



Davison County Emergency Management
200 E. 4th Ave.
Mitchell, SD 57301-2631
Phone (605) 995-8640

LEPC Minutes
January 8, 2025 @ 10:30 A.M.

Chairperson: Marius Laursen Vice Chairperson: Steve Harr Secretary: Jeff Bathke

Call in Number is 1-866-990-6338. The Conference ID is 18809.

1. Welcome-Sign In
2. Election of Chairperson
 - a. Motion by Mark, 2nd by Scott to nominate Marius Laursen as the Chair. Hearing no other nominations, a unanimous ballot was cast for Marius. Motion carried.
3. Election of Vice-Chairperson
 - a. Motion by Mark, 2nd by Michelle to nominate Sheriff Harr as the Vice-Chair. Hearing no other nominations, a unanimous ballot was cast for Sheriff Harr. Motion carried.
4. Appointment of Secretary/Treasurer/Information Officer
 - a. Motion by Dean, 2nd by Mark to nominate Jeff Bathke as the Secretary/Treasurer/Information Officer. Hearing no other nominations, a unanimous ballot was cast for Jeff. Motion carried.
5. Approval of the Agenda.
 - a. Motion by Steve, 2nd by Dean to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
6. Approval of the previous minutes.
 - a. Motion by Michelle, 2nd by Mark to approve the previous minutes. Motion carried.
7. Financial Status:
 - a. The Davison County LEPC receives grant funds from the state, which are used to pay for air cards in the EM and Search and Rescue vehicles.
 - i. Amount of 2025 grant: \$1,765.72 Pending Receipt (\$563 more than last year)
 - ii. 2024 carry over: \$0
 - iii. Expended: \$0
 - iv. Remaining: \$0
 - b. Motion by Steve, 2nd by Dean to accept the financial status. Motion carried.
8. Public Input
 - a. Sydney Lanning from the Department of Health introduced herself to the group and will be added to the committee. She explained the Workplace Safety Committee and the One-Stops in Sioux Falls, Pierre, and Rapid City. She is working on local and statewide safety policies, ICS, etc.
9. Remediation/HAZMAT Issues
 - a. 2024.176-Harms Oil 500-gallon diesel fuel spill at CHS Farmer's Alliance on 12/10/24. GeoTech Engineering has cleaned up and disposed of contaminated soil/rock. Follow up report showed 1,000+ gallons.
10. Administrative and LEMPG Requirement
 - a. Yearly:
 - i. 1st Quarter Report will be due January 30, 2025.
 - ii. Several items to be completed due to the beginning of the fiscal year.
 1. LCAR was completed on 12-9-2025 and uploaded on 12-9-2024.
 2. County Contacts was updated and uploaded on 1-8-2025.
 3. Personnel Action Forms will be completed once the first payroll is received.
 4. Commission Minutes to verify information in Personnel Action Forms will be completed once the minutes are published.
11. Current Road Closures

- a. No known road closures
- 12. Upcoming Road Closures:
 - a. HW 37 from Bypass/Main Street to airport road reconstruction, shared use path and lighting project-Traffic will be maintained to allow both directions. The work will take two years and be completed in sections.
 - b. HWY 42-Resurfacing from Ethan to the East for 24 miles.
 - c. The James River bridge on HWY 38 will be closed for three months over the summer of 2025.
 - d. I-90 from Betts Road to Mt. Vernon will receive drainage repair work in 2026.
 - e. HWY 38 from Foster to Riverside in 2027. The road will remain open.
 - f. HWY 38 from Riverside Road to Spencer will be graded in 2027 and resurfaced in 2028.
- 13. Jeff Bathke-P&Z/Drainage/EM Director
 - a. Jeff will be out of the office the majority of January 14th-March 13th for the Legislative Session. However, he will be working when available.
- 14. Karen Wegleitner-P&Z/Drainage/EM Deputy
 - a. Karen explained she is working with the Red Cross to update the shelters in Davison County. We have immediate shelters for tornadoes, etc. and long-term shelters for residents to sleep overnight. All will be evaluated for sleeping area, kitchen, showers, back up power, etc.
- 15. Kelly Kjelden/Matthew Burk-POET-Absent
- 16. Pat Gathman/Bob Way-High Plains Processing-Absent
- 17. Dan Pollreisz/Shannon Sandoval-MFD-Absent
- 18. Dean Knippling/Casey Tegethoff –MPD
 - a. Dean reported the PD has been quiet, allowing time for training.
- 19. Marius Laursen-Avera
 - a. Marius reported Avera Queen of Peace has received a DaVinci Surgical Robot. COVID, Influenza, and RSV remains stable, but they have seen an increase in the norovirus.
 - b. Avera uses a policy review software, which has indicated several polices came due for review on January 1st.
- 20. Michelle Carpenter/Roswitha Konz-Health
 - a. Michelle reported the crisis bed center will open on Monday, January 13th. The facility has four bedrooms and two bathrooms. Clients will need to be willing to be admitted and they anticipate an average stay of three days. They can self-admit or referred to the center by law enforcement.
- 21. Steve Harr-Sheriff/Tim Reitzel-Chief Deputy
 - a. Sheriff Harr reported three gang members have been arrested in Davison County.
 - b. The Sheriff’s Office is converting communications from analog to digital.
- 22. Blake Richters-Highway Patrol-Absent
- 23. Joe Schroeder/Mark Jenniges-Environmental City of Mitchell
 - a. Mark reported the City of Mitchell has experienced several water main breaks with the cold weather.
- 24. Randy Pratt-Amateur Radio Operators-Absent
- 25. Adam Frerichs-Regional Emergency Management Coordinator
 - a. Adam announced the Homeland Security Grant application window is open until February 15, 2025, followed by an allocation meeting in late March.
- 26. LT Rod & LT Amber Morin-Salvation Army-Absent
- 27. Brandon Wingert (Hanson County)/Skyler Kehn (Aurora County)-Emergency Management-Absent
- 28. Dave Beintema-Elected Official-Absent
- 29. Petar Mirkovic-Health-Absent
- 30. Ruth Ragels-SD Family Assistance Center for Military Service Members-Absent
- 31. Dawn Niehoff-MPD Dispatch-Absent

- 32. Jordan Hanson-Mayor-Absent
- 33. Stephanie Ellwein-City Administrator-Absent
- 34. Denny Kiner-Commissioner-Absent
- 35. Ryan Stahl-Environmental City of Mt. Vernon-Absent
- 36. Bob Riggs-Environmental City of Ethan-Absent
- 37. Robert Reuland-Red Cross
 - a. The Red Cross reported they received a call from dispatch to install smoke detectors at a residence. They did install them, but the Mitchell Fire Department has 30 on hand and should be the entity to install them.
 - b. The Red Cross would like to do another mass smoke detector installation this summer. Jeff explained how we have done them in the past, focusing on a section of the City of Mitchell. He recommended we focus on Mt. Vernon and Ethan for the next two rounds. The detectors have a 10-year non-removable lithium battery, and the resident is also provided with educational materials.
- 38. John Sieverding-Education-Public-Absent
- 39. Kevin Adams-DWU
 - a. Students will return Monday, January 13, 2025.
- 40. Scott Fossum-Education-MTC
 - a. Students will return Monday, January 13, 2025.
 - b. Dean informed Scott the Traffic Department completed an update to the Burr/Spruce stop light, which should assist in traffic flow.
- 41. Peggy Tisdell-Community Member-Absent
- 42. Dan Muck-Community Member-Absent
- 43. Richard Sweeney-CHS-Absent
- 44. Jackie Horton-CASA-Absent
- 45. Andy Mentele-S.A.R.-Absent
- 46. Rusty Weinberg-HWY Dept.-Absent
- 47. Jenna Auch/Carissa Shinstine-Public Health Nursing Office
 - a. Jenna informed the committee the Office is now called Public Health Nursing.
 - b. Jenna asked the committee for support of the Freshman Impact Program. More information can be found @ <https://freshmanimpact.net/>.
- 48. Dave Kluth (Mt. Vernon) / Izaak Goldammer (Ethan)-Fire-Absent
- 49. JP Skelly-Media-Absent
- 50. Comments from the Committee
- 51. Next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2025 @ 10:30 A.M.
- 52. Adjourn the Meeting.
 - a. Motion by Mark, 2nd by Dean to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Chairperson Signature: _____

Date: _____