

MINUTES
HARVEY COUNTY
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
EOC Room
120 E. 7th Street
Newton Kansas 67114
June 8th 2022@ 9:00 am

Present: Larry Alexander, Lynnette Redington, Joe Martin, Brody Flavin, Delane Unruh, Janie Mosqueda, Amy Kornehrens, Susan Lamb, Kyle McCaskay, Emily Newhouse, Brian Palmer, Anthony Swartzendruber, Daniel Galley, Lona Kelly, Steve Roberson, Dalton Black, Russ Buller, Skip Cowan, Jamie Dehler, Mike Anderson, Andy Harder

Zoom: Was not available for this meeting

Brody Flavin (LEPC Vice Chair) called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

Old Business:

Brody Flavin asked for a motion to approve the June 8th 2022 agenda, Larry Alexander made the motion seconded by Steve Roberson. **Agenda approved.**

Brody Flavin asked for a motion to approve the April 13th 2022 minutes. Susan Lamb made the motion and was seconded by Lona Kelly. **Minutes approved.**

New Business:

Industry Spotlights:

Brian Palmer Director of the Newton Airport joined the meeting to discuss the many aspects the airport can offer to Harvey County in case of an emergency incident. During Mr. Palmer's presentation he was able to share with the group that the airport was established in the 1930's and was a simple grass strip landing site. It currently contains 21 businesses on the field, over 500 employees work with this city air strip and around 70,000 aircraft operate out of the airport per year. It is able to accommodate staging bases for Blackhawk helicopters with buckets, Tankers, and was used during the COVID pandemic for emergency flights, which of course tripled during that. The airport consists of 880 acres, 300 of that is paved with a 7,000 foot long runway. They have the capacity to hold 24,000 gallons of jet fuel 12,000 of aviation fuel and 3,000 gallons of unleaded.

Table Top Exercise:

Mike Anderson Director of Emergency Management held a brief table top exercise for those who were in attendance to be able to clarify any areas of concerns with roles as well as explore gaps that need addressed. The incident was as followed:

BSNF railroad has called with a Hydrogen Ammonia car that is currently on fire, about 80 tons of Ammonia is inside. This happens about 12:00pm in Newton at Oak and Main. The weather is partly cloudy, 85 degree with winds at about 15 coming out of the southeast.

Who is incident commander? - Chief Roberson

What are the first points of concern? -

1. Life Safety for citizens
2. Incident Stabilization
3. Property Conservation

What are some of the functions that need to be addressed?

1. Close Roads
2. Shelter in Place?
3. Are there any other ignition areas of concern?

Chief Dunlavy wondered if sheltering in place would be a good choice not knowing at the time if any other areas might be in the line of a fire. How would that look?

Kyle McCaskey addressed how the community would be notified of a shelter in place order, and with what media releases would be appropriate.

Chief Roberson advised that isolation would be best because of the fire and the chemicals that would be burning off can be felt about 1000 feet downwind of the incident site. He also added that it would be essential to water down any of the structures within the area to prevent a secondary incident.

Once the exercise was completed and all felt the areas of concern were addressed. Mike gave details on what activating the EOC would entail and how long it would take to everything deployed and where further gaps might be during that task.

Future LEPC Meeting it was suggested for the upcoming industry highlight at the August 2022 meeting we invite the railroad company in to discuss what it is able to do during an actual incident and how they can help with railway travel or shutting down the lines if needed.

Membership Updates: Jamie Dehler left the roster on the back table for everyone to please look over and correct any information that we have or add any that might be missing on our current spreadsheet.

Brody Flavin asked for a motion to adjourn the June 8th 2022 meeting, Delane Unruh made the motion and it was seconded by Amy Kornahrens. **Meeting adjourned**

Next Meeting date August 10th, 2022 at the EOC located at 120 E. 7th, Newton, KS 67114