



CUSTER COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

April 16, 2025

Custer County LEPC met at the Custer County EOC, 1605 N Airport Rd., Weatherford, OK. The meeting was called to order by Michael Galloway, LEPC Chairman at 10:00 a.m. Sign in sheets were placed at the entrance to the meeting for all to sign.

Mr. Galloway began the meeting by having attendees introduce themselves and state the organization being represented.

Mr. Galloway spoke of the EOC and of a Grant in approximate amount of \$900,000.00 with city match for updating the Emergency Operations Center. Funding comes from OEM and from left over COVID/ARPA funds. Most EOC operations take place in the field, close to the site of the disaster and the EOC at Weatherford is the first brick & mortar building in the county in about 23 years. All assets will be in one place.

Sandy Settle with ODSH was unable to attend. Mr. Galloway shared information from Tom Crawford, District 2 LERC regarding upcoming training – a State Health Exercise Medical Counter Measures scheduled for May 2025. The upcoming quarterly RAVE call-down drills – please respond to call-down, this helps update the list. There is an uptick in Covid, spike of about 8.2%. RSV and flu cases are down in this area. A stomach bug is going around. Measles cases in the state are unchanged – 9 confirmed cases, most caught early, all were unvaccinated and all had traveled to where outbreaks are occurring.

The 63rd Civil Support Team is working on the upcoming exercise for May 6, 7. Mr. Galloway had just received a call regarding the use of the old 3-M plant area for this exercise. It has been used for training in the past. The Health Department is working with the 63rd on decontamination training. The ability to work with the 63rd is about 2 years out. If the team is on a training site, they don't return phone calls. The Caddo and Cheyenne Arapaho nations will host CERT training at Geary, OK. Mr. Galloway has old records from CERT – Cheyenne Arapaho wildland fires training that he could forward.

The Custer County Hazard Mitigation Plan is complete and has been approved by FEMA. Mr. Galloway has attended meetings with each school and town in Custer County and has copies of the resolutions whereby each entity has adopted the County HMP. Oklahoma Sooner Safe program has been opened up. Applications for 500 saferooms are being accepted. Refunds of 75% of cost up to \$3,000.00 maximum will be available. There are certain Vendors that have been approved by FEMA that qualify as preparation/installation. Vendors must go through a certification process, submit engineering and thorough testing. An individual can have other

Vendors do the preparation/install, but to qualify for the refund, will have to have an engineer certify that the saferoom meets Federal standards. Mr. Galloway is open to suggestions for more new projects for Hazard Mitigation Grants.

Mr. Galloway informed the attendees that the current HMGP – Saferoom Project is complete. Paperwork is being submitted to OEM for reimbursement and Final Closeout. He has filed a Notice of Intent for the next Safe Room project, but awaiting the new regulations and rules from OEM and FEMA.

Mike Karlin, Weatherford Emergency Manager is requesting that the Whole Community Planning Group go over their lists and update contact information. This should be done annually. He is waiting on the Hazard Mitigation Plan to go forward. Mr. Galloway stated that all funds are on hold – actual disaster funding is ongoing but non-disaster funding is on hold currently. Mr. Karlin stated that GeoSafe lost Weatherford data for fire hydrants and saferooms. Those are being rebuilt. He reminded the attendees to have locations of saferooms registered. Mr. Galloway stated that the County Assessor does note shelters/saferooms. These do not add to taxable value, but in a disaster the Assessor's office can provide a map of shelters/saferooms.

Mr. Galloway is retiring from Custer County effective June 30, 2025. Mr. Galloway stated that he has the original By-Laws for the Custer County Local Emergency Planning Committee. Currently, he is the Chairman and Debbie Bright is the secretary/treasurer. He noted to the attendees that at the next LEPC meeting a new Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer should be elected. Ms. Bright stated that for the current year, due to posting of the Annual meeting schedule, the meetings should continue as scheduled. Her suggestion is that the next agenda should include voting on the new officers. Mr. Galloway stated that LEPC receives funding from entities that contain/handle hazardous materials. In the past, Custer County printed and mailed notices to entities for a \$20 LEPC fee. In 2007, Custer County signed an agreement with DEQ to receive \$1,000.00 in funds rather than billing entities for HazMat. These funds have been used to provide ipads for fire departments utilizing Google Earth to provide Tier II information. This data comes from DEQ and EPA.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.


Michael Galloway LEPC Chair

The meeting dates for 2025 are as follows: January 15th, April 16th, July 16th, and October 15th. If you cannot attend, please send a representative.