



CUSTER COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

April 20, 2022

Custer County LEPC met in the Patrick Center at the Custer County Fairgrounds. 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. There were 31 in attendance.

Discussion was held by various people regarding recent wildfires and response activities. Carl Billey, Roger Mills County EM indicated the Durham Fire was approximately 38,000 acres. There was difficulty getting assistance from Oklahoma Emergency Management for helicopter deployment. Oklahoma Forestry Service was contacted regarding assistance and they in turn contacted Texas Forestry for assistance. Helicopters and planes for water and retardant drops were deployed. These entities were greatly appreciated. The Berlin Fire received assistance from Oklahoma Forestry Service. There is a procedure to go through the Emergency Manager to request Task Force assistance. A hot spot fire notification is going to EOC coordinator and it is felt that this should go to the Emergency Managers and local officials who are in the field.

Mr. Billey said a big thank you to all involved. The response during these fires was fantastic.

Mike Karlin, Weatherford Fire Chief stated this fire season is very challenging due to fuel load, high winds and low humidity. He stated there needs to be more accountability and a need for organization with the call for assistance. There was a lot of frustration with regards to applying for State assistance during the Durham fire. The helicopters for fire suppression were released the night before the fire and would have taken approximately 6 hours for deployment. Oklahoma Forestry Service was in the air within 15 minutes.

Mr. Galloway advised the LEPC members that the Custer County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is finished and was begun in 2020 and dispensed in 2022. 69 people receive a copy of the EOP and is available as a digital copy also. The concurrence page is updated. The planning group which is a separate tab is updated yearly and will be dispersed to holders of the EOP.

Mr. Galloway asked about training opportunities for the Region. The Northwest Emergency Management will hold its workshop in Weatherford on April 26 thru 28, 2022. Weatherford Fire is hosting the workshop. Weatherford Fire is also offering ICS training April 21, 22, 2022 at the Weatherford Fire Station. Scott Moore with Global Medical Response/Air Evac stated that the Surgical Extraction Team would be having a meeting in Duncan on April 20, 2022. Roger Mills EMS would be hosting training on June 10, 2022 at the Cheyenne ambulance barn. On June 2, Air Evac in OKC will host a hybrid class for 1st - 3rd students. Weatherford STEM has an aviation class for high school students providing training so that students can get college courses in high school to attend a 4 year college. This has been a 10 year program for Weatherford High School.

Additional training opportunities provided are as follows: Senior Officials Workshop (MGT-312) May 19, 2022, Woodward, OK; Inter-Tribal Emergency Management Coalition (ITEMC) Summit, June 14-16, 2022, Quapaw, OK; Emergency Operations & Planning Course (MGT-346), June 29-30, 2022, Pryor, OK; Emergency Operations & Planning Course (MGT-346), July 13-14, 2022, Weatherford, OK. If anyone has other training opportunities, please forward information to Mr. Galloway.

Regarding the Whole Community Planning Group, these are part of the ESF breakouts. Mr. Galloway includes people from the ESFs as volunteers for planning of future scenarios. Most members for the Whole Community Planning Group are people who attend the LEPC meetings and help plan for emergencies. The County's Hazard Mitigation Plan, aka 5 year Plan is due for updating. Hazard mitigation projects that are in process are - Thomas EMS had generators installed last week, Custer County Emergency Management is assisting this project and also with Clinton Police Department's purchase of AEDs. The City of Weatherford has generators on at least 6 wells. Arapaho and Butler have utilized generators on their respective community centers which allows them to be used as warming/cooling stations during power outages. Most schools (K-12) have ability to provide mass communication systems to students and families. Mr. Galloway said the next generation siren system - notification process would provide assistance to the public.

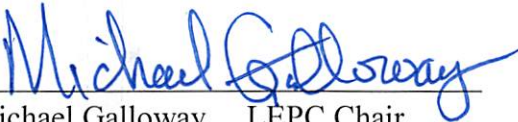
Julie Morlan with the Custer County Health Department, representing ESF8 stated that Ashley Ferguson has been appointed the Health Department Administrator for this area, replacing Terri Salisbury who has retired. Ms. Morlan stated the CDC has approved the 2nd booster for those over 60. Please call the Health Department for spacing for administration of shots, there will be different times for age groups. A mobile unit was going to Tyron on this date to provide vaccinations and testing. There will be a Rural Health Clinic on July 16-17, 2022 for people with no insurance. Ms. Morlan stated that the Health Departments were complimented on the organization of vaccination clinics.

Mr. Galloway gave a Safe Room Project update. This project was begun in August 2020 and currently before FEMA for approval. All awarded applicants must follow FEMA rules for installation and reimbursement up to \$2,000.00.

Members from the Oklahoma National Guard - 63rd Civil Support Team were in attendance and spoke of the ability of be used as an asset during emergencies for cross communication. The Emergency Manager would contact the EOC and ask for assistance. If the criteria is met, the OKNG can be mobilized within 90 minutes. The OKNG also has training exercises and current exercises are for the 2023 year. They begin planning exercises at least a year out. They only assist in the exercise and will not take over the exercise. If there is an actual HazMat incident that local officials need assistance with, the OKNG can be contacted. The OKNG can take samples of the unknown substance and can take it to Dallas or Kansas City for analysis as part of their Down Range Analytics Logistics. They are able to assist fire departments by taking air samples of the incident to determine the hazardous material. This is a free asset.

Mr. Galloway reminded those attending of the Federal Requirement for the Hazard Mitigation Plan which needs public participation. This is a community plan rather than just a one office plan. Every hour is considered in the Local Match calculation on the Hazard Mitigation Plan and is currently \$24 per hour.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.


Michael Galloway LEPC Chair

The meeting dates for 2022 are as follows: January 19th, April 20th, July 20th, and October 19th. If you cannot attend, please send a representative.