



## CUSTER COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

January 15, 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 advised those attending that he had set out various Emergency Management handouts that had been stored in his office at the Courthouse. Handouts will now be available in the EOC and all were welcome to pick up and use anything already there. If more is needed, please let him know and he will see if additional items are still in stock.

Mr. Galloway spoke of the uses of the EOC. Mr. Galloway asked for any training upcoming. Mr. Galloway stated that it would be a great tool if there was a "One Stop One Shop" calendar to post training opportunities and dates. There will be Rail Safety Hazmat training in Enid January 14-15 and 16-17, presented by Security & Emergency Response Training Center (SERTC) from Pueblo, Co. Farmrail Safety Director has attended one of these meetings and stated it was very good training and first responders would definitely benefit from attending as a refresher. The Health Department will have a Region 1 HCC meeting at the High Plains Technology Center, Woodward on January 28, 2025 at 1:00 or by Zoom. There will be a Fire Chiefs meeting on February 19, 2025, 6:30 p.m. at Custer City Fire Department. There will be Fire Schools February 12, 6:30p.m. in Watonga and February 18, 6:30 p.m. at Cheyenne. Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security presents OKOHS Hazmat Conference March 5-8 in Edmond, OK. The Oklahoma Emergency Management conference is March 3-7 in Durant. Mr. Galloway hosts OWRB/OFMA Floodplain Workshops March 12<sup>th</sup> in Clinton at the Frisco Center. Classes are Floodplain Management 101 and 202 for CECs. Mr. Galloway stated the 63<sup>rd</sup> Civil Support Team is working on a 2-day training exercise in Weatherford to be held in May. Mr. Galloway is assisting in a location. This exercise has been held previously in the old 3M building. Another suggestion would be to utilize the EOC and Fire Training area.

Mr. Galloway and Bryan Reed with Farmrail spoke about the information available at every railway crossing – Emergency Notification System which is a blue sign which indicates the location and contact information in case of emergency. Mr. Reed stated that if an emergency occurs – or a truck gets stuck on the crossing, please call the emergency number on the sign and give the crossing information from the sign. This allows train traffic to be stopped before causing further damages.

Mike Karlin, Weatherford Emergency Manager held a Whole Community Planning Group discussion. He stated that the Weatherford Emergency Operations Plan is complete and has been sent out to partners. He would like any updates/changes forwarded to him. Mr. Galloway asked for information updates as well. This assists in upgrading the EOP for Custer County which in need of updating. Mr. Karlin gave some information regarding Governor Stitt has created the Office of Emergency Communications and he is a member of a new committee – there is a bill for a Statewide Communication System. This will move communications away from DPS and Homeland Security. He feels this would be a good thing, but the cost would be prohibitive for most departments. Every handheld radio and device for every member of each department would have to be upgraded/replaced at approximately \$5,000.00 per radio and a subscription for each radio/device. He feels that this would be too much for smaller and volunteer departments.

Mr. Galloway spoke about the Custer County Hazard Mitigation Plan which is almost completed. The HMP has been submitted to FEMA and he hopes this will be approved shortly. 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 almost complete. All saferooms have been installed and waiting on paperwork for the final installment to be submitted to OEM for reimbursement. He has filed a Notice of Intent for the next Safe Room project, but awaiting the new regulations and rules from OEM and FEMA. Per FEMA's new requirements, it appears there is only one vendor in the State of Oklahoma that will meet the standards. OEM is working on this.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 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.***