



SEDGWICK COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)

Meeting Minutes

November 16th, 2023

Location: ZOOM and On-Site

On-Site:

United Way of the Plains
245 N Water Wichita, KS 67202

ZOOM Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87446040819>

Meeting ID: 874 4604 0819

BY PHONE: 1 669 444 9171 Meeting ID: 874 4604 0819

- 1. Call To Order:** LEPC Chairperson Ann Houk called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

A. Attendance: *Online attendance

Ann Houk, LEPC Chair	John Schropfer, SCEM*	Gina Gregory, Valley Center City Council*
Chief Tracy Steffes, Illinois Fire Dist*	Steve Smith, DPC Enterprises*	Ryan Gadbury, WFD*
Andy Allen, Ardent Mills*	Jonathan Marr, Dep Dir SCEM*	Vanessa Pearce, National Weather Service
Jose Ocadiz, WFD*	Sean McKinney KU School*	LeAnn Woods, Goddard Universal Products*
Julie Stimson, Director SCEM*	Kenneth Kimble, WPD*	Tom Donnay, WMC*
Christina Kieker*	Daren Fowler*	Regan Gerber*
Tom Kneil*	Shannon Reid SCEMS*	Karla Ball Harry Hynes Hospice
Lane Sekavec, UPRR	Tyler Parker, UPRR	James Lfetwich KDEM
Patrick Loney, American Red Cross	Lori Loney American Red Cross	Trevor Taylor Jayhawk Pipeline
Tim Brant, USD 166	Jason Unruh Wildcat Construction	Lorena Mireles, City of Derby
Tim Morgan, DHS/CISA	Mark Stump, United Way	Carey Craig, Universal Products
Dierrah Haas, Sedg Cty Health Dept	Jaron Barrett, Oxy Chem	Cannon Ball, United Way
Katy Timken, NCRI	Stephanie Rowe, Spirit Fire	Cody Charvat, SCEM

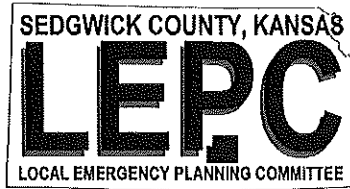
B. Introductions: Ann provides a “thank you” to Mark Stump for hosting the LEPC meeting.

- 2. MINUTES APPROVED:** Minutes from the August 16th meeting are approved. Motion to approve by Gina Gregory and second by Tom Donnay. All present in agreement with minutes approved as written-accepted.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

A. HMEP Training Courses

Cody states that there is no new information about HMEP training. Cody states all training has been completed. Cody provides a copy of the Kansas Division of Emergency Management



Training Announcements. Cody states that there is a couple classes that are not listed coming available in Wichita. Cody states Staging Area Management course and ICS 300 course is going to be available. Cody states that the ICS 300 course will be April 30th through May 2nd followed by the ICS 400 course May 21st. School incidents and crisis management will be in June. Cody states that the sign up will be available soon.

B. Meeting Locations 2024

Ann states that Black Hills is February, Sedgwick County Fire will be May. Ann states that she has August and November available.

C. Open Discussion

Ann states that HURT City has opened and has already offered training for fire and business partners. Ann states that there were school buses donated by Maize School district for the training site. Chief Gadbury is managing paperwork and movement of the buses to the site.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Upcoming Training Opportunities

Ann states that Cody will provide updates as they become available. Cody states that training is available in KS Train.

B. Lithium Battery Community Education Sub Committee

Ann states that a small planning committee is currently working on safe ion battery disposal for the community. Ann states that the HHW (household hazardous waste) will take ion batteries that are no bigger than a cellphone battery. Ann states the goal is to identify proper disposal larger ion batteries.

5. PRESENTATION: Chief Tracey Steffes with Morris Fire Protection District

Chief Steffes provides back story and management of a ion battery situation on June 29th, 2021.

Chief Steffes states that he is not an expert but unfortunately was part of the largest lithium ion battery fires. Chief Steffes states that we are not knowledgeable on how to manage ion batteries and when it happens what to do.

Chief Steffes states he is the fire chief and his wife is Police Chief for Morris. Chief Steffes has been with the fire district for 34 years. States population is about 15,000 people. States they are south of Chicago about an hour and fifteen minutes away. The city of Morris in May 2021 they had a mayor retire and new one took over-new city clerk, new city treasurer, new police chief and needed a fire marshal. Steffes took over as the Fire Marshal. Everyone at the city has essentially changed in May.

Fire district was established in 1868, population served of 22000 ranging over 140 square miles. It has 2 fire stations, 65 fire and ems staff, get about 3900 calls per year and has a \$4.4 million dollar budget.

Chief states they received a report of a structure fire just before noon. Stated that neighboring stations send trucks and additional staff. States the phone call came in from a retire fire chief who seen the smoke and called the fire in. Engine was staffed with 3 people and was 3 minutes away



from the location. Chief states the building was 300x125 feet. The fire was at the Allen Paper Car Wheel Company that was in operation in 1881. Chief states that a citizen stated "did you know that place is full of ion batteries". Chief states they were unaware as it was abandoned and was most recently bought by a man. Chief states there was no water, no gas, and no electricity. Chief states that this man was operating a battery business.

Chief plays the news story from the event. Evacuations occurred due to the smoke and possible carcinogens. The fire was burning for more than 5 hours with full plumes of smoke. 180,000 to 200,000 pounds of lithium battery were inside of the building. Steffes reports that the EPA said not using foam or water.

Chief Steffes states this fire lasted 28 days.

Chief Steffes discusses what thermal runaway is. Thermal runaway begins when the heat generated within a battery exceeds the amount of heat that is dissipated to its surroundings. If the cause of excessive heat is not remedied, the condition will worsen. Internal battery temperature will continue to rise-causing battery current to rise-creating a domino effect. The rise in temperature in a single battery will begin to affect other batteries in close proximity, and the pattern will continue, thus the term "runaway". Lithium ion batteries do not need oxygen to burn.

Chief Steffes states there is currently no products available to stop thermal runaway. Steffes states there are products to slow it but not stop it.

Chief Steffes states that to stop runaway you must stop propagation. Steffes states high flow water is the most responsive.

290-300000 pounds of batteries were in the storage area and stored improperly. States there were 27 different types of batteries. Orange lithium batteries come from the medical field. Batteries generate a lot of heat but it does not propagate very far from the battery.

Steffes states that purple K did not work, Portland cement took 4 hours to apply and contain the fire.

Steffes stated that they used the drone to monitor the fire before entering the building.

Steffes states that the best mitigation is to ensure that the police and fire teams work together collaboratively.

Steffes reports it cost more than \$4 million dollars to dispose of the batteries. Steffes states he is not sure where the EPA shipped the batteries.

Steffes states that between police and public works staff that 2,760 residents were evacuated, 63 commercial properties evacuated.

Steffes stated that the evacuation challenges included:

Pet Shelters

Cellular Systems overwhelmed (Use First Net) **stated firstnet worked amazing for the event

Sex Offenders

Manpower

Medical and prescription needs

Stress and Covid 19



Security of evacuation zone
How long was it in effect

Steffes states to make sure that IPAWS gets used for dissemination of information. He states that ensure you have mutual aid assistance. Have your mutual aid team work the scene and keep your usual teams stay on the streets.

Steffes used Drones to reduce having to send in fire fighters in blind. States it helped them map buildings and contents as well as capture thermal reading of active batteries. States it also provided information regarding the interior of the facility.

Steffes provides video of drone footage of 3 days into the fire and how the thermal runaway is still burning.

Chief Steffes states that only NASA has the capability of mitigating a ion battery.

Chief Steffes states that the DJI Mavic Enterprise Dual Thermal Resolution Drone is a preferred device for responses.

Chief Steffes states that the NAPA code 855 is a battery and energy ordinance that would be beneficial for communities to implement.

Chief Steffes stated that the EPA recommended washing all community items, playgrounds, streets.

Chief Steffes stated that the fire originated from a lightening strike on the building.

Chief Steffes cell 815-955-7561 states he is available for anyone who has questions.

Chief Steffes said that the batteries were delayed by 4 months in getting cleaned up. The EPA took over disposal. There was no place to send them. Batteries were sent to a location in Wisconsin.

6. ROUND TABLE:

Julie states that tier II reports are starting to come in and recommends reaching out to them to see if anyone would be willing to be a host site for an LEPC meeting. Ann states that she can reach out to them and inquire.

Mark Stump provides an overview of evacuation plan if needed during the meeting.

Ann states there is a sign in sheet outside of the room and reminds everyone online to state who they are and what their affiliation to the LEPC is.

Ann states the goal moving forward is to locate a place that takes large lithium batteries for disposal as currently there is nowhere that will accept them. Ann states that there are companies that charge for disposal.

- 7. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 3 PM to allow for the tour. Tom Donnay motions for meeting to adjourn and Robert McKenzie seconds motion with all in attendance in agreeance.



8. NEXT MEETING:

Thursday February 15th, 2pm

Black Hills Energy

Presenter: Shane Cornelius



Meeting Locations 2024 Via Zoom and On-Location

February 15th 2pm ON SITE AND ZOOM

** Presenter: Shane Cornelius

Location: Black Hills Energy

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85608780618>

May 16th 2pm ON SITE AND ZOOM

**Presenter Nick Becker

Location: Sedgwick County Fire Department

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89792610774>

August 15th 2pm ON SITE AND ZOOM

**Presenter: Sara Magnasco

Location: American Red Cross

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81756304166>

November 21st 2pm ON SITE AND ZOOM

**Presenter: Lola Mireles

Location: City of Derby

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86878009264>

Kansas Division of Emergency Management

Training Announcements

November 15, 2023

Participants can use the Course ID provided to access the registration link on KS-TRAIN (www.train.org/ks). Registration on KS-TRAIN is required to provide prerequisites and to access completion certificates after the course. Participants will also have access to their TRAIN Transcript to view and add other certifications for future reference.

Course ID	Course Name	Location	Date
1112794	AWR-136—Essentials of Community Cybersecurity Course <i>Registration deadline: November 21. Prerequisites: none. Participants must have a FEMA SID Number. No Lodging.</i>	Concordia	December 5, 2023
1112797	AWR-376—Understanding a Targeted Cyber Attack Course <i>Registration deadline: November 21. Prerequisites: none. Participants must have a FEMA SID Number. No Lodging.</i>	Concordia	December 5-6, 2023
1106294	G0300—Intermediate Incident Command System Course for Expanding Incidents <i>Registration deadline: November 21. Prerequisites: IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, and IS-800. No Lodging.</i>	Lenexa	December 5-6, 2023
1114353	J-236—NIMS ICS All-Hazards Staging Area Manager Course <i>Registration deadline: November 28. Prerequisites: IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, IS-800, and G0300. Participants must have a FEMA SID Number. No Lodging.</i>	Wichita	December 5-6, 2023
1115202	MGT-312—Senior Officials Workshop for All-Hazards Preparedness —New! <i>Registration deadline: December 22. Prerequisites: none. Registration priority for Fort Hays State University and local participants. Participants must have a FEMA SID Number. No Lodging.</i>	Fort Hays	January 9, 2024
1112338	G0300—Intermediate Incident Command System Course for Expanding Incidents <i>Registration deadline: December 26. Prerequisites: IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, and IS-800. No Lodging.</i>	El Dorado	January 9-11, 2024
1112338	G0300—Intermediate Incident Command System Course for Expanding Incidents —New! <i>Registration deadline: January 2. Prerequisites: IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, and IS-800. No Lodging.</i>	Merriam	January 16-18, 2024
1114485	Local Emergency Operations Planning (LEOP) Workshop <i>Registration deadline: January 10. Prerequisites: none. No Lodging.</i>	Topeka	January 24, 2024

If you have questions about any of these courses or need help with the registration site; or to request flyers with registration information please contact the KDEM Training Office at KDEMtraining@gmail.com.

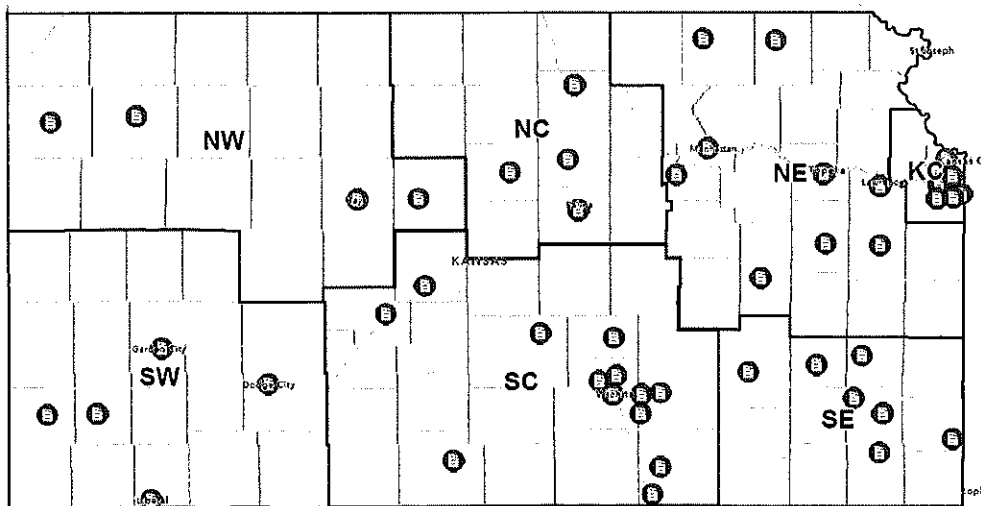
Kansas Division of Emergency Management

Training Announcements

Course ID	Course Name	Location	Date
1112338	G0300—Intermediate Incident Command System Course for Expanding Incidents <i>Registration deadline: January 16.</i> Prerequisites: IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, and IS-800. No Lodging.	Independence	January 30—February 1, 2024
1114485	Local Emergency Operations Planning (LEOP) Workshop <i>Registration deadline: January 24.</i> Prerequisites: none. No Lodging.	Wichita	February 7, 2024
1115081	G0400—Advanced Incident Command System Course for Complex Incidents —New! <i>Registration deadline: February 6.</i> Prerequisites: IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, IS-800 & G0300. No Lodging.	Merriam	February 20-21, 2024
1113102	G0191—Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command System Interface Course <i>Registration deadline: February 8.</i> Prerequisites: IS-100, IS-200 (or IS-2200), IS-700, and IS-800. No Lodging.	McPherson	February 22, 2024
1112338	G0300—Intermediate Incident Command System Course for Expanding Incidents—New! <i>Registration deadline: February 16.</i> Prerequisites: IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, and IS-800. <i>Priority seating for SCAFFA attendees.</i> No Lodging.	Topeka	March 1-3, 2024
1114075	L0105—Public Information and Warning Course—New! <i>Registration deadline: February 20.</i> Prerequisite: IS-029. <i>Participants must have a FEMA SID Number.</i> No Lodging.	Pratt	March 5-7, 2024
1112338	G0300—Intermediate Incident Command System Course for Expanding Incidents <i>Registration deadline: December 26.</i> Prerequisites: IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, and IS-800. No Lodging.	Ellsworth	March 19-21, 2024
1113989	L0101—Foundations of Emergency Management Course <i>Registration deadline: May 20.</i> Prerequisites: IS-100, IS-120, IS=200, IS-230, IS-235, IS-240, IS-241, IS-242, IS-244, IS-700, and IS-800. <i>This session is part of the National Emergency Management Basic Academy Series.</i> Lodging will be available for eligible participants traveling 60+ miles to attend.	Topeka	June 3-7, 2024
1115223	PER-213—Wide Area Search Urban Search and Rescue—New! <i>Registration deadline: May 21.</i> Prerequisite: none. <i>Participants must have a FEMA SID Number.</i> No Lodging.	El Dorado	June 4-6, 2024

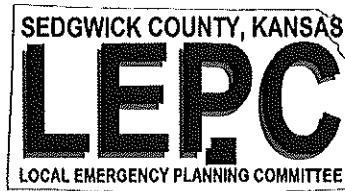
Kansas Division of Emergency Management Training Announcements

Course ID	Course Name	Location	Date
1113994	L0102—Science for Disasters Course <i>Registration deadline: June 24.</i> Prerequisites: IS-100, IS-120, IS=200, IS-230, IS-700, and IS-800. <i>This session is part of the National Emergency Management Basic Academy Series.</i> Lodging will be available for eligible participants traveling 60+ miles to attend.	Topeka	July 8-10, 2024
1113997	L0103—Planning: Emergency Operations Course <i>Registration deadline: June 27.</i> <i>This session is part of the National Emergency Management Basic Academy Series.</i> Lodging will be available for eligible participants traveling 60+ miles to attend.	Topeka	July 11-12, 2024
1114013	L0146—Homeland Security Exercise & Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Course <i>Registration deadline: July 22.</i> Prerequisite: IS-120. <i>This session is part of the National Emergency Management Basic Academy Series.</i> Lodging will be available for eligible participants traveling 60+ miles to attend.	Topeka	August 5-6, 2024
1115026	AWR-328—All-Hazards Preparedness for Animals in Disasters—New! <i>Registration deadline: July 24.</i> Prerequisite: none. <i>Participants must have a FEMA SID Number.</i> No Lodging.	Augusta	August 7, 2024
1114075	L0105—Public Information and Warning Course <i>Registration deadline: July 24.</i> Prerequisite: IS-029. <i>This session is part of the National Emergency Management Basic Academy Series.</i> Lodging will be available for eligible participants traveling 60+ miles to attend.	Topeka	August 7-9, 2024
1115027	All-Hazards Planning for Animal, Agricultural, and Food Related Disasters—New! <i>Registration deadline: July 25.</i> Prerequisite: none. <i>Participants must have a FEMA SID Number.</i> No Lodging.	Augusta	August 8, 2024



Training View

This is a quick view of the trainings we've conducted since January 2022, through mid-November 2023. About 2,500 participants have taken advantage of trainings across the state. ICS trainings (G0300 & G0400) continue to be the most popular offerings.



LEPC MEETING AGENDA

November 16th, 2023

2pm

ON SITE:

United Way of the Plains
245 N Water Wichita, KS 67202

ZOOM Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87446040819>

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BY PHONE: 1 669 444 9171 Meeting ID: 874 4604 0819

Agenda Items	Presenter	Agency
1. Call to Order/Introductions	Ann Houk	LEPC Chair
2. Agenda/Minutes:		
Approval of August Minutes	Ann Houk	LEPC Chair
3. Old Business		
a. HMEP Training Courses	Cody Charvat	LEPC Chair
b. Meeting Locations 2024	Ann Houk	LEPC Chair
c. OPEN DISCUSSION		
3. New Business		
a. Lithium Battery Community Education	Ann Houk	LEPC Chair
4. Presentation/Site Tour		
a. Lithium Ion Battery Fire	Chief Tracey Steffes	Morris Fire Protection District



5. Next Meeting(s):

February 15th 2pm ON SITE AND ZOOM

** Presenter: Shane Cornelius

Location: Black Hills Energy

Online Training Opportunities:

EPCRA Training for States, Tribes, LEPCs, Local Planners and Responders (Non-Section 313)

<https://www.epa.gov/epcra/epcra-training-states-tribes-lepcs-local-planners-and-responders-non-section-313>



SEDGWICK COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)

Attendance Log: 11/16/2023 2pm

Location: United Way of the Plains and ZOOM

PRINTED NAME	AGENCY/BUSINESS	EMAIL ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
John Schropter	SCEM	Via Zoom.	
Gina Gregory	Valley Center	Via Zoom	
Chief Tracy Steffes	Illinois fire district.	Via Zoom (Moms	
Steve Smith	DPC Enterprises		
Ryan Gradbury	WFD		
Ardy Allen	Ardent Milks		
Jonathan Marr	SCEM		
Vanessa Pearce	NWS Wichita		
Jose Ocadiz	WFD		
Sean McKinney	KU School of Medicine		
Julie Stimson	SCEM		
Le'Ann Woods	Goddard KS Universal Products		
Kenneth Kimble	Wichita Police Department		
Tom Donnan	Wesley Med Center		
Christina Kieker			
Daren Fowler			
Regan Gerber			
Tom Kneil			
Shannon Reed	SCEMS.		



SEDGWICK COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
 Attendance Log: 11/16/2023 2pm
 Location: United Way of the Plains and ZOOM

PRINTED NAME	AGENCY/BUSINESS	EMAIL ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Karla Ball	Harry Hines Hospice	karla.ball@hynesmemorial.org	316 304 4793
DALE SEARCE	UPRR	CALLEASEARCE@UPRR.COM	816-830-0178
Tyler Parker	UPRR	tparker@up.com	816-398-1595
James Leftwich	KDEM	james.leftwich@kbs.gov	316-833-0498
Patrick Lonney	American Red Cross	patrick.lonney@redcross.org	316-776-2700
Lori Lonney	American Red Cross	lori.lonney@redcross.org	316-1648-0704
TERRA TAYLOR	TERRA PIPELINE	TERRA@TERRAPIPELINE.COM	620-680-0653
TIM FRANT	USFD 264	timfrant@usfd264.com	316-461-3122
Jesse Urub	Wildcat Construction	jess@wildcatconstruction.net	316 680 2579
Lorena Mircku	City of Desbs	lorenamircku@cityofdesbs.com	316 785 1519 ext 1223
Tim Morger	DHS / CISA	timothy.morger@dhs.gov	620 803 7244



SEDGWICK COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
 Attendance Log: 11/16/2023 2pm
 Location: United Way of the Plains and ZOOM

PRINTED NAME	AGENCY/BUSINESS	EMAIL ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Mark Stump	United Way	mstump@unitedwayplains.org	316-267-1321
CAREY CRAIG	UNIVERSAL PAPER	CAREY.CRAIG@U-P.COM	316-794-8601
Sierra Haas	Sedco HP	Sierra.haas@sedgwick.gov	315 529 8525
Jason Bassett	Oxy Chemicals	jason-bassett@oxy.com	316-529-7285
Cannon Ball	United Way	cball@unitedwayplains.org	903-748-6599
Stephanie Kowalski	SCTHO	stephanie.kowalski@sedgwick.gov	816-390-7999
Kath Niman	WFO	krieman@wichts.com	316-526-9911
Katy Timken	NCFE	kattimken@NCFEAT.COM	316-218-7331
Stephanie Rowe	Spirit Fire	stephanie.l.rowe@spsntaero.com	316-619-7033
Cody Charvat	SG CO EM	cody.charvat@sedgwick.gov	316 660 5968