

Nemaha County Kansas  
Pioneer Building Meeting Room  
710 Pioneer Street  
20 February 2025

Nemaha County Emergency Management director Eddie Aldrine, chairman of the Nemaha County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Sixteen members, one which was first timer, one substitute member and two guests were in attendance. Those in attendance were Eddie, Alex Bergstrom, Todd Helm, Amy Lierz, Heaven Schuette, Rich Vernon, Doug Allen, Tom Haug, Lauri Hertzler, Michael Miller, Con Olson, Jeff Stallbaumer, Courtney Strathman, Ed Steinlage, Michael Philbrick, first timer, Marie Weaver, and substitute Jessica Stallbaumer. Guests were Bob Cross and the presenter Lane Sekavec, representing the Union Pacific Railroad.

Introductions and updates from members present were requested by Eddie. He also skipped to item 3 on the agenda and started the membership update form circulating around the room while intros and updates were being given. The update meeting the most approval was Todd announcing Seneca schools were back in session.

Eddie introduced our presenter and turned the meeting over to Lane for his presentation. This presentation included a slide show and Lane providing commentary. One could tell he had listened to introductions with the pinpoint questions he directed to specific members. Here is a phone number all members need for any type of railroad incident, 888-877-7267 or 888-UPRR COP. The UP railroad has their own numbering system for railroad crossings. This number should be on a pole placard at the crossing and should be used to identify the location of any incident. A website provided that will locate the incident from the placard number is: [fragis.fra.dot.gov/GISFRASafety/](https://fragis.fra.dot.gov/GISFRASafety/). (secretary personal note: This site works fine for locating the crossings but the base layer map is not current for our county as it does not include all or correctly geolocate some of the major concern populations (schools, nursing homes, ?) if an incident should happen.) Lane did mention there are in-person trainings and online training giving the acronym TRANSCAER. [Here is a website address I found after the meeting: <https://www.transcaer.com/about-transcaer/>.]

Eddie gave an update on the January blizzard and FEMA snow assistance. See the agenda for state, county and township thresholds. Kansas did not meet the threshold. With a \$51,000 cost, our county meets the threshold. This includes costs incurred by the county, two municipalities and seven townships. Four of the townships did not meet their threshold. He still is working with KDEM for this financial assistance for snow cleanup.

Severe weather awareness week will be March 3-7. The statewide tornado drill is on March 10. The annual spotters meeting will take place in Sabetha on March 12 (notice this date as date stated at the meeting was incorrect) from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Interjected at this time was an announcement that the health coalition will have a tabletop exercise on April 1<sup>st</sup> in the Pioneer building meeting room.

Eddie announced he had again been successful in being awarded a weather radio grant for 500 radios. These will be free like last year. Tentative plans have 200 for Sabetha and 300 for remaining towns and townships. One should be aware that there is concern since FEMA funds are involved.

Eddie is asking for help in reviewing the county's local emergency operations plan (LEOP). He is hoping people would help him with their section of that plan.

The remaining meeting dates for 2025 are May 15, August 21, and November 20; same stating time and place.

Without further business or announcements, Eddie adjourned the meeting at 2:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Michael Philbrick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping underline.

Michael Philbrick  
Secretary  
20 Feb 2025