

## LEPC Meeting Minutes

### Marion County Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting

Date: May 18, 2023

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. LEPC Meeting

10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Tier II tour – Atmos Energy – 11:15 a.m.

Location: Marion County Lake Hall, 1 Office Dr, Marion, KS

On-line: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/350495845>

#### **In-person Attendees:**

Marcy Hostetler

#### **Online Attendees:**

Chelsea Weber

Monica Morales

Janet Salazar

#### **Guests:**

Call to order - 0900 hrs.

Roll Call – Individuals in person introduced themselves and the agency they represent. Online attendees were introduced by Marcy.

Approval of Agenda – Sharon made a motion to approve as presented. Josh seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting – The date on the meeting minutes will be corrected. Sara made a motion to approve with the correction. Melissa seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comments on LEPC's Mission and Functions – None

Communications – More Tier II reports have been received. Some of the information on Tier II reports have been updated with the correct location in our system with the assistance of Planning and Zoning.

Announcements/Facility Updates –

Dispatch – FBI has made a change to the regulations on information for radio traffic. The channels will need to be encrypted and the cost will be up to each agency. The radios in the vehicles will be able to be upgraded with a new license, but the handheld radios will all have to

be replaced. There are searches underway for grant money to help fund this expense. It will be important to look to the future when we select the radios in this process. The best scenario would be for all agencies in the county to have a united front of what radio is going to be acceptable when it comes to safety. Two new dispatchers started this week and that should have them fully staffed.

-EMS – We did assist St. Luke in getting their radio updated to get the channels they need. WE are working to get generators installed around the county. We should have a new ambulance here within the next two weeks. We have approximately five trauma/mass casualty kits available to be deployed. They will be put on trucks and made available. We are looking at trying to do some training with other agencies soon.

-Other – There was mention that with the upgrades on the railroads, there are several crossings closed in a row making access very limited. Dispatch was notified and they have shared the information with all agencies.

Environmental Health – no updates

-Fire – Matt shared that they awarded two \$500 scholarships to students in the county. The chief's association is also looking at the burn resolution. Ben shared that there are several people that are wanting to join the department and they are still waiting for a truck that was ordered in 2021. Lester shared that there are new members in their department as well. The subcommittee for the burn resolution will meet for the first time tonight. They will be reviewing several options of resolutions. This committee is comprised of a variety of experienced individuals. The goal is to have a resolution developed by October or November to allow the commission to have it approved and implemented by January 1, 2024. Question of whether the county is looking at getting a tender truck as the county truck is gravity fed. Conversation about the possibility of converting it to be pump fed ensued. There has been difficulty in making that a higher priority piece of equipment as when it is needed, it becomes the highest priority. It will probably have to be gas powered. Ramona has a tender that was acquired from Forestry and is currently being modified. The county road and bridge department have several employees that have a tanker endorsement to be able to deploy it at anytime needed. It was suggested that once the tender is upgraded, to create a policy that specifies use, availability, locations, etc. There was a question about getting individuals into Fire I and Fire II classes in the county. There are several factors in this issue right now and the chiefs are working to resolve the issues.

-Hospital – St. Luke is working on survey prep. EOPs have been updated. We have attended Mass Casualty training in Anniston recently. Hillsboro attended a long-term disaster training and that will be added to EOP. Jeff mentioned a long response when “testing” the panic button at one of the hospitals. They will be working on a solution.

-Law – Same radio information. There is only one open position in the sheriff’s department. There have been troubles with sheriff’s department vehicles recently. Jessie shared that there are some grant dollars that they are looking at for the radios. We are going to talk to the schools about doing some active shooting type training while the buildings are empty. Jeff mentioned that there is a hospital employee that told him that they are put off that schools get this training and hospital staff don’t know what they are doing. Jessie will be doing some training for the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and is happy to come to the hospitals as well. Anyone who wants training, contact Jessie. Matt mentioned that there is money to reimburse healthcare providers and law enforcement for mental health. Duane shared that he has been the interim chief for some time. Marion has hired a new chief and Duane is excited about it. He will start in June.

-Long Term Care – CMS ended the public health emergency and that changes a lot of the waivers that we have. This leaves a lot of unknowns also. Long term care no longer has to wear masks unless in outbreak. There are an abundance of COVID tests now.

-NWS – There is little change in drought conditions today. Marion County is still in extreme drought conditions. There is less than .25 inches of rain expected after midnight tonight with the next chance being next week.

-Public Health – There was a lot of work on pushing anti-vaccination bills in legislation this session. We are getting ready to send out vaccination reminders. We have seen polio and measles outbreaks in the US since July. We completed our public health communications exercise and realized that we do not have municipal contacts on the call down lists. Krista attended some other trainings and looking at getting some more training for staff. The Safe Kids Day was successful.

-School Districts – no report

-KDEM – no report

-Hazardous Waste – no report

-Pipelines – no report

- Hand out current membership list – if you have changes, get them to Marcy.
- Any additions/changes/questions about By-Laws – any changes will be addressed at the next meeting.

#### New Business

- Training Suggestions – Bryce would like to get CPR training. Matt has a firefighter that is working on getting his instructor. Melissa has some contacts also. If you have contacts for CPR instructors, please send that information to Marcy.
- Referenced active shooter training again. Lester has some information that he will send to Jessie and Jeff.
- Wildland fire training will be coming out.
- There is some information that came out to ESF 8 partners with questions that came from the Healthcare Leadership Mass Casualty training that was attended in Anniston. We would like to eventually do an exercise that is similar to what we experienced at this training.
- If you are interested in training and need help, please reach out to Marcy.
- We have started a long-term recovery group in Marion County to meet needs for disaster recovery. We have been able to get good information from Sedgwick and Butler Counties of what they are experiencing now.
- Matt asked if there is any specific education that fire needs to be aware of as it pertains to active shooter. Not specific information.

Public Comments – KDEM is in the process of collecting information from May 7 – May 12. If you have anything that needs to be reported, please let Marcy know as soon as possible as she needs to turn the information in by Next Wednesday.

Next Meeting: August 17, 2023, presentation by Burlington Northern Railroad and will be in Lincolnville. November meeting will be in Burns, KS with presentation by Panhandle Pipeline.

Adjournment – Krista made a motion to adjourn. Josh seconded. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.