

LEPC Meeting, 10-31-2022

-In-Attendance: Cortney Murrow, Sharon Sahlfeld, Aaron LaCoe, Rick Horn, David Dohe, Eric Hamel, Corey Isbell, Becky Snook, Nathan Gentry, Deb Beam, Skilar Winder, and Stephanie Simmons.

-Election of Officers (2 Year Cycle): Motion made by Eric Hamel for current officers to remain in place, Deb Beam 2nd the motion, motion passed. Current officers: David Dohe is Chair, Becky Snook is Vice Chair, and Cortney Murrow is Secretary.

-Becky Snook motions for the April 25th, 2022 meeting minutes to be approved, Tony Perez 2nd, motion passed.

-Becky Snook motions for the July 25th, 2022 meeting minutes to be approved, Eric Hamel 2nd, motion passed.

-Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop (IPPW) Power Point presented by David Dohe. The workshop assists with identifying gaps within the organization and plan future training. Mitchell County is currently not an EMPG funding county. Further discussion to take place at the next meeting.

-Hazards Mitigation Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant: Proceed with this grant the next year, application deadline on February 8th. Grant is hazmat driven and available through U.S. Department of Transportation. The performance period is September 2022 – September 2023. Going through a company from Colorado, the cost of purchasing a table top exercise is \$5500, with 80% being paid through this grant. Motion made by David Dohe to allow him as the Emergency Manager to apply for this grant, Eric Hamel 2nd, motion passed.

-Eric Hamel provided an EMS updated. EMS purchased a new ambulance and will be selling the Tipton ambulance to Dive Team.

-Corey Isbell provided an update on the NCK Technical College. Corey stated the student count is up, providing classes and opportunities to high school students throughout the area. NCK Tech will be adding a Powersports Program on Beloit Campus, and the Hays Campus will be adding Respiratory Therapy in the future.

-Becky Snook provided an update on Dispatch. Becky stated dispatch will very soon be able to have a video option when receiving 911 calls. Mitchell County is one of the first groups in the state to receive the video capability. Text to 911 capability has been available for nearly 3 years now with minimal texts being requested. Becky also stated mental Health has been a significant focus throughout the industry.

-Nathan Gentry updated on Ham Radio. After the first of the year a field day is scheduled.

-Tony Perez undated on Law Enforcement – Sheriff's Office. Tony discussed a hunting accident that took place, stating the situation could have been worse. A grant was received to purchase new LPRs (license plate readers). The county currently does not have any, these will be the first in the area. Tony stated the jail is full nearly all the time with many of the inmates being local residents. The sheriff's office recently purchased 2 new vehicles, 1 replacing an older vehicle and 1 replacing a vehicle that hit a deer.

-Stephanie Simmons provided an update on the Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems, Mitchell County Regional Medical Foundation, and North Central Kansas Public Health Initiative. Stephanie discussed a situation that came up and the importance of this group in the resolution of that situation.

-Skylar Winder provided a mental health update. Skylar stated an increase in the need of mental health services resulting in waitlists. Discussed the increase of social anxiety, specifically in the age group of 18-50 years. Skylar stated we continue to be in a mental health pandemic.

-Deb Beam updated on the Mitchell County Hospital Health System. Deb discussed the increase of mental health, especially in the Emergency Room. COVID update was provided, including the changes in masks requirements. A matrix was developed for the hospital with a green area and red area to determine when masks need to be worn. Deb also stated the hospital is full and doesn't anticipate that to change, especially with the increase in RSV and larger hospitals being full. The hospital is working to be more proactive versus reactive as illness continues to rise. Deb discussed bariatric care and bariatric transfer. The hospital has purchased a cot and other needed equipment to provide the best care possible to bariatric patients, especially in regards to transfer.

-Cortney Murrow provided an update from the Mitchell County Health Department. Cortney stated the health department has been focusing on flu shot administration, COVID shot administration, and the health fair that took place a couple weeks ago.

-Sharon Sahfeld requested any articles people may be interested in sharing. Sharon stated she would be interested in writing an article on the dive team.

-Aaron LaCoe provided an update from the Fire Department. Aaron stated they recently responded to a fire at an elevator, with three separate fires identified in this situation. The fire department is currently waiting on the new truck, at this point it will be at least 2024 prior to arriving. The department is trying to get a Firefighter 1 class available in Beloit. This would be a 4-month long class, however instructors are difficult to find. Aaron stated currently being fully staffed.

-Rick Horn updated from KDEM. Rick stated he will be around more frequently now that KDEM has released employees to travel again. Multiple upcoming trainings opportunities will be available. One upcoming exercise is a Recovery Tabletop Exercise on March 30th, location TBD.

-David Dohe provided an update on Emergency Management. Stated he has been busy with Fire Departments and Dive Team, currently working on a grant for Dive Team storage. David and Eric will be attending a training in Wichita for healthcare and medical management in the event of a disaster.

-Next scheduled meeting: January 30th, 2022 at noon at a location at NCK Technical College.

-Skylar Winder motions to adjourn, Deb Beam seconds, motion passed.