

**Cowley County LEPC/Citizen Corps
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 1, 2020
Cowley County Emergency Operations Center
321 E. 10th Ave. Winfield, KS 67156
Via Zoom call/video**

Call to order

The Cowley County LEPC meeting was convened via Zoom call/video on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 9:00am in the Cowley County EOC in Winfield, Kansas. The meeting was called to order by Brian Stone, Cowley County Emergency Management Director in the absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair. Those in attendance are listed on the sign-in sheet.

Introductions

Those in attendance introduced themselves to the group.

Approval of previous minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting dated December 4, 2019, were distributed to the committee previously by email.

Motion by Jodi Pew to approve the minutes.

Second by Vincent Warren.

Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Update – John Stradal, Cowley County EM

John provided a brief overview of the plan and the review process over the last year, including the status of jurisdictional approvals. He discussed the importance of the HMP as it relates to the potential for future funding. John emphasized that three entities in Cowley County were approved for projects, including one that received a call from KDEM asking to put in an application quickly. This entity had turned in a previous Letter of Intent but was not selected at that time. That application is still pending.

Status of Disaster 4449 – Brian Stone, Cowley County EM

Brian advised the group that disaster 4449 which includes Cowley County is still open and progress has been slow. For this disaster, there were 70 counties included in the declaration and there were approximately 25 applicants just within Cowley County. He encouraged all applicants to be patient and that the process is working, but slower than the normal pace.

New Business

City of Winfield Gas Utility Presentation – Troy Blanton and Danielle Fullhart, City of Winfield

Each year the City of Winfield attends the LEPC meetings to provide awareness and safety information regarding their gas utility services. The City created a public awareness document that was sent out to the LEPC prior to the meeting. Troy Blanton and Danielle Fullhart from the City of Winfield presented information and a short video. They simply reiterated the importance of having the awareness regarding a gas leak and what do if one is detected.

ESF Reviews – Brian Stone, Cowley County EM

ESF, or Emergency Support Functions, are part of the County’s Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) that highlights specific functions and agencies responsible to carry out those functions. Brian provided three ESFs to the Winfield and Arkansas Fire/EMS Departments and asked them to do reviews and provide any feedback or changes needed. Both agencies reviewed and found no changes were needed.

During the meeting, ESFs were explained and Vincent Warren, Fire Chief for Winfield Fire/EMS Department and Les Parks, Interim Fire Chief for Arkansas City Fire/EMS Department both reiterated that their departments did review all three and found no changes were needed.

Motion by Vincent Warren to approve the following ESFs as written and presented:

- ESF 4 – Firefighting
- ESF 9 – Search & Rescue
- ESF 10 – Oil & Hazardous Materials

Second by Taylor Dory.

Motion carried unanimously.

CARES Act Update – Brian Stone, Cowley County EM

Brian provided an update to the local CARES Act funding. He stressed that there are rumors that deadlines will be extended and encouraged everyone to work the process based on original deadlines.

Open Discussion

Linda Hoover with the American Red Cross reminded everyone that the Red Cross is still here and available to assist if needed.

Chance Hayes, Warning Coordination Meteorologist with the NWS Office in Wichita gave a brief overview of the weather forecast for the week.

Lloyd Colston advised that Saturday is Sky Warn recognition day.

Officer Election

Motion by Lloyd Colston for retain Doug Allison as Chair and Tom Langer as Vice-Chair.

Second by Jodi Pew.

Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business:

Motion by to adjourn by Jodi Pew at 9:39am.

Second by Les Parks.

Motion carried unanimously.