And JCHSEM’s New Director is…..

Stephen S. Allen was unanimously appointed Director on January 18, 2018 by the Jefferson County Commission. He previously served as the Deputy Director/Planner/Program Manager for Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management since May of 2016. His accomplishments (beyond the daily operational responsibilities and meetings) since coming to Jefferson County are organizing and updating the Community Rating System list of properties located in floodplains and the distribution of the annual informational letters to the property owners, reviewing our county emergency operations plans prior to acceptance by the county, participating in our community outreach programs, overseeing the technical aspects of retention of hazardous materials site data and reviewing the updated hazardous material commodity flow studies of materials passing through or located in Jefferson County for the Jefferson County Local Emergency Planning Committee, and actively participating in our disaster exercises to ensure the community is ready for disasters and large-scale emergencies.

Prior to coming to work for Jefferson County, Steve retired as the director of the Berkeley County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (formerly Office of Emergency Services) after 29 years of service to the people of Berkeley County. He began his emergency management career in 1986. In that position, he coordinated the community’s endeavors to provide for the health, safety, and preparedness for threats from numerous types of large-scale emergencies and disasters. He also developed and maintained the county’s emergency operations plan for the county and provided guidance and oversaw the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), which is a facility for key officials to operate from during disasters and other large-scale events. Under Mr. Allen’s direction, the agency was also responsible for providing mutual aid for fire protection for the county in support of volunteer fire departments.

Mr. Allen organized and led Berkeley County’s Hazardous Incident Response Team and was the chairman of the county’s Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for nearly all of its existence.

Before becoming the director of the Berkeley County’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, he enjoyed an extensive background in emergency services starting in 1974, including 12 years as a professional firefighter and EMT in both the private and public sectors as well as Crash/Fire/Rescue at the WV Air National Guard and Fairchild Republic Company in Hagerstown, MD. He was the Chief for the Bedington Fire and Rescue Department directly before joining Berkeley County government. Mr. Allen is a charter member of the Berkeley County Fire Service Board. He also served as Chairman of the WV Emergency Management Council, and was a Regional Team Leader for the WV Regional Response Team.

Mr. Allen, a Martinsburg, WV native, is also a HazMat Technician and a certified Field Instructor for Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) VIII and has been an instructor for the West Virginia Fire Service Extension of West Virginia University. He has also served as a State instructor for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) courses at the local level and has extensive on-scene experience and classroom training experience in firefighting, hazardous materials handling and disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. He is a graduate of Martinsburg High School, Martinsburg, WV and has several course credits at Shepherd College.

In Berkeley County, Mr. Allen received numerous awards and recognition for his public service from state and local government, community service agencies and the WV Air National Guard.
2018 Annual Partnership Meeting focuses on Disaster Response

JCHSEM held their annual Partnership Meeting at the Epic Buffet at the Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races on Friday, January 19, 2018. After an award ceremony, swearing in of the new JCHSEM director, and presentation on JCHSEM’s activities for 2017 and goals for 2018, Brandon Vallee, JCHSEM, led a panel discussion of 2017 disaster response Volunteers consisting of Clair Brendel, American Red Cross, Sandee Niles, Team Rubicon, and Sanford “Sandy” Green, WV Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. The panel discussed their responsibilities, their experiences, and lessons learned, from responding to Hurricanes Irma, Harvey, and Maria and the California Wild Fires. Approximately 90 people attended the luncheon, which was provided gratis by the Hollywood Casino.

Pictures presented at the partnership luncheon.

Top Center: Hurricane Damage to San Juan

Top Right: Team Rubicon heavy equipment removing debris in Huston, TX

Right: American Red Cross Volunteers getting ready to board a flight to Puerto Rico.
Sign Up to Receive Nixle Alerts!

Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management uses NIXLE Alerts to send emergency alert notifications by text, e-mail, Facebook and Twitter. We send out weather watches and warnings, as well as Emergency Public Information during disasters. Examples include tornado, flood, severe snowstorm, and severe thunderstorm watches, warnings, advisories, and emergencies, as well as, where emergency shelters are located, where commodities can be obtained, etc. Signing up is easy and its FREE! To sign up, go to http://local.nixle.com/register or text your zip code to 888777 and then text JCHSEM to the same number.

In addition to NIXLE, we still use traditional media, such as newspapers, TV, and radio, however, receiving NIXLE alerts on your phone is the fastest way to receive emergency public information. Make sure that everyone in your family that has a phone, receives our emergency alerts in case that you are not together when a disaster happens. Make receiving NIXLE Alerts a part of your family’s communication plan. If you have questions about NIXLE Alerts, you can go to www.nixle.com and click on “resident”. You can always call our office if you have local questions or need assistance with getting registered.

Citizens Fire Company
Annual Pancake Day
Tuesday February 13th
6am – 7pm
All you can Eat!
Pancakes,
Whole Hog Sausage
Fresh Sausage Gravy
Coffee & Tea
Toppings Bar!
Eggs & OJ Available until 11am

Adults: $8.00
Kids 6-12: $4.00
Under 6 EAT FREE!

There is no direct access off of the 340 Bypass
Please use Route 115 to Citizens Way

For more information call 304-728-6428 or go to www.citizensfirecompany.com
Is your business prepared for an emergency?

We all recognize that disaster can strike anywhere, at any time. However, there is a tendency to believe that “it won’t happen to me.” Time and time again has shown that it can and will happen. Taking the smallest steps can prepare your self, home, and business for an emergency.

We ask you to consider the following:

- An estimated 25 percent of businesses do not reopen following a major disaster, according to the Institute for Business and Home Safety.
- The number of declared major disasters more than doubled in the 1990s.
- A business can be hurt indirectly when disaster strikes customers or another business, such as a supplier or distributor.
- OSHA requires that most businesses with 10 or more employees have a written emergency plan.
- The realities of a post-9/11 world and an increasing dependency on computer technology call for additional protection of business operations.

Businesses and their staff face a wide variety of hazards in Jefferson County, ranging from natural hazards (flooding/tornadoes), health hazards (flu pandemics), human caused hazards, and technology related hazards (such as power outages). Planning of a disaster may seem like an overwhelming task, but there are plenty of free resources to help you get started. On the JCHSEM Website, we now have a collection of free tool kits and guides to assist in getting your business prepared for a disaster. Check it out at: http://www.jeffersoncountywv.org/county-government/departments/homeland-security-and-emergency-management/forms-and-documents
Need Training?

Emergency Management is a constantly-changing field. While we all strive to keep up with the latest technology, the best ways to work with stakeholders to develop plans, how to conduct successful floodplain management, performing damage assessments, how to handle the debris after a disaster, help our communities to recover, or just learning the fundamentals, there are plenty of options available to you. Here are some great opportunities for training that you may or may not know about:

**West Virginia Military Affairs and Public Safety’s Training Center, CourseMill.** If you are involved in emergency management in West Virginia, you can set up your free account at [http://www.onlinelearning.wv.gov/dmapscm6/home.html](http://www.onlinelearning.wv.gov/dmapscm6/home.html). Once you set up your account, you can log on and look at the list of available courses being taught in West Virginia. Current courses include the Basics of Floodplain Management, HazMat Highway Containers in a Tunnel Specialist, Search and Rescue in Community Disasters, Disaster Preparedness for Hospitals and HealthCare Organizations within the Community Infrastructure; National Emergency Management Basic Academy Train the Trainer; Advanced Floodplain Management Concepts, and Rail Care Incident Response for Crude, Ethanol and Other Flammable Liquids-Rail Car Response. The courses are always changing, so check back often.

**FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute**’s URL is [https://training.fema.gov/emi.aspx](https://training.fema.gov/emi.aspx). From this training portal, anyone can take their online independent study courses for free. There are over 100 courses to choose from. You can also browse the schedules and information about their on-campus resident courses for those who are involved in emergency management at the federal, state, local or tribal governments.

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**Cyber Security Training Opportunities**

**Essentials of Community Cybersecurity (A prerequisite to the course below)**

March 28, 2018  
Time: 8 am to 12 pm  
Location: Canaan Valley Resort  
Course Description:

AWR-136 provides participants with an introduction to concepts related to community cybersecurity. Participants will examine the different types of cyber attacks, how communities are vulnerable to cyber attacks and incidents, and what types of organizations are most likely to be targeted. This course will also introduce the participants to the Community Cyber Security Maturity Model and how to use the model to build a community cybersecurity program and their cyber resilience.

**Community Preparedness for Cybersecurity**

Date: March 28-29, 2018  
Time: 1 pm to 5 pm  
Location: Canaan Valley Resort  
Course Description:

MGT 384, Community Preparedness for Cyber Incidents, is designed to provide organizations and communities with strategies and processes to increase cyber resilience. During this 12 hour course, participants will analyze cyber threats and initial and cascading impacts of cyber incidents, evaluate the process for developing a cyber preparedness program, examine the importance and challenges of cyber related information sharing and discover low to no cost resources to help build cyber resilience.

To Register for these FREE Classes, go to: [http://www.onlinelearning.wv.gov/dmapscm6](http://www.onlinelearning.wv.gov/dmapscm6)  
For questions about the course or registration, contact Gregory.c.fernley@wv.gov or call 304-558-5380
灾备演习，2018

西维吉尼亚州第三区 Homeland Security Region III (WVHSR3) 的 Table Top 演习为2018年演习系列的一部分，将于2018年4月24日在 Keyser, WV 的 Potomac State University 举行。所有 WVHSR3 县及西维吉尼亚州西部合作伙伴的代表将参加。

2017年西维吉尼亚州第三区 Homeland Security Region 3, AAR/IP Meeting…………………Completed
2018年西维吉尼亚州第三区 Homeland Security Region 3, Tabletop Exercise……………April 24, 2018
2018年西维吉尼亚州第三区 Homeland Security Region 3, Functional Exercise………TBA
2018年西维吉尼亚州第三区 State Emergency Response Commission TTX……………TBA
2018年西维吉尼亚州第三区 Homeland Security Region 3, Full Scale Exercise………….TBA
2018年西维吉尼亚州第三区 Homeland Security Region 3, AAR/IP Meeting………………TBA

一个有效的演习计划是我们的准备工作的关键部分，因为它验证计划，测试操作能力，保持领导有效性，并检查如何使用整个社区。

An effective exercise program is an essential component of our preparedness as it validates plans, tests operational capabilities, maintains leadership effectiveness, and examines ways to utilize the whole community. Exercise program management involves a collaborative approach that integrates resources, organizations, and individuals in order to identify and achieve program priorities.
Steering Committee, John Sherwood, Chair
The Steering Committee works with the JCHSEM Director to guide the activities of JCHSEM. A fourteen-member Steering Committee is made up of public and private representation. JCHSEM is a Department within the Jefferson County Commission, who has overall responsibility for the department and its employees. The Jefferson County Commission appoints all members to the steering committee. This committee meets on the 4th Tuesday of February, March, May, June, August, September and holds a Nov/Dec meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the JCHSEM EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced. The Quarterly Partnership meetings held in January, April, July, and October also serve as the Steering Committee meetings for those months.

Public Awareness, Education and Training Committee, Paula Marrone-Reese, Chair
Any interested person can serve on this committee. The Public Awareness, Education and Training Committee is responsible to communicate the organization’s activities to the public and to build support for JCHSEM’s programs. They work with the Director and other staff to keep the entire community focused on the objectives of JCHSEM, the opportunities for additional involvement and support by updating citizens and businesses about what the partners are doing and how the community will and is benefiting from these efforts. Additionally, they are responsible to assist the program manager is setting up speaking engagements and public awareness events. This committee meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of the at 0830 in the EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced.

Risk Assessment and Mitigation Planning Committee, Mason Carter, Chair
Any interested person may serve on this committee. The Risk Assessment/Mitigation Planning Committee examine the community’s risks and vulnerability to all hazards and assess the community’s vulnerability to those risks. A Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan was completed and adopted by the Jefferson County Commission, all Jefferson County municipalities, WVHSEM, and Federal Emergency Management Agency in July, 2003. The plan was updated in 2008 and 2013. The 2013 Plan was approved by WVDHSEM and FEMA in June, 2013. This committee meets Quarterly, and holds an Annual Meeting to review status of projects that were identified in the plan. Please call the office for exact dates and times.

Counter Terrorism Committee, Stephen Allen, Director, Chair
Membership to this sub-committee of the Risk Assessment and Mitigation Planning Committee is limited to members of law enforcement, emergency management, homeland security, emergency communications, Red Cross, schools, health care, fire companies, ambulance authority/EMS, and government, due to sensitive homeland security issues. The committee works on issues of planning and training for counter terrorism or human-caused disasters. Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the EOC at 28 Industrial Blvd., Kearneysville, unless otherwise announced.

If you are interested in joining any of our committees, contact Stephen Allen at sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org or Brandon Vallee at bvallee@jeffersoncountywv.org

Times, dates, places may need to be changed due to inclement weather, scheduling conflicts or EOC activation. If you have questions, call the JCHSEM office.
Meetings & Events

February Meetings

01-HAM Radio Night at the Jefferson County EOC

09-Eastern Panhandle Emergency Management Association (EPEMA) Meeting in Hampshire County at 10:00 a.m.

13-Counter Terrorism Committee at 2:00 p.m. at the Jefferson County EOC

14-Public Awareness Meeting at 8:30 a.m. at the Jefferson County EOC

19-President’s Day Holiday, County Offices are Closed

21-Jefferson County LEPC Meeting at 7:30 a.m. at IHOP in Charles Town, WV

26-Steering Committee Meeting at 9:00 a.m. @ Jefferson County EOC

27-March 1-L0276 Benefit-Cost Analysis Entry Level Training at Sutton, WV. *Preregistration is required for this training.

* Sterling National Weather Service Calls every Monday at 9:00 a.m.

*Weather Calls every Monday and Friday at 10:00 a.m. with State EOC and National Weather Service