

## **LEPC Meeting -- July 31, 2023**

-In-Attendance: David Dohe, Becky Snook, Missy McGinnis, Tony Perez, Phillip Murrow, Cortney Murrow, Deb Beam, Nathan Gentry, Sharon Sahlfeld, Aaron Lacoce, Roger Simoneau, Corey Isbell, Stephanie Simmons and Skilar Winder.

-Becky Snook motions to approve April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting minutes, Tony Perez second, motion passed.

-David Dohe motions for Missy McGinnis to be added to the LEPC membership as the EMS Representative, Roger Simoneau seconds, motion passed.

-David Dohe updated that he is still awaiting information from KDEM to see if Mitchell County will be awarded a Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant to conduct a tabletop exercise David has objectives on what he wants to accomplish with the exercise.

-Mark Martin contacted David Dohe this morning and discussed the need to reschedule the Rolling Hills Presentation that was supposed to take place today due to recent weather and wind storms that caused damage needing to be replaced.

-Corey Isbell provided an update from the NCK Technical College. Students are expected to start moving into the campus on August 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> with 100 expected residents to be living in campus housing. Class start date is August 23<sup>th</sup>. The Power Sports program that was expected to start this year is tabled until next year due to inability to find an instructor. Affiliation with Fort Hays and Northwest Tech is continuing to move forward; must go through all 3 boards. This will not be a merger; however, a few changes are expected. 14 subgroups are currently working on the affiliation process.

-Missy McGinnis gave an EMS update. Missy took over in May and has hired multiple staff since taking over the Director position. Missy states there is a learning curve, however things are going well. There is a potential to host an EMT training course. Radios were recently tuned up and updated. Additional 800 radios were purchased.

-Aaron Lacoce provided an update from Fire and Rescue. Aaron states the truck previously ordered could be available as early as 45 days. A veteran firefighter has retired. Additionally, an electric vehicle station is being stalled in Glen Elder.

-Phil Murrow with Sanitation gave an update. There have been multiple issues occurring with wells across the region, with the drought causing an increase in problems and complications. As the water table drops, so does the wells, causing the chemical amounts to be higher. The state encourages people to test water every 6 to 12 months.

-Sharon Sahlfeld stated continuing day to day operations.

-Skylar Winder with mental health discusses an increase in numbers again. Skylar is starting to talk to schools regarding mandated reporting and bullying. Skylar also gave an update on work being completed in Osborne.

-Nathan Gentry discussed the recent field day with HAM Radios. Nathan stated it was a success and reached 49 states. Currently testing out new digital modes for communication.

-Cortney Murrow provided an update from County Health. Cortney stated they are busy with back-to-school vaccines and physicals. Flu vaccines are expected to start shipping in August. COVID vaccine is expected to become commercialized this fall and we are awaiting further information.

-Deb Beam updates from the Mitchell County Hospital. Deb states the hospital has been busy with some reorganizing and staff competencies. The ER has also been busy recently.

-Roger Simoneau provided an updated from KDOT on planned road projects. Roger states they are currently fully staffed.

-Tony Perez gave an update from Sherriff's department. Tony stated they are currently fully staffed, with a potential of an individual leaving in October. 32 inmates are in the jail at this time, with 15 being Mitchell County residents. The jail is also fully staffed at this time, with an upcoming retirement. New vehicle was just received. Weekends are busy with county fair and town festivals. Sherrif's dept. also gave away a couple bikes and a donated pedal tractor. Recent active shooter training took place, with multiple surrounding counties participating. Tony states the fentanyl situation has not been currently identified in Mitchell County, but states is it getting closer and closer. License plates readers are up and running.

-Becky Snook updated from Dispatch. Last week the radio technician came and turned down the volume on the 800 radios. A new app is being worked on at the state level that will provide supplemental information to first responders at various instances. The app will be free to all first responders in the state of Kansas. The app is expected to be available in 2024. At the end of August multiple Dispatch staff members are attending an OnStar training. Planned conferences are coming up later this year.

-Stephanie Simmons provided an additional update from the Mitchell County Hospital. IMPACT testing has been reinstated and taking place at the hospital. IMPACT testing is free for any student in the area. Regional PHEP work is ongoing with multiple counties finishing their tabletop exercise.

-David Dohe updated on Emergency Management. Flood Plain mapping has been a significant project David has been working on and was passed at today's County Commissioner meeting. General preparedness activities have been ongoing.

-Next scheduled meeting: October 30, 2023. Location TDB.

-Becky Snook motions adjourn, Skilar Winder seconds, motion passed.