

The Lyon County Sheriff's Office was the location of the January 9, 2024, LEPC meeting. Those attending were:

Jarrold Fell, Lyon County Emerg. Management  
John Koelsch, Lyon County Sheriff's Office  
Bobby Hale, Lyon County Highway Dept  
Kelly Mayer, Emporia Chamber and CVB  
Andrea Elwood, Hand In Hand Hospice  
Vici Smith, Lyon County Public Relations  
Roxanne VanGundy, LCECC  
Ken Duft, Lyon County Commissioner  
Michael Ribordy, Kansas Gas Services  
Rachel Mitchell, PACE MCC  
Ray Mattas, Emporia Police Department  
Aaron Scheve, KSDWP, LEPC Chair  
Brandon Beck, Emporia Fire Department  
Warren Menough, Michelin  
Brian Rees, K-State Research & Extension

Nicole Freeland Home Town Healthcare  
Shane Brunner, Lyon County LCAT  
Dennis Appelgarth, Lyon County Public Health  
Nichole Schlesener, Lyon County EM, LEPC Sec.  
Harlan Smith, Newman Regional Health  
Jared Giffin, USD 253-Emporia  
Kevin Risley, Emporia Police Department  
Jennifer Millbern, Emporia State University EM  
Rolland Trahoon, Evergy  
Kevin Risley, Emporia Police Department  
Christine Torrens, City of Emporia  
Vincent Breedlove, Bunge  
Jesse Taylor, Emporia Fire Department  
Ruth Wheeler, Lyon Co. District Court

1. LEPC Chair Aaron Scheve called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.
2. Introductions/Roll Call
3. **Motion:** Approve the modified meeting agenda: R Trahoon (K Risley) 27-0
4. **Motion:** Approve the July 17, 2024, minutes: K Risley (R Vangundy) 27-0
5. Tier II reports are available to the public upon request and will be present at every in-person quarterly meeting of the LEPC. To view Tier II reports, please contact Nichole Schlesener at Lyon County Emergency Management, 425 Mechanic Street, Emporia Kansas 66801, (620) 341-3203.
6. Old Business:
  - a. None
7. New Business:
  - a. Vice Chair
    - i. Rolland Trahoon nominated-Voted and passed- H Smith (V Smith) 27-0
  - b. LEPC Membership
    - i. Voted and passed A Cunningham (R Wheeler) 27-0
      1. Removed members who have not attended for a year.
        - a. Fresenius Kidney Care
        - b. Lyon County Health Officer
        - c. Capstone Insurance
        - d. Hill's Pet & Nutrition
        - e. Tyson Foods
        - f. Emporia Presbyterian Manor
        - g. Holiday Resort
      - ii. R Mitchell request we add Midland Care Connection, Inc to membership list.

- c. ESF13, ESF14, ESF15
          - i. No changes suggested.
- 8. Coordinator Report (Jarrod Fell)
  - a. I want to thank all of our community partners for their help getting through the major winter storm we had the last several days.
  - b. Lyon County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) was promulgated by the Board of County Commissioners and approved by the Kansas Department of Emergency Management (KDEM).
    - i. Not only is this important for planning, but we need these plans in place to help with our grant we apply for each year.
  - c. ESF6- Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Housing, and Human Services Annex.
    - i. We have identified that this is not within our contract through CareArc and will start to identify an agency that can take over and coordinate ESF6.
  - d. Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS)
    - i. This is a tool used to send out public messages. We utilized this last weekend for a public safety message; and the State used it to send a state wide message during the winter storm we just had.
    - ii. In order to send these messages, we have to meet very specific criteria, once we do meet that threshold; our Local Emergency Communications Center (LCECC) sends those for our county.
- 9. Discipline Reports:
  - a. Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
    - i. Greenwood and Coffey Counties will have an open position that will be posting within the next few weeks. Avian Influenza is here in our region. A couple cases have been identified in Lyon County. If you have backyard fowl or large flocks, be sure to watch for contamination.
  - b. Emporia Police Department:
    - i. They have started planning for 2025 Unbound bicycle event; Unbound is wanting to make this event bigger than the previous years. This event is held the starting the first Saturday after Memorial Day. Once we hit March events will start to pick up. They are still hiring at this time.
  - c. Emporia Fire Department
    - i. Deputy Chief Taylor- they have had a large number of calls for pile ups on the turnpike, lots of falls and trouble getting around the county in the snow/ice that came with the Winter storm.
    - ii. Chief Beck- They are in the construction phase of new fire station #1. They are hoping to occupy a year from now if all goes well. Now they are evaluation Station #2 to see what upgrades are needed.
  - d. Newman
    - i. They have been busy. Had some surges the last few months with all the respiratory and other illnesses going around. They are pretty close to census just about every day. They are in their accreditation year and required to share certain policies with community members.
      - 1. We will send these out with agenda for April meeting for member

review.

- e. PACE:
  - i. They have 84 on their census. Have brought on 6 new people in January and are trying to get people reintegrated to community homes who were from Holiday Resort. They are quickly starting to outgrow their current space.
- f. Home Town Healthcare
  - i. It's been a busy season. Census is up due to Holiday Resort closing. They are looking for an experience RN. They did not close their facility due to the weather, they did triage by life safety during the weather incidents.
- g. CareArc:
  - i. They closed this last Monday due to weather event. They are getting ready to go over their COOP plan and then update it before their committee. Preparing for CPC meeting that will be next week. Working on putting together a MSDS for their pharmacy that is opening; hoping it will be operational by end of year. The elevator work is complete.
- h. Hand In Hand Hospice
  - i. They were still out trying to get to patients in the weather and had some difficulty with the hazardous road conditions.
- i. City of Emporia
  - i. Employees are doing an amazing job clearing the streets.
- j. Michelin
  - i. They are in the process of putting more fencing around their facility; this is a requirement they have to complete with the transition from Camso to Michelin but this project will not be done for several months to possibly a year.
- k. Lyon County Highway Department
  - i. Working on snow removal. They had about 15 to 20 guys start Saturday and still continuing through this week to get roads clear. They are all doing a good job clearing roads in the county.
- l. Lyon County District Court
  - i. District Court and Lyon County Courthouse closed Monday due to winter weather event; this was for the safety of employees and allowing time for the roads to get cleared up.
- m. K-State Research & Extension
  - i. Thankful for everyone out cleaning the roads. They shut down Monday due to conditions and they made it into the office Tuesday. They are working with Tyson officials to get things figured out. The moisture we are getting is good.
- n. Evergy
  - i. They started Saturday and went to Tuesday morning with guys in the field. They did find someone local, The Cowboy Café, who was willing to assist with getting his employees meals during those long hours. Having shelter is really important; power could go out some day in Emporia and it could take anywhere from one day to one week to get it back.
- o. Crosswinds
  - i. They have moved into the Sauder building and the other building on Merchant Street. It is really hard for people to get into the facility due to the road conditions surrounding their facility; they have steep hills and makes it difficult with all the ice

we received. They have recently partnered with Cornerhouse. They began working with the Tyson response and participated in the City Impact group. They are joining up with CareArc and Newman's to do a community needs assessment for emporia to identify gaps.

- p. Bunge
  - i. Their big project is almost completed. They have figured out that shut down season will be in August this year. With the winter weather we have been having they are trying to keep the lines running due to the freezing temperatures; because of the temperature the pipes could rupture which would cause a chemical release into the community. They have put plans in place to prevent any incidents and are continuing to make this process better.
- q. Lyon County Sheriff's Office
  - i. Staffing issues within the Detention Center are starting to improve. They have a new Detention Center Captain; who is a former Road Deputy Sgt. Shafer.
- r. Emporia Area Chamber
  - i. They will be hosting the Jr. World Disc Golf Champs sometime in July.
- s. Lyon County Emergency Communications Center:
  - i. Things are still busy; they take calls on the Turnpike all the way down to Butler County. So this weather has kept them extremely busy. They had 2 people move away about a year ago and are still trying to fill their spots. So far only 1 out of several groups of trainees has filled a spot. The 14<sup>th</sup> they will be opening up hiring again for a Dispatcher and then also for a Deputy Director position. Staff is just hard across the nation in 911 centers. They have rolled out non-emergency texting and smart transcription will begin this week. This will assist the dispatcher so they do not have to ask people to repeat what was said on the phone and also will help to mitigate the burden on a dispatcher.

10. The next LEPC Meeting:

- a. April 10, 2025

11. 2025 Meeting Dates

- a. April 10, 2025
- b. July 10, 2025
- c. October 9, 2025

12. There being no further business, the LEPC adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully,  
Nichole Schlesener, Lyon County Emergency Management  
LEPC Secretary