



DOUGLAS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BOARD

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January 2, 2019

Opening:

The Douglas County Emergency Management Board/Local Emergency Planning Committee met on January 2, 2019. Mike Russell thanked everyone for attending and called the meeting to order at 08:30 a.m. Introductions were made. The board unanimously approved the October 3 minutes. Those present in the meeting included:

Attending:

Rich Barr
Jane Blocher
Keith Browning
Chris Croucher
Rob Culley
Russell Epperson
Matthew Faulk
Kay Johnson

Stone Junod
Gordon Leong
Chris Lesser
Trent McKinley
Bob Newton
H. Wayne Riley
Mike Russell
Lane Sekavec

John Stipetich
Carol Von Cloedt
Dani Walters
Bud Waugh
Sarah Wickham

Others Attending:

Joe Hoelscher
Jillian Rodrigue
Stephanie Schulz

Executive Committee Vacancy: Emergency Management has an opening on our Executive Committee board. Please contact Joe Hoelscher at jhoelscher@douglascountyks.org if you know of anyone who would be interested.

Staff Updates:

- **Plan Updates:**

- **COOP-** Connie is continuing with the current plan.
- **LEOP-** Deadline is this May.
- **EMAP-** temporarily on hold.
- **Mitigation Plan:** Meeting will be February 13th in Ozawkie. An invitation will be sent out to all of the board members.

- **HMEP Grants:**

- 2018 Exercises- met all requirements. All 4 quarters will be submitted to the state for reimbursement by the end of this month.
- 2019 HazMatIQ Tox-Medic grant was approved. This course is a specialized EMS training program designed to give medics the knowledge and confidence required to provide advanced life support care. EM Staff will be working with Shaun Coffey and the Fire Chiefs to determine when to host the two training sessions.

- 2019/2020 Application: EM is working on ideas for exercises to submit. There aren't any summer exercises planned at this time. A Survey Monkey will be resent out regarding questions related to the TEPW. EM staff and executive committee will discuss results at the next board meeting.
- **EMPG Closeout 2018:** exercises were completed in November, along with the After Action Reports.
- **Volunteer Groups:** December was the end of the year meeting, which gave an opportunity to walk through what was accomplished in 2018, along with any improvements needed or issues. Over 1,300 hours were given last year, including training and events. Currently, DCEM has about 50 active volunteers.

In 2019, EM will be in touch with some partner agencies with pipelines, railroads and electricity to incorporate them into training for our volunteers. We have one new volunteer, Kevin Kennedy, who will present the topic of air quality and health hazards following a disaster.

- Skywarn - Basic Spotter Training starts on Thursday, and training will be completed by March before the severe weather season.
- ACT - There will be an upcoming ACT meeting and EM will notify everyone of the date.
- CERT – We have a full CERT course tentatively scheduled in April.
- March 5th will be the statewide tornado drill at 10:00AM. Weather 101 is scheduled for March 20th. R.D. Johnson will be putting on a Health and Safety Fair on January 7-9. EM staff and volunteers will attend to speak about severe weather and safety.
- **Preparedness Campaigns:** Each year EM staff gives a presentation to the 3rd graders on severe weather safety awareness, and this year they will present in Lawrence. A school and date are yet to be determined.

Information Sharing/ Lessons Learned/ 2018 Review:

- **Douglas County Emergency Management:** Jillian Rodrigue spoke about the lessons learned in the After Action reviews on the recent exercises. Continuing the Hazmat awareness training is important for Fire & Medical, Law Enforcement and hospital staff. Some of the individuals who were the first on scene were not the HazMat techs. Public Information instituted recent changes and utilized a designated area for Press Releases and Public Information. EM will be working on internal procedures and guidelines for standardizing briefings and designated areas for times and priorities. More Support personnel will be needed for documentation, briefings and updating slides. Additionally, work will be conducted to standardize the process for Resource Management.
- **Lawrence Memorial Hospital:** Carol VonCloedt mentioned that LMH established a monthly drill and weekly training in HazMat working on the lock down process. She stated that the employees really don't understand active shooter. ED Surge drills will take place due to the flu season.
- **ICL:** Gordon Leong said they had someone from LPD come out and carry out an active shooter training. He mentioned that ICL has an Emergency Response team that needed some reorganizing and training updated. Some tabletop drills were completed earlier in the year, and Lawrence Fire & Medical finished a full-scale drill, "Confined Space and Rescue", which went well.
- **Baldwin Public Works:** Rob Culley stated that they saw a lot of outages, fortunately Baldwin has their own in house generation. June 12th Baldwin had a major spring storm

and lost the 2 feeds that come into Baldwin. Only 2 people manage the generation station. He mentioned that they will need an active shooter training, due to new staff. Chris Croucher is in charge of the EM manual and is working on COOP plan updates.

- **Douglas County Public Works:** Keith Browning said Route 458 (N 1000 Road) is closed between E 1800 Rd. & E 2000 Rd and will resume in late March. This year they had planned to close the Haskell extended road coming out of Lawrence down to N1000 road for a major improvement project, and this will start in 2020. Keith mentioned that they were continuing to work on their COOP plans and will need more assistance on alternate facilities. The weight of some of the Fire & Med vehicles will need to be discussed with how this affects our bridges.
- **Douglas County:** Bob Newton mentioned that with the new elected appointed leaders, we should think about having a brief overview and orientation with our EM LEPC.
- **Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center:** Matthew Faulk stated that Bert Nash was reorganizing their response team, due to the internal administrative turnover. Along with the changes, the COOP plans were updated. A new mental health crisis center, adjacent to the LMH emergency center, will be open in approximately two years.
- **KU Emergency Management:** John Stipetich stated that KU EM and the Public Safety Office are working on their COOP plan. A HazMat Awareness training will take place in the near future, along with a functional exercise. KU EM is working on the plan for a Family Assistance Center at the Lied Center. The center will be a family reunification and information center, should we have a crisis on campus or anywhere in the city.
- **Union Pacific Railroad:** Lane Sekavec spoke about outreach activities (which have been the main focus for the past three years), training, getting in touch with as many Fire Departments as possible and attending LEPC meetings.
- **Lawrence Police Department:** Trent McKinley mentioned that for the past year and a half or so the Lawrence Police Department has had some informal conversations with KDOT, KHP, and the Sheriff's office about issues with the south Lawrence trafficway and fatality accidents. If we close the roadway, this becomes a major disruption for the city and for the state transportation system. KDOT formalized some of the meetings and brought together State, City and County agencies. Additional meetings will incorporate additional partners. The closure of Kasold has been a positive change. The 2 lane section roadway will be there for quite a bit of time. Agencies are working together to try to figure out how to respond better to emergencies that occur on the trafficway.
- **Emergency Communications:** Rich Barr mentioned that Emergency Communications has a web-based status screen that is available to the fire responders in the county that is operational. He understands that the EOC screen is developed as well; the difference being that the status screen in the EOC will have law enforcement units and the one for the fire service has only fire and medical units. Rich stated that his backup Dispatch center is now at Johnson County Emergency Communications. Last month all of the Douglas County Emergency Communication's supervisors went over to Johnson county to be prepared in case they needed to use their equipment. If the system here goes completely out, we will not have Automatic Vehicle Location information but will be able to communicate through radio and will be able to dispatch with the current CAD system and keep records. The 911 Center, along with KU Public Safety, are now officially part of the Mid America Regional Council (Regional 911 System). Emergency Communications is completing some connectivity with the KC Metro area and have current microwave connection. If our 911 service fails in Douglas County, that service can be picked up through the MARC Region.
- **Red Cross:** Jane Blocher said that there will be a Valentine's Day Event driven by one of the board members, Amy Bellerive with Trainor Architects. Sound the Alarm Project

begins with all the Treanor Architect employees offering a day of service installing free smoke alarms in low income and vulnerable neighborhoods. There has been multiple campaigns since the Project started about three years ago. Red Cross has held the Sound the Alarm Events all over the county, including Lecompton, Baldwin, Eudora and Lawrence. Please contact Jane if you know of any neighborhoods this would benefit.

- **Lecompton Fire/EM:** Wayne Riley had some concerns about the K-10 Bypass from 6th Street North of 1800. The Lecompton interchange has had some accidents, and he would be interested in more training to help.

Close:

A motion was made by Mike Russell to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Lane Sekavec. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned.