



DOUGLAS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BOARD

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The Douglas County Emergency Management/Local Emergency Planning Committee Board met on October 8th, 2015. Chair Ron May welcomed and thanked everyone for attending, then called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Introductions were made. Motion by Tom Damewood to approve the July 9th, 2015 minutes; Tommy Johnson seconded and the board unanimously approved the minutes. Those present included:

Attending:

Jane Blocher
Midge Grinstead
Ron May
H. Wayne Riley
Randy Roberts

Tom Damewood
Tommy Johnson
Bob Newton
Kathy Colson
Roy Morehead

Bill Edwards
Jeanette Klammer
Shannon Oury
Trent McKinley
Bud Waugh

Larry Gray
Andrew Foster
Nichole Rials

Others Attending:

Teri Smith
Jennifer Cacchio

Robyn Krutz
Zane Steves

Brian Foote
Sandy Johnson

David Hogg

New Staff -

- David Hogg was introduced as the new planner for Douglas County Emergency Management. David joined the department in September and has already begun to assume his role and make an impact on plans.

Presentation:

- Sandy Johnson with the Kansas Department of Agriculture presented on Avian Influenza – an animal health perspective. The 2015 outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza was the largest animal health incident in the history of the United States. Sandy discussed the types of influenza, why there is a need to prepare for it, and the impact on commercial poultry operations. She discussed the Midwest response of the poultry influenza outbreak of 2015 and how the lessons learned are now used and applied to other emergency situations.

Volunteer Updates:

CERT/Skywarn/ACT-

- As the year comes to a close, EM has scheduled an end of the year meeting for all volunteer groups. This meeting will allow for discussion on volunteer training requirements and additional training/exercises they would like to see offered.
- Emergency Managements' annual Volunteer Recognition will be held at the new Douglas County Public Works and Zoning and Codes Building on Tuesday, December 15th, 2015 at 6:00 pm. Dinner will be provided, they will tour the new facility and then there will be an awards presentation to our volunteers for their excellence and commitment to their volunteerism with Emergency Management. The board is encouraged to come celebrate our volunteers and Emergency Management. Please RSVP to rkrutz@douglas-county.com.
- The full CERT class was completed on the weekend of October 2nd, 2015. It had a fantastic turnout of community members including many Humane Society employees who were interested in learning how to assist our community before, during, and after a disaster. Fourteen individuals completed the training making this another successful CERT class.
- David will be working with Jennifer Hare with Lawrence High School to put together a teen CERT class with a student organization she is involved in. This national student organization is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Health Science Education (HSE) Division. The organizations two-fold mission is to promote career opportunities in the health care industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. CERT is already touched upon lightly in the program, but EM will be able to work with Jennifer to teach the students more about CERT. This will include basic disaster preparedness, basic first aid, and fire safety. Freestate High School also has a similar program and is interested in coordinating with EM to receive the same training for their students.
- A mini CERT class has already been scheduled for February 2016.

Staff Updates:

Plans-

- All signatures have been acquired and the Region K Mitigation Plan has been fully adopted.
- David is working on the Debris Management Plan. He is coordinating this effort and will be inviting individuals in agencies identified with responsibilities in the plan to attend the first meeting in November. The goal for these meetings is for everyone to have the opportunity to review the plan and provide feedback. The original plan was already a well-written plan, but it is required that this plan be updated and re-approved every five years. Once the update is finished, it will be submitted for approval. David's goal is to have the plan completed by the end of the year and to be presented to the Commission in January.

IRIS/Everbridge-

- IRIS, the previous mass call notification system contract was purchased with Northeast Regional Homeland Security Council grant funds, but the contract has expired. RFP's for a new notification system were requested, bids were received, and a bid was approved. A smooth transition from Iris to Everbridge was completed, making Everbridge the new system for Douglas County. This system provides residents with severe weather watches and warnings issued by the Topeka National Weather Service. These notifications are delivered by voice message to their landline or cellular telephone, and/or by text message, and/or by e-mail. The system also has the capability of providing other health

and safety information during disasters or other emergencies to contacts in a specified geographical area. We are still encouraging residents to register as soon as possible in the new system and should be sure to select “Douglas County Notifications” to ensure receipt of emergency notification from Douglas County.

- ✓ A difference between the two systems is that Everbridge goes by a polygon, only the people who have signed up to be in that polygon and listed the specific zip code for the polygon, will receive notification making this system more specific. If you would like additional notifications for additional areas, you may enter multiple zip codes.
- ✓ Not only can you request more information from Jillian on how to use the system, but there are also 3 to 6 minute tutorials online called “Everbridge University.” These tutorials are set up to teach specific parts of the software, such as “How to Send a Message” and to provide step-by-step guides. EM is building job aids but these tutorials will be a useful tool.
- ✓ The service is provided without charge to county residents. For more information and to register for alerts visit: <http://bit.ly/DgCoNotification>

Grants-

- HMEP Grants –
 - ✓ Both the Airport Tabletop and Full Scale with Higher Education exercises have been conducted and all supporting documents required for the final payment have been submitted to the state. Teri thanked the agencies that worked with EM by gathering salary and benefit information to fulfill the requirements of meeting the soft match required for all HMEP grant funding. If the soft match is not met, HMEP training and exercises would not be available to agencies at no cost. This makes it vital for us to gather and submit this information so that we have the opportunity to conduct training and exercises.
 - ✓ The next HMEP grant will be a Commodity Flow Study for 2016. This will be a huge benefit for our local fire departments by educating them on what is traveling on the local highways, railways, pipelines, air, and roadways. EM is still awaiting the award letter from the State.
 - ✓ A multi-jurisdictional functional exercise involving Chemtrade is also scheduled for 2016 and awaiting the award letter. This exercise was requested by Chemtrade because it is one of only two North American producers of phosphorus pentasulphide (“P2S5”), a performance chemical used primarily as a key ingredient in the lubricating oil and grease additive markets for automotive motor oil. Chemtrade is a leading manufacturer of P2S5 at its plant in Lawrence, using high purity phosphorus and sulphur. To ensure a safe and efficient response to any incident/emergency, especially a hazardous materials accident, that not only are public sector response agencies adequately prepared to respond, but that private sector partners are trained and equipped to work with those agencies and be incorporated into the management and response to such incidents.

Accountability Cards-

- Jillian has temporarily taken over management of the accountability system until David has learned the system. If you have any questions, need new cards, or need replacement cards, please contact Jillian.
 - ✓ The University of Kansas has been using the accountability system for every one of their home football games. Utilization of this system at these events allows for practice of learning and using the system, but also allows for the system to be used for what it is intended for.

Preparedness Campaigns:

- September was National Preparedness Month. Promotion was done through both EM social media sites and through local radio media.
- Interns are working on putting together a campaign where EM will partner with HyVee and be allowed to set up booths at both locations, which will allow staff to discuss and pass out information on preparedness directly with community members. It will also be an opportunity to sign more of the community up for Everbridge and get more weather radios out to people who are in need.
- David has created four new brochures for Emergency Management. These brochures include; severe weather, winter weather, what is Emergency Management, and basic disaster preparedness. David is working on getting these brochures translated into several different languages.

KEMA Annual Conference:

- EM staff attended the NE Kansas Emergency Management Association Conference in Junction City, KS. A new EM-101 course was part of the pre-conference presentation and developed and taught by Teri and KEMA member Brian Stone. This course offers both new and experienced emergency managers the tools and knowledge to help them acclimate in their roles and give them access to additional resources that may be needed to fulfill their duties and to achieve an effective Emergency Management program. Every county EM will receive a handbook and a flash drive with the same information for their use.
- One of the preliminary sessions was on the 2013 West Fertilizer Explosion response and recovery. Frank Patterson shared the experience, knowledge and lessons learned from the incident. Teri is confident that our LEPC and responding ESF's are knowledgeable and take an active role in preparation for all kinds of disasters through training and would be prepared for an incident of the same magnitude.
 - ✓ One of the areas discussed in preparation for a Hazmat incident included Tier II reporting. EM interns have been working hard on updating submitted Tier II reports. They are contacting area businesses requesting reports that have not been submitted, closing out files of businesses that are no longer required to report, and identifying businesses that are required to report but have never done so. This involves both reaching out to companies by letters and phone calls and will be an extensive process. GIS is also working to get all of these reporting business mapped out, and the maps will interactively store information on what chemicals are present at the address and if there have ever been any associated spills. Once this is done, the Tier II files will be revamped and some archived.
- Additionally, there were many other breakout sessions that were beneficial to Kansas Emergency Managers, from Hazmat basics to tracking trainings and exercises in the new KETS system.

Info Sharing:

- Kathy Colson with LDCHD updated the committee on the Ebola outbreak. She stated that medical workers are still being sent out to evaluate patients and they monitor CDC and KDHD. Two countries are still being monitored while others have been taken off the monitor list. Until the outbreak is declared over, monitoring will continue. LDCHD will be promoting and conducting clinics in both Baldwin and Eudora next week and Lecompton the following week. The health department offers a walk-in clinic for flu shots anytime during regular working hours. Nationally, there is work being done to allow pharmacies to offer vaccines and anti-viral medications directly to patients in need.
- Midge Grinstead with Kansas State Animal Response Team is hosting their annual conference October 16th and 17th in Wichita, KS. National speakers are being brought in to talk about the initial response for animals after an emergency happens. Additionally, animal, people, and psychological first aid classes will be available and there will be presentations on how to set up an emergency animal shelter. Find more information by visiting kssart.org.

- Trent McKinley with LKPD is working with KU Public Safety to retrain officers on response to active shooter incidents. Plans are being gathered from both the university and the unified school district so if necessary, LKPD will have easy access to all buildings.
- Bill Edwards with the Eudora Police Department talked about the Great Kaw Adventure Race that the City of Eudora and the City of DeSoto partnered on to bring the event to the community. He thanked Teri and EM for all the work that was done on the planning committee. There was a great turnout at the event and there is now talk of turning it into an annual event.
- Ron May with USD 497 discussed the completion of the first working draft for their EOP. They are working on planning four tabletops and joint drills with first responders. There is also discussion of adding shelters and reinforced rooms to areas in the district. Additionally, many of the schools have flip chart crisis plans available and one of the goals is to create flip chart crisis plans made up for the school busses as well.
- Jane Blocher with the American Red Cross informed the committee that Red Cross is focusing on disaster relief efforts on the floods in South Carolina. Financial, blood, and deployment of volunteers is desperately needed at this time. Jennifer Cacchio, also with the Red Cross added that many citizens have appeared trying to get involved with volunteer efforts in South Carolina by requesting to be sent there through the Red Cross. Jennifer wanted to make the committee aware that the Red Cross never sends volunteers that have not been trained into a disaster area. If you know anybody who is interested in volunteering for these kinds of situations, please have them contact the Red Cross, in advance of a disaster, so they can be deployed in times of need.
- Randy Roberts with Emergency Communications talked about the upgrades that are being done within the Emergency Communication Center by Motorola.
- Nichole Rials with Bert Nash informed the committee about the agency's program, Discover Bert Nash. This consists of a tour of the Bert Nash center where citizens can learn more about the programs and services that are offered. This tour is offered the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10am and the 4th Thursday of the Month at 5:30pm unless otherwise noted. It's a great way to learn about what Bert Nash is doing with mental health in the community and to learn about what is on the horizon. Expansion on crisis services in the community is in the works and it is an exciting time for growth within Bert Nash. Nichole invited the committee to join one of the Discover Bert Nash tours to find out more.
- Tommy Johnson with Black Hills Energy discussed the many construction projects taking place around the City and wanted to update the committee on the gas line leak incident at 23rd and Massachusetts Street. Emergency Management was called to the scene and helped with communicating evacuation notices to the local residents in the evacuation area.
- Roy Morehead with United States Public Health Service discussed an update about a bacterial virus called Chlorella, a cousin to salmonella that is present in Kansas City, Missouri school districts. It is spread by the lack of cleanliness and hand washing and is hard to get under control when it has entered a school system.
- Andrew Foster with KU Emergency Management shared that KU is in the process of rewriting their EOP so that will be more in line with Douglas County's. Additionally, they just got a policy approved to start a campus CERT team. CERT trainings will start in early 2016. KU is also making some repairs to their public address system at this time.
- David Hogg wanted to remind committee members that the next Full Board meeting in January 2016 would focus on the TEPW. Please be thinking about any exercises or trainings that your agency completed in 2015 and is planning for the upcoming year. Additionally, David wanted to share some upcoming trainings that are available.
 - ✓ October 16th, 2015 there will be a Crisis Management for School Based Incidents training in El Dorado, KS.

- ✓ November 9th, 2015 ICS 400 will be available in Lawrence.
- ✓ November 10th – 12th, 2015 a PIO training course will be available in Wamego, KS.
- ✓ November 12th, 2015 there will be an Isolation and Quarantine for Rural Communities in Burlington, KS.

Please check out the KDEM website if you are interested in any of these trainings.

- Zane Steves with KDEM shared an update about the new positions that have been filled at KDEM.

Motion by Tammy Bennett, second by Shannon Oury to adjourn meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m. by Chair Ron May.