



DOUGLAS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BOARD

111 East Eleventh Street, Unit 200
Lawrence, KS 66044-2909

Office: (785) 832-5259

Fax: (785) 832-5101

July 6, 2022

Community Health Building, 200 Maine

Chair Mike Baxter welcomed members and called the Douglas County Emergency Management Board/Local Emergency Planning Committee to order on July 6, 2022.

LEPC Board Members present in the meeting included:

Mike Russell
Hubert White
Teri Axman
Mike Pattrick
Tony Foster
John Stipetich
Mike Baxter
Derek Bland
Chad Voigt
Truman Waugh
KJ Abel Ruch
Ethan Unfred
David Ernst

Kay Johnson
Mindy Andrasevits
Jennie Fong
Kim Murphree
Pat Deaver
Gabi Sprague
Steve Devore
Casey Quigley
Dennis Leslie
Truman Waugh
Kim Criner Ritchie
Stu Moeckel
Veronica White

Emergency Management staff included:

Robert Bieniecki
Jillian Rodrigue

Joshua Taylor
Erin Huneke

Others attending:

Terry Kegin

Welcome/Minutes of April 6, 2022

- Chair Mike Baxter called the meeting to order.
- Mike Russell moved to approve the minutes of the April 6th Full Board Meeting. Teri Axman seconded and the motion passed.

2022 Preparedness Partner Awards

- Each year, the LEPC presents awards to community agencies or individuals who demonstrated a strong commitment to emergency preparedness and partnership over the past year. This year's awards were presented to:

Common Acronyms:

Volunteers: Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Auxiliary Communications Team (ACT)

Grants: Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant (HMEP), Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)

Plans: Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP), Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)

COVID-19 Related: Unified Command (UC), Emergency Support Function (ESF), Recovery Support Function (RSF)

Procurement: Request for Proposal (RFP), Request for Quote (RFQ)

IPPW: Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop

ARPA: American Rescue Plan Act



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- Major Casey Cooper, LKPD, for his work during the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament,
 - Drs. Jennifer Schrimsher and Thomas Marcellino for their leadership and service throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and
 - Orchards Drug, for their continuous efforts to provide free COVID-19 testing for our community.

Presentation:

- Dr. George Thompson, Medical Director of the new Treatment and Recovery Facility, presented on the new facility, its timeline, capabilities, and goals. A tour of the facility followed the board meeting.

Reorganization:

- The 2022-2023 Executive Committee was voted in. Teri Axman moved to approve the new roster and Kay Johnson seconded. The motion passed.
 - 2022-2023 Executive Committee:
 - Mike Pattrick, Chair
 - Tony Foster, Vice-Chair
 - Mike Baxter, member
 - Stu Moeckel, member
 - Brad August, member
- Mike Pattrick recognized Mike Baxter for his service as chair and presented him with a plaque.

Staff Updates – Robert Bieniecki, Jillian Rodrigue, Josh Taylor

- Plans:
 - **LEOP:** ESF meetings are underway to conduct tabletop exercises and update ESF plans as needed. 2022 ESF meetings should be complete by Thanksgiving.
 - **IPPW:** Josh will send out the survey link to board members. Please report any past or planned trainings and exercises so they can be added to the IPP calendar.
 - **COOP:** EM has developed a three-part workshop to complete with partners. This workshop will go step-by-step through the creation of COOP plans in the BOLD system. These workshops will take place for county departments this summer and fall. The goal is to be able to offer these workshops to outside partners next year.
 - **Mitigation:** Forms are due by July 8th for County organizations to sign their notice of intent to participate in the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. This notice of intent makes it possible to apply grant funds for mitigation projects during the 2023-2026 cycle.

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- Grants:
 - HMEP:
 - 2022: HMEP Grant funds will cover a full-scale hazardous materials transportation incident exercise, currently scheduled for September 23rd. Initial planning meetings have taken place with the selected contractor.
 - 2023: In February, EM applied for 2023 and asked for a gap analysis to look at our whole program.
 - EMPG: 2021 reimbursement has been received. In the fall we will apply for 2022.
 - COVID-19 and Unified Command
 - Unified Command has been active since March of 2020 with EM acting as the planning section. UC was disbanded this June. Many participants will continue their collaboration, but without the formal Unified Command structure.
 - ARPA:
 - EM is optimistic it will receive funding for all proposed projects. EM's projects include updating the EOC, outfitting the alternative EOC, new siren capabilities, replacing the EM vehicle and CERT trailer, and PPE and equipment for staff and volunteers. All ARPA proposals are for one-time projects and costs.
 - Budget:
 - Commissioners had no questions for EM during their budget hearing this month. Budget is flat from 2022 except for 2 supplemental requests which will cover new ongoing costs for the outdoor warning sirens.
 - Volunteer Groups (CERT, ACT, Skywarn)
 - ACT team is keeping active with weekly nets to make sure equipment is functioning. Long-time, active volunteer Bill Roach passed away in June.
 - In July, volunteers will participate in a range of tabletop exercises to practice different scenarios for which they may be activated.
 - In August, Rev. Paul Taylor will teach a mental health class for volunteers.
 - Outreach and Preparedness:
 - The next CERT Weekend Class is scheduled for October 14-16.
 - A mini-CERT course can be spread out and tailored to your group. EM is conducting a version of mini-CERT at Boys & Girls Club this summer.
 - Volunteers and staff participated in multiple outreach events in June, including the Lawrence Public Library's How-To Festival, the Lawrence Juneteenth Celebration, and LKPD's Police Camp.
 - EM has a new webpage where you can request outreach to your organization or business: <https://www.douglascountyks.org/emergency-management/webforms/emergency-management-outreach-request>.
 - If you are planning a large scale-event and need planning help (weather, emergency preparedness, etc.), please reach out to EM. We would be happy to help.

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Information Sharing

- Dennis Leslie: Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical has selected a new chief, Richard Llewellyn.
- KJ Abel Ruch: United Way will be packing grab-n-go emergency kits for the 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance event.
- Steve Devore: The 988 Mental Health Crisis Line will go live on 7/16. You will still be able to call the old National Suicide Prevention Hotline, but all calls will go to the same call centers, based on area codes. Kansas Suicide Prevention HQ in Lawrence call center will be receiving calls from all over Kansas except for Johnson and Sedgewick counties.
- Gabi Sprague: The Housing Stabilization Collaborative is likely to receive an additional \$1 million to continue the program another year. Applications for rental assistance can be submitted at hscdgoco.org.
- LDS Church: On 7/16 from 10-12:30 there will be a CRAS (Citizen Response to Active Shooting) training facilitated by the Lawrence Police Department. LDS is looking for and purchasing old CB radios for their staff and volunteers to use.
- Teri Axman: LMH Health is still running an Incident Command structure for COVID-19 response, and is experiencing significant levels of staff and patients with COVID. Additionally, the hospital will be doing more active shooter training with LKPD.
- Chad Voigt: The county is committed to extending Wakarusa Drive to the south, as this road is highly critical for access to the rest of the county. A report will come out soon on this project.
- John Stipetich: Defibrillators have been updated on campus. An August tabletop exercise for a football incident as well as future active shooter trainings are planned. The position for EM Coordinator is expected to be open in the next couple of months.
- Mike Baxter: Mike encouraged everyone to use the resource of the LEPC. Contact information for other board members can be obtained through Erin Huneke.

Adjourn:

Mike Pattrick called for a motion to adjourn. Steve Devore so moved, and Kim Criner Ritchie seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

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