



DOUGLAS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BOARD

111 East Eleventh Street, Unit 200
Lawrence, Kansas 66044-2909
Office: (785) 832-5259
Fax: (785) 832-5101

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2020

Regular in person Executive Board meeting has been cancelled due to the National Pandemic of COVID-19. Executive Board and Emergency Management met virtually.

Those virtually present in the meeting included: Kay Johnson – Prosoco; Joe Baranski MD, Hallmark Cards; Mike Russell – University of Kansas; Mike Baxter – Fire Chiefs Association & Douglas County Consolidated Fire District #1; Lane Sekavec – Union Pacific Railroad; Bud Waugh – Lawrence City Commission appointee; Dennis Leslie – Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical

Emergency Management staff virtually present in the meeting included: Robert Bieniecki, Jillian Rodrigue, Joshua Taylor, Jenni Blake

Minutes – Kay Johnson

Entertained a motion to receive the virtual meeting minutes for June 3, 2020. Mike Russell made the motion to accept and was second by Joe. All members voted in favor to approve.

Executive Committee Business - Kay Johnson

- Welcome and introduction of new Executive Committee members
- Joe announced stepping down from Vice Chair position due to employment change. Employment replacement, Orlando Kinney, will fill position on LEPC Board. Kay motioned for Mike Baxter to fill Executive Committee Vice Chair. Seconded by Mike Russell. Mike Baxter accepted position.

Staff Updates – Robert Bieniecki, Jillian Rodrigue and Josh Taylor

- EMPG – not received notification from State that 2020 application available yet.
 - On-site training with LDCFM that is required for grant received extension on completion until June 2021.
- Commodity flow study application has been submitted – pending results.
- EOP – State has release new template. Plan will be finalized by September. State extended deadline to August 2021 but EM has internal deadline to submit by end of calendar year.
- COVID-19 – Educational Unified Command structure was established. All Douglas County school districts / private school entities / day care facilities are reflected in structure. Positive cases are increasing but so is testing. Anticipate higher numbers once school begins.
- CARES Act – Just under 25M received from State. RSF's (Recovery Support Functions) helped collect funding requests from entities and ranked requests by level of priority. Requesting agencies had to complete equity impact evaluation and requests had to directly correlate with responding to COVID-19. Received over 50M in requests for reimbursement and direct aid. BOCC (Board of County Commissioners) will see recommendations at meeting tonight and will make their own recommendations. Due to State by August 15th.
- EM has been the go-between for resource requests that cannot be found locally and need to come from State. EM then contacts KDHE for these requests.



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- VOLUNTEER Update – Continue to engage and connect with volunteers via virtual meetings. September is National Preparedness Month – staff researching games/outreach for social media to get community prepared for severe weather and other natural catastrophes. Bert Nash offering staff / volunteers mental health first aid class.
- STRATEGIC Plan – EM staff following when possible. Goals accomplished as outlined in Plan – staff taking 'Your Leadership Edge' from the Kansas Leadership Center, Josh replacing Jillian in the on-call Duty Officer position.

Essential action items:

- Staff to contact potential Executive Committee members to fill open position
- Keep watch on severe weather - conducting siren tests and maintaining EOC / EMOC in preparation of severe weather and ensuring social distancing practices are being used

Non-essential action items:

- All education and outreach programs have been cancelled until further notice
- Annual report has been paused

Close

A motion was made by Joe to adjourn the meeting. Mike Russell seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.