

MINUTES  
HARVEY COUNTY  
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)  
McKinley Administrative Center  
308 E. 1<sup>st</sup>, Newton, KS  
February 12, 2020 @ 9:00 am

Present: Jeremy Ashby, Don Bronson, Russ Buller, Robert Carlton, Marianne Eichelberger, Chad Gay, Kyle McCaskey, Brian Palmer, Lynette Redington, David Keane, Edward Bonham, Gina Bell, Ryan Magill, Joe Turner, Jim VanSchaick, Gary Denny, Skip Cowan, Ashlie Banes, Randy Hauge, Susan Lamb, Steve Roberson, Andy Wray

1. Brian Palmer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. Brian Palmer asked for a motion to approve February 12, 2020 agenda. Gary Denny advised moving the Vice Chair Vacancy item to Old Business. Brian Palmer asked for a motion to approve February 12, 2020 agenda, Lynette Redington made the motion seconded by Skip Cowan, **agenda approved**. Brian Palmer asked for a motion to approve the December 11, 2019 minutes. Marianne Eichelberger made the motion and was seconded by Jeremy Ashby, **minutes approved**.

3. Old Business

Speaker: Gary Denny began speaking toward previous discussion of extending Local Emergency Planning Committee meetings from 60 to 90 minutes. Denny stated that due to time constraints for committee members meetings will stay in the 60 minute range.

Denny then began speaking towards the Vice Chair Vacancy.

Speaker: Brian Palmer asked the committee for nominations for the vice chair vacancy. Randy Hauge nominated Jeremy Ashby. Skip Cowan seconded.

4. New Business

Industry Partner Spotlight: Kansas Department of Agriculture

Speaker: Kelly Oliver, Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator for Animal Health, began the presentation by stating the importance of biosecurity in the United States. Kelly described our state as a “drive through” area for most of the import and export of livestock in the States.

Kelly then began identifying some of the bigger diseases the Kansas Department of Agriculture battles on a regular basis. These include Foot and Mouth disease, a disease that affects cloven hoof animals such as cattle, goats, swine and sheep. African Swine Fever a disease that like the name states affects the swine population. Other diseases include Rabies, Trichomoniasis, and Avian flu.

Kelly elaborated on the affect that these ailments could have on local economies. According to the Kansas Department of Agriculture's, Economic Contribution Report, Harvey County relies of Agricultural business to supply 21% of our citizens with employment. Even more so, agricultural business supplied our community with \$1.15 billion dollars in the year 2019 alone. The affects an outbreak could have on our community would be astronomical.

Kelly then began outlining the steps her department takes to prevent crisis events in the state of Kansas. The KDA partners with local counties, working together with their Emergency Operation Center to implement these steps: Depopulation, Vaccination, Isolation and Combination. Kelly stated that the KDA performs many tabletop exercises, one having already been scheduled for December 14 to the 16<sup>th</sup> of this year.

Kelly concluded her presentation by offering information on vehicular accidents including livestock.

In-depth look at ESF's: ESF #11- Agriculture and Natural Resources

Speaker: Gary Denny began a short presentation in which he highlighted the importance and tasks many disciplines would need to take in the event of a Foreign Animal Disease Outbreak. Some of which being, local Fire Departments assisting in decontamination of supplies such as trailers, and corrals. Law Enforcement officers' role in communicating with truckers on their destinations and enforcing policy on in and outbound transportation of livestock. As well as a Public Information Officers role in keeping citizens informed and calm.

#### 5. Upcoming Training Opportunities

Speaker: Gary Denny spoke with the committee regarding the upcoming ICS-0300 course. Gary asked for input with scheduling concerns.

Speaker: Brian Palmer then encouraged the committee to look into a IMT-EOC Support Training course to receive better education on how to assist Emergency Management in case of an emergency event.

6. Brian Palmer asked for a motion to adjourn the February 12, 2020 meeting. Jim VanSchaick made the motion seconded by Jeremy Ashby.

Next Meeting will be held April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Meeting adjourned.