



CUSTER COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

October 23, 2024

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 discussed the current uses for the Custer County Emergency Operation Center, located at 1605 N Airport Rd., Weatherford, OK. The building is owned by the City of Weatherford and is outfitted for EOC use. Custer County Emergency Management has reimbursed for part of the expenses of adding essential operations equipment to the EOC. Will be having future LEPC meetings in the EOC building. Part of the needs are upgrading the air conditioning in the EOC incident room itself to make it more functional during a disaster. Mike Karlin, Weatherford Emergency Manager stated that the EOC now has a fully functional generator and working on having a saferoom as funding is available. Mr. Galloway indicated that Devon has set in individual saferooms and adds additional ones as funding is available.

Sandy Settle, ESF8 with the State Health Department stated that the Health Department continues to work on Plans, Risk Assessments, MIPS. There is a flu clinic set for Friday, October 25, 2024 at the Clinton High School from 2p.m to 6p.m. The clinic is drive-thru. If anyone is interested in CPR classes/training, please contact Peyton Barnett. There is upcoming Southwest and Northwest Region PODS OPS training. Mr. Settle showed a QR code to download an APP to your phone for Protect OK – See Something, Say Something. It was also mentioned about an OK Health Alert APP which is not for the general public. If there are any upcoming exercises that the Health Dept could be involved in, please let them know. Jeannette Burkhart with the State Health Dept. spoke about their meeting in Woodward on October 22. She is researching for Readiness Assessment in 18 counties. If there is a Regional Medical Emergency, Mr. Galloway indicated that he contacts Jeannette and Kerry Stafford for assistance.

Mr. Galloway asked for any training upcoming. The Health Dept. would like to be informed of any training exercises that they would be of assistance in. Mr. Galloway would like to be informed of any training that will benefit the various ESFs. You may email him any training dates. 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.


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. Mr. Galloway indicated that that his Planning Group was based on Emergency Support Function (ESF) delegates and he typically tries to include at least three active members of each ESF. These are also integrated into the LEPC. This assists in upgrading the EOP for Custer County which in need of updating.

Mr. Galloway spoke about the Custer County Hazard Mitigation Plan which is almost completed. He expects the HMP being turned into FEMA in November, 2024. There is hope that the plans will be approved in 2025 which will in turn open up new HMGP's. Mr. Galloway shared that SWOSU is a County partner in the Hazard Mitigation Plan. SWOSU was very helpful during the Rhea fire – they opened their dorms to house emergency responders during the disaster. HMGP (Hazard Mitigation Grant Projects) have assisted with generators for most city halls, volunteer fire departments and EMS facilities. One area that Mr. Galloway would like to see in the future would be a mass communication ability to the county wide public notification system. Mr. Galloway is open to suggestions for more new projects for the HMGP.

Mr. Galloway informed the attendees that the current HMGP – Saferoom Project is almost complete. The final alternates were approved by FEMA and three of the six have completed their saferoom.

Devon Energy exercise was held in August and was a success. Search and Rescue dogs from Oklahoma City were involved. They are called Ground Zero Group. Devon performed an excellent exercise – the preparation and after-action report was good. Devon had over 100 employees involved. The lady from Devon who prepared the exercise had previously done the MIPS exercise for Lawton approximately 15 years ago.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 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.