

Nemaha County Kansas
Pioneer Building Meeting Room
710 Pioneer Street
21 August 2025

Nemaha County Emergency Management director Eddie Aldrine, chairman of the Nemaha County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Sixteen members and two substitutes were in attendance. One guest arrived during meeting. Those in attendance were Eddie, Alex Bergstrom, Tom Haug, Todd Helm, Lauri Hertzler, Amy Lierz, Ross Mosteller, Kathy O'Brien, Con Olson, Michael Philbrick, Heaven Schuette, Jeff Stallbaumer, Ed Steinlage, Rich Vernon, Marie Weaver, and temporary replacement Gary Elliott representing Sabetha Fire Department. Substitutes were Andrea Deters representing NV Community Hospital, and Jessica Stallbaumer representing NV Veterinary. The guest was Carol Arnold, American Red Cross.

Introductions and updates by members present were the first order of business. Todd stated Seneca schools are back in session and would be having a bus evacuation drill. Amy commented on the status of the 800 MHz Kansas Statewide Interoperable Communication System (KSICS) project's progress for county fire departments, dispatch, and sheriff's department.

The presentation today was conducted by committee members Alex Bergstrom and Con Olson. Alex and Con demonstrated a new device that can be utilized at EMS rescues. The device was demonstrated on a manikin. The device is a battery-operated CPR apparatus, which can provide better medical stats than man-induced CPR. The device can be used over the top of an AED.

Eddie commented positively on the response of fire departments and rural electric co-op to an oil tank battery fire/explosion near Goff.

Eddie asked all attending members if they reviewed their respective ESF's portion of the Nemaha County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). All attending members stated they did, and each member explained if they had any changes to be made. Eddie then asked for a vote to approve all changes made to the LEOP. Tom made a motion to accept the amended LEOP followed by Gary seconding and after a quick voice vote Eddie approved the changes to the Nemaha County LEOP.

Gary made a few remarks about the mercury spill and involvement of organizations in its cleanup at Sabetha High School. Laurie made comments related to treatment and subsequent cleanup at the Sabetha Hospital.

Tom reported there will be a farm implement rescue training on 11 October 2025 at the community building in Seneca from 8 am to noon. County fire departments are invited as well as first responders. The trainer is scheduled to be Joshua Rodgers of Rescue Specialists (Salina). His fee to provide the training is \$3500.

Eddie gave an update on the weather radio grant he had been awarded. FEMA allowed the grant in July and he has the radios in his possession. He has been programming the radios and looking at a September distribution likely starting in Sabetha and moving to rural townships.

Eddie informed our group that the Kansas Department of Agriculture had an animal health workshop for area emergency managers. Ross thought it had a positive impact. Both had hoped for a better attendance.

Eddie brought up that when this committee was created there was an attendance policy. As there are members that are in violation of the policy (absent four or more consecutive meetings), Rich made a motion, which Ed seconded, to send warning letters to those members.

It was announced that the next meeting is scheduled for November 20 beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Pioneer Building meeting room.

Laurie made a motion to adjourn followed by Con seconding and after a quick voice vote Eddie adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Philbrick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Michael" on the top line and "Philbrick" on the bottom line.

Michael Philbrick
Secretary