ozarks Health Ventures
Bob Patterson	St. John's EMS
Margaret Dawson	City Utilities
Rob Slentz	Republic Emergency Management
Myrl Bowler	Mayor of Strafford
Richard Berry	Missouri State University
Randy Mantle	Logan-Rogersville Fire Protection District
Jeff Reinold	Greene County Budget Officer