

Breakfast items of donuts, muffins, gluten free-items, bananas, coffee, juice and water were available prior to the meeting.

President Flath called the LaMoure County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) business meeting to order at 7:34AM on Thursday, November 21, 2024 at the Edgeley Ambulance Hall and virtually at: <https://meet.goto.com/746411253>

Members present indicated below:

1. Bob Flath	County Commissioner	X	14. Darrick Nitschke	Transportation – LaMoure County Highway	
2. Jessica Duffy	Public Health	X	15. Jacob Olson	Industry	X
3. Kimberly Robbins	Emergency Manager	X	16. Sheriff Fernandes	Sheriff's Dept	X
4. Art Hagebock	Print Media	X	17. Lavern Anderson	Edgeley Ambulance Service	X
5. Doug Hintzman	Kulm Ambulance/Fire	X	18. Julianne Racine	County Extension Agent	X (online)
6. Alan Nitschke	Jud Fire	X	19. Stefan Schoenfelder	Edgeley City Council/Fire	X
7. Mike Vogel	Verona Fire/LaMoure Fire	X	20. Member	Verona Fire	
8. Clint Knudsen	Marion Fire	X	Others Attending		
9. Grant Mathern	Edgeley Fire	X	Frank Balak	CV Health (non-voting)	X
10. Fallon Kelly	State's Attorney		Bill Brown	NDDes SE Region (non-voting)	X (online)
11. Nancy Noot	CVEMS of LaMoure	X (online)	Shelby Schmidt	NDDes/State Radio (non-voting)	X (online)
12. Zeb Mahin	City of Kulm/Kulm VFD		John Weron	Jamestown Communications (non-voting)	X (online)
13. Paul Ostendorf	Industry	X	Gary Rowan	Jamestown Communications (non-voting)	X

Minutes from August meeting had been emailed, mailed and were available. Art made a motion to accept the minutes, Mike seconded. Motion approved. Kimberly presented expenditures of food from the previous meeting. She provided the 2024 budget and actual values through September 2024. Chairman Flath accepted the Treasurer's report.

Incidents: One incident - CHS Dakota Plains - Edgeley with an approximate 15 gallon diesel spill. Spill contained. This information is on the public side as well on www.spill.nd.gov.

TIER II Reports: Follow up information from Jeff Thomson, NDDes Haz-Chem Office, was received regarding questions that the LEPC had from the previous meeting. The group had concern that the late fees are not returned to the local LEPC. Kimberly mentioned that the North Dakota Century Code 37-17.1-07.1.2.c would be addressed at the next legislative session regarding increasing the current fee assessed to owner/operators. Art made a motion and Stefan seconded that the LaMoure County LEPC send a letter of support to district legislators that supports an increase to the fees and request a redirection of the funds acquired to the late fund to the local LEPC. Discussion was held on that the local LEPC could use additional funding for training or equipment yet industry was concerned on raising the rate. Industry representatives discussed the redirection to the local LEPC was good idea yet would have to transfer the increased cost of the fee to local patrons. There were some no votes yet Chairman Flath determined yes notes were the majority. Motion passed. Chairman Flath assigned Kimberly to write the letter.

Training/Exercises: The new year calendar starting 7/1/2024 was reviewed. Grant funding for the full-scale active threat school exercise will expire Spring 2025 and there has been discussion to do table tops and ALICE training instead. The group supported returning the funding as other training will be made available instead of the full scale. There was discussion on Public Health Point of Distribution (POD) in 2027 to make this a regional event with additional resources.

SIRN Update: Stefan reminded the group the last day for a purchase for radio reimbursement is 3/31/2025. The tower build out has a single builder yet again there have been delays. Law Enforcement will have encryption and discussion is ongoing for pagers. Counties are encouraged to determine if local outdoor warning sirens can be activated or what needs to be updated with the change to SIRN. All channels will be recorded so stress plain English for communication. Finally, the mutual aid partner lists will be set up. Shelby mentioned she will try to be available in person next meeting to discuss this and other topics.

Old Business: We may need to look at city/county policies and permission to update social media posts for Communication annex.

New Business: Annual TIER II notice was presented on paper and had been emailed. Stefan made a motion to publish on the website and one time as a public notice in the official county newspaper. Grant seconded. Motion passed.

Legislative Item: The current North Dakota Administrative Code 33.1-15-04-02. Permissible open burning will be addressed as it currently references the extreme category issued by the National Weather Service, while this rating is issued by the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services (NDDes). The National Weather Service issues Red Flag Warnings. There was a motion by Mike and second by Art to write a letter in support to local legislators to redefine this and that communication of NDDes/National Weather Service if weather conditions will change should be done. After much discussion, Kimberly called a question to vote and motion failed. Kimberly mentioned other legislative items that may be discussed in the session are township floodplain management proposed to the county level and the NDDes name change. Chairman Flath reinforced that any other concerns should go to local legislators during session.

Local Emergency Plans: Kimberly brought up Incident Command Training with each mayor and mutual aid agreements among city public works and first responder groups and between cities. The city of Edgeley Emergency Planning Committee proposal was available for other cities to discuss. The emphasis is talking with city leaders and planning before incidents affect a city.

Cybersecurity: Reminder to login to Spill.nd.gov as may have two factor authentication.

CO Detectors: A quote to the group for \$86 per a BW Clip 2 year single gas, CO, detector was made. Art made a motion to purchase the 15 units as proposed. Sheriff seconded. Discussion was that some fire departments use them and some do not. The group felt that the current number should be purchased and if a fire department does not need their unit that they can gift it to their ambulance for their second rig. Motion passed.

Other Business – Allan mentioned that the county website snow plow tracker feature was not working. Kimberly stated that she was told it had changed and not ready to be on the website. Chairman Flath said he would follow up.

Frank asked if there was a concern for sheltering with the housing shortage in Ellendale. Consensus was that there are still rooms available in LaMoure County local hotels.

The next LEPC meeting will again be a Thursday morning, February 6th at 7:30AM in Edgeley. President Flath adjourned the meeting at 8:52 AM.

A Winter Storm mini-tabletop exercise was held following the conclusion of the meeting.

Approved 2/6/2025