



**DOUGLAS COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

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

Office: (785) 832-5259

Fax: (785) 832-5101

July 01, 2020

Chair Mike Russell welcomed members and called the Douglas County Emergency Management Board/Local Emergency Planning Committee to order on July 1st, 2020.

Those present in the meeting included:

Mike Russell
Kay Johnson
Mike Pattrick
Dennis Leslie
Amy Lurken
Teri Smith
Lane Sekavec
Micah Seybold
Terri Blunk
H. Wayne Riley
Daniel B Smith
Bryce Hirschman
Gary Goombi
Sarah Wickham
Nicole Rials

Mathew Faulk
Tony Foster
Joe Baranski
Gordon Leong
Hollie Tapley
Allyson Wetter
Shannon Wells
Chad Voigt
Kevin Oneslager
Josh Carson
Marlin Bates
Ron May
Truman Waugh
Shane Munsch
Lynn Hughes

Emergency Management staff included:

Robert Bieniecki
Josh Taylor

Jillian Rodrigue
Jenni Blake

Others attending: None

Preparedness Partner Awards – Mike Russell

The Douglas County Emergency Management Board in recognition of an agency, facility or individual gives the Preparedness Partner Award annually that:

- Participates with and/or supports the Douglas County LEPC and its activities
- Demonstrates initiative and leadership with local response agencies on preparedness and planning activities



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- A pro-active attitude/approach towards the health, safety and well-being of its employees and the community

2019 Award Winners:

Lawrence First Church of the Nazarene: In sincere appreciation of your generous acts of service and unwavering support to the community following the May 28, 2019 Tornado and August Flood.

City of Lawrence GIS: In recognition of your commitment to service and partnership following the May 28, 2019 Tornado.

Douglas County GIS: In recognition of your vital response and recovery efforts following the May 28, 2019 Tornado and August Flood as well as your commitment to emergency management planning efforts

Hollie Tapley, Great Plains United Methodist Conference: In deepest gratitude for your exceptional leadership and unrelenting community relief efforts following the May 28, 2019 Tornado and August Flood.

Special thank you to Wakarusa Township Fire Department for assisting in recovery and mutual response efforts.

Reorganization –

2020-2021 LEPC Membership:

- Executive Committee roster - motioned by Mike Russell to receive and seconded by Kevin Oneslager. All members voted in favor to approve.
- Full Board roster – Mike Russell made the motion which was seconded by Joe Baranski to approve. All members voted in favor. (Note – there may be slight changes in roster as EM is still in the process of contacting public and private sector individuals regarding membership.)
- New members joining the LEPC Board:
 - Tony foster – Director of ECC
 - Dennis Leslie – Fire Med / Search and Rescue
 - Teri Smith – LMH
 - Chad Voigt – Public Works
 - Allison Wetter – Evergy
 - Josh Carson – MSO
 - Marlin Bates – DGCO Extension / K-State Extension
 - Shannon Wells – Lawrence Humane Society
 - Lynn Hughes – Baldwin City

Minutes – Mike Russell

- Entertained a motion to receive the January 8, 2019, minutes. Joe Baranski made the motion which was seconded by H. Wayne Riley. All members voted in favor to approve.



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Bylaws – Mike Russell

- Approved in June by Executive Committee
- Mike Russell entertained motion to approve bylaws. Seconded by Joe Baranski. All voted in favor of bylaws.

Staff Updates – Robert Bieniecki, Jillian Rodrigue, Josh Taylor

- EM staff continuing to work remotely.
- COVID-19 – In March EM activated EOC to begin response and began conversations to begin structure of Unified Command. Unified Command activated in order to bring all incident commanders together for coordinated unified response during the COVID-19 pandemic. Unified Command brings a county wide perspective together with Government and private sectors. This team was based on FEMA structure of Emergency Support Functions (ESF). Now in recovery phase, focusing on FEMA Recovery Support Functions (RSF). Recovery team meets every other week, individual RSF's meet opposite weeks. Community score card to help determine if need to activate Unified Command again. (ACTION: email the RSF chart to LEPC).
- CARES ACT – 25 million dollars in funding received through DGCO administration. Under strict timeline to deliver a plan of action in spending intent. Unspent funds will go back into pool for second round of funding. Funds will be used to reimburse money that was spent on COVID-19 response and then move on to projects and becoming more resilient for disasters like this in the future. Each RSF group has equity impact advisor to determine where best to spend money.
- Governor will sign executive order tomorrow that will make masks mandatory statewide.
- LEOP – Original deadline of August for LEOP submission. Due to COVID-19, the State extended deadline to August 2021. Internal goal to have completed by August of this year. New template should be issued August 2020. After plan is completed will have a month of stakeholder input then incorporation. ESF reviews are complete but 90% of attachments have been received. Finalize EOP in September then send out for County Commission approval then to State for approval.
- HMEP – Based off Federal fiscal year. Applied last year and approved. Fire Department to issue training. Doug Green has info for these classes and may do virtually. Grant for next year – we've yet to get formal approval.
- FEMA reimbursement - 2019 disaster – 90 counties and 500 applicants. The disaster manager has to meet with everyone personally so will take time to process. KDEM brought in additional staff for disaster last year and hired new staff for COVID-19. County receives 25% match. Treasury has approved the CARES Act funds as 25% match but has to be approved through FEMA.

Preparedness –

- Local government day with Leadership Lawrence – exercise and presentation. Questions and challenges that EM went through with last year's disasters.



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- Severe weather awareness week – March. Social media campaign and KLWN appearance every day.
 - Weather 101 at DGCO fairgrounds. Canceled Eudora session due to COVID-19.
 - Severe Weather Symposium – held in March. Reviewed May 28th with speakers.
 - Walk-thru as requested by local businesses to help with emergency preparedness planning.
 - Webinar for chamber of commerce for severe weather planning
 - One year anniversary of May 28 – remembered the good from the event. Social media posts throughout the week of to show different aspects of response and recovery.
 - Staff brainstorming virtual training opportunities for community/staff/volunteers despite being at home.

Volunteer Assisted Events –

- Wildland Task Force exercise in February
- Public Health had a call center to help with COVID questions on first week of pandemic in Douglas County
- Virtual Training – working on schedule for the rest of the year to maintain skills even when not meeting in person.
- ACT continues weekly meeting remotely – working on repeater and doing testing to make sure the equipment is working.

Information Sharing –

Nothing to add.

Close:

A motion was made by Joe Baranski to adjourn the meeting. Kevin Oneslager seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned.