

MINUTES  
HARVEY COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)  
EOC Room  
120 E. 7th Street  
Newton Kansas 67114  
October 12th 2022@ 9:00 am

Present: Mike Anderson, Skip Cowan, Jamie Dehler, Brody Flavin, Jim Bethards, Daniel Galley, Chad Gay, Sam Jack, Amy Kornahrens, Jim Leftwich, Doug Lloyd, Michelle Lowery, Kyle McCaskey, Brian Palmer, Frank Paradise, Molly Redinger, Lynnette Redington, Karen Rothe, Don Schroeder, Larry Alexander, Gary Sholder, Colton Kester, Diana Waddell-Gilbert, Kyle Fielder, Dalton Black.

Zoom: No Zoom Video available for this meeting.

Skip Cowan called the meeting to order at 9:02am.

A motion to approve the agenda for the October 12<sup>th</sup> 2022 meeting was requested by Skip Cowan the motion was presented by Brody Flavin and seconded by Mike Anderson.

A motion to approve the minutes for the August 10<sup>th</sup> 2022 meeting was also requested by Skip Cowan with a motion brought forth by Brody Flavin and seconded by Russ Buller therefore, the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Old Business:

Mike Anderson brought to the attendees attention an apartment fire that was recent (September) in Harvey County and wanted to let the LEPC know how well the counties resources and entities that were needed came together. Mike gave the data points of the fire with how many victims were effected and how many first responders were used to put out the fire. The incident is being referred to as the, "Fox Meadows Fire." Mike described at what point he felt the need to activate the EOC and how the next few hours of the incident worked out. He then explained that after the fire had settled down and he began to look at the totality of the incident and what funds were addressed to accomplish the goal he began to question the validity of a response of this nature on a smaller city within the county. What would that look like, is there at chance that from the response to help we actually bankrupt a city who doesn't have the means to recover? Mike advised this was something he and the Emergency Management Department would be working on over the next few months to really see where we can help without hindering a recovery for our smaller citizenship areas.

### New Business:

Skip Cowan mentioned that this month's meeting was now the time for us to prepare the 2023-2025 Integrated Preparedness Plan. Skip read through the IPPW that was previously put into place. Skip then opened the floor to ask for any other agencies to please add in their necessary yearly training updates that could be added to this list. After a few minutes Skip asked if the remaining information that was on the list from previous years seems to be still adequate for the upcoming year, and would be simply adjusting the dates to accommodate the IPPW from this meeting? There were no additions at the time and not comments to add.

### Miscellaneous:

Larry Alexander and Gary Sholders both with the CCRT/VRT program joined the conversation about the apartment fire which Mike Anderson had mentioned earlier in the meeting. Larry explained that they were able to assist the 14 victims of the apartment fire as well as the family members of the one individual who was taken to the hospital. Gary Sholders shared that this was a great learning lesson for them in what areas they had strengths and weakness in and how they plan to move forward. One of the suggestions they are looking into is the time line in which they cut off their assistance to victims of incidents. Do they provide 30 days, 6 months and is it all contingent on the scope of the incident itself. Larry added that he also felt another need, in which the CCRT/VRT is currently developing after this fire, was the use of English to Spanish translation materials. Larry advised there was one non-English speaking family unit that they encountered during this fire and have continued to help but the language barrier did make it difficult at first but they have since put a plan into place which they feel it is going to be extremely beneficial for further activations for assistance.

**Future LEPC Meeting** Skip Cowan then asked if there were any other considerations to be added to this meeting. He advised the next meeting would be in the EOC on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 9:00am. He then requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Chad Gay made the motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Brody Flavin at 9:56am

Next Meeting date December 14<sup>th</sup> 2022 at the EOC located at 120 E. 7<sup>th</sup>, Newton, KS 67114