

Grant County Local Emergency Planning Committee
Mailing Address-108 South Glenn, 715 E Oklahoma Ave-Physical Address
Ulysses, KS 67880
620-356-4430

Don Button called the LEPC meeting to order on February 25, 2021 at 9:00 AM. The meeting location was at the Grant County Fire Station at 715 E Oklahoma Ave, Ulysses, Kansas. Those present were Mark McGaughey, Don Button, John Crosby, Eddie Franco, Cary Jellison, Mike Wooley, Christy Wooley, Fernando Rodriguez-Infante, and Vivian Button. Those attending by Go To Meeting were Daniel O’Crowley, Toni Irvin, Cathy Hernandez, Richard Everett, Ron Younger and Johnathan Smith. Thank you to Mark McGaughey for the donuts.

Eddie Franco made a motion to approve the January 28, 2021 minutes. Motion seconded by Mark McGaughey. Motion carried.

Communications: LEPC has received Tier IIs from 15 Companies with a total of 515 facilities. Vivian is working on putting the information into CAMEO (Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations). It is a free program from EPA. The CAMEO Suite has Cameo the Data Base, Marplot a mapping component, and Aloha a plume building component.

Old (Unfinished) Business

Covid-19 Sparks projects update. The repeaters for Fire and Road and Bridge Departments have been installed. The EMS repeater has not come in at this time but will be installed when it arrives. All of the portable radios have been received and are working on getting them identified with serial number and distributed. We have received the mobiles and the departments are working on getting them put in the units. The Fire Department has most of their mobiles installed already. Mark McGaughey asked what we were going to do with the old radios. Don said he is working with Scott from Snyder Radio for him to take some of the radios and give us a credit so if we need a repeater or radios worked on it will not cost as much. The Emergency Operation Center Enhancement project has been completed with the microphones, camera and Go To Meeting software. The project also got a Computer for the small conference room and a conference phone.

New Business

From WebEOC website Grant County had two spill reports in February. One was for 10 Barrels of Brine/saltwater and remediation has been done on that spill. The other spill was 15 barrels of produced water and 1 barrel of condensate. With a vacuum truck 12 barrels of produced water was reclaimed and they are working on remediating the location. It was from a pipeline break and they are working on digging up the line and repairing.

Kansas Pipeline Association Virtual Coordinated Response Exercise Pipeline Safety Program Meeting is March 9th at 11:30am. If some of the pipeline people and responders want to come to the Fire Station and watch the presentation they are welcome.

Presentation: Daniel O’Crowley EPA Region 7 On-scene Coordinator presented Region 7 Superfund Emergency Response Program Overview. Region 7 is Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas and Missouri. The Superfund Assessment, Emergency Response and Removal Branch has 20 On-Scene Coordinators and are located in the Kansas City and St Louis area. Their Multi-Disciplinary Team consist of Engineers, Geologists, Chemists, Physical Scientists, Biologists and Toxicologists. What they do: Operation of a 24-7 spill line, Emergency response actions for oil and chemical releases, removal actions-(shorter-term cleanup sites) (soil and/or ground water), Planning and Preparedness, and Disaster Response (FEMA-Led). They have helped with Carcass Disposal and Mercury Spills. They responded and helped with the Greensburg Tornado, the Coffeyville Oil Spill, flooding along the Missouri River and other waterways to name a few. They can also be requested to help in other Regions like the California/Oregon Wildfires, Hurricanes and Typhoons. They also work to reclaim tanks, like propane, fuel and chemical. They need to be requested thru the State.

Training: Most training is still on hold or they are trying to figure out how to conduct it virtual. Mark said the Commissioners are taking some Public Health training to help them better understand their role as a County Board of Health. There is a training tomorrow and another one a week from tomorrow.

Public Comments:

Toni Irvin said they are busy giving vaccines. They have given 170 so far this week. They are following the state guidelines. They should receive more vaccine on Tuesday. They finished the Assisted Living yesterday and have done part of Pioneer Electric’s Employees.

Richard Everett said most of the other area Public Health facilities are following the State’s Phase 2 guidelines unless it is necessary to keep from throwing away vaccine.

Johnathan Smith said Western Prairie is working on their communication plan. Don told him he had portable radios for them and they needed to get together.

Fernando and Christy said Compass is conducting face-to-face appointments.

Eddie Franco said he is thinking about trying to conduct in person training. If they decide to do in person classes he might call to see if he could utilize the training room to be able to spread people out.

Mark McGaughey talked about the big event with the Electric and Natural Gas. He has also talked to Tracy Mann, Ron Estes, Jerry Moran, Ron Marshall, Marty Long and John Doll. He is very concerned about our fixed income citizens and how the cold and increased bills will affect everyone in the county. He said the Governor is working with the President about a declaration for the state. Don said the declaration in Texas does not cover Individual Assistance, which helps the individual person. He hopes if there is a Federal disaster they work with the Electric companies and Natural Gas Companies covering the cost at that level instead of the individual person having to help cover the cost. Mike said Bob Dale had Pioneer Electric employees on the radio this morning talking about how they are trying to figure out everything. Several of our members were listening to this on the way to the meeting.

John Crosby said the Fire Department had gotten busy. They had 3 structure fires on Sunday. They are getting the trucks prepared for Wild Fire season. They are predicting it to be a busy season because of the fuel load and the dryness.

The group welcomed back Cary Jellison from Kugler. He said 90% of their business is whole sale fertilizer. They have been updating their facility and put in some new emergency shut offs. He would like the Fire Department to come out and tour their facility. He said they are getting ready for their busy season. Since COVID hit the prices of everything has really gone up.

Mark McGaughey said K-state had a program on KULY and they said Anhydrous Ammonia was going to be 50% high this year. Cary said Phos had taken a big jump in price also.

Mike Wooley said some of Scouts' wells froze at the well head but the Jayhawk Plant did not go down. Don said Conway was having trouble with propane deliveries. He asked about Scouts propane. Mike said they did not have any issues as far as he knew.

Don said we are in a Fire Weather Watch for the weekend. Vivian got an email from Jeff Hutton that said we would not get much out of the next two systems mainly wind. He said depending on the dry line most of the active spring weather would be in the eastern $\frac{3}{4}$ of the state but hopefully it will shift west and we will get some timely rains. Mid-March and late April are two periods that could get interesting and maybe a frost or freeze the first week of May.

Surdex Corporation is going to be flying in the area to acquire the 2021 NG911 imagery if the weather cooperates, Vivian said.

The next regular meeting will be March 25, 2021 at 9:00am at the meeting room of the Grant County Fire Station at 715 E. Oklahoma Ave.

Mike Wooley made a motion to adjourn. John Crosby seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:59am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vivian Button.

2021 Grant Co LEPC Meeting dates

January 28-February 25-March 25-April 22-May 27-June 24

July 22-August 26-September 23-October 28-November 18