



LEPC Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 6, 2025, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Divide Fire Training Room – 103 County Road 51

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 08:00 AM.

Introductions: The 41 attendees introduced themselves.

Welcome Remarks:

Michelle Boley – New Emergency Manager. Previously served three years at the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) in the Plans and Integrated Preparedness Sections. Key contributions include developing the State Election Plan, participating in State Agency and DHSEM Continuity working groups, and serving as Program Manager for the Colorado Emergency Preparedness Assessment (CEPA) team. Prior experience includes five years as Emergency Support Coordinator with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, overseeing Mobile Command Post (MOCOM), Wildland Fire coordination, and emergency management enhancement.

Contact: boleym@tellercounty.gov | 719-686-7990

2024 Overview:

- **Incident Response:** 4,762 EMS calls, 4,423 fire calls, and 50,000 CAD incidents at TCSO dispatch.
- **OEM Incidents in 2024:**
 - 3/14 – March Winter Storm
 - 6/23 – Pikes Peak Hill Climb
 - 7/19 – Crowdstrike
 - 8/9 – Four Mile Tornado
 - 10/10 – Mollie Kathleen Mine
 - 10/28 – Highland Lakes Fire
 - 11/5 – Election Day
 - 12/17 – Amerigas Rollover (Indian Creek, no leak, OEM deployed MOBEX for radio communications)
 - Multiple radio incidents handled
 - Conducted/participated in six exercises
- **Regional Preparedness Guide:** Developed for various emergency scenarios for the 5 county region. OEM has boxes of guides to distribute to agencies, community groups, and HOAs to hand out. Contact flohersj@tellercounty.gov if you would like some to handout.

2025 OEM Focus:

- Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) updates
- Fire Suppression Pond identification and designation
- Wildland Fire Tabletop Exercise (March)
- Hazmat Impacting Livestock Workshop (April 4)
- Radio tower infrastructure and updated training
- MOBEX training at Fossil Beds

Presentations:

Newmont Mine Emergency Response Team & Plan – Lance Tidemann

- Mine response capabilities are limited; primarily volunteer-based.
- Emergency response includes cyanide drills, confined space rescues, and fire response.
- Mine rescue team includes one full-time employee and trained volunteers.
- New helipad and improved access road established.
- Haul trucks weigh over 1 million pounds loaded, with significant blind spots.
- Fire attack plan to be shared with local response teams.
- Mine ownership transition to SSR Mining on 2/28; safety plans remain unchanged.
- Introduction of an electric haul truck prototype for testing.

Front Range Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps – Dr. Casara Andre: Unable to attend; rescheduled for May meeting.

Teller County Emergency Operations Plan 2025-2027 – Jessica Flohrs

- Draft prepared; requires role and responsibility validation.
- Document reviewed every three years as mandated by the State.

Agency and Attendee Reports:

- **American Red Cross** – Offering hands-only CPR and preparedness classes. paulrthies@gmail.com
- **TCRAS** – Disaster preparedness information available online. <https://www.tcrascolorado.org/disaster-preparedness-information.html>
- **UPRAD** – No report.
- **TCMRC** – No report.
- **TC Senior Coalition** – Provided 13,000 trips; acquiring two AWD vehicles.
- **Colorado Springs Utilities** – Working on the South Slope dam project, Crystal Lake and Crow Gulch mitigation projects. Do not recreate in the Catamount area during projects. We will see more logs trucks on Edlowe Road and the Cripple Creek Victor area.
- **CUSP** – Hired for North Watershed Coordinator. Hiring for chipper crew and saw crew. Wildfire Story-Slam on May 9 at Ute Pass Cultural Center.
- **Dawn of Hope** – Ready to help with meals during emergencies for the responders. Assisted with food during Highland Lakes Fire.
- **CSP** – Increased impaired driving incidents; enforcement on hands-free phone law; new car seat and motorcycle passing stopped vehicle laws updates. Bringing TIMS classes to Teller County at NETCO in March 4, 6,7 from 9a -1pm. Contact drial@netellerfire.org to sign up.
- **Posse** – Seeking volunteers.
- **Community Firewood Ministry** – 160 clients served. Grant funded. They take donated logs and process into firewood for the needy. Their location is next to NETCO. They split wood on the 1st and 3rd Sat. 9-12 if you want volunteer, call 719-219-6806.
- **TC Event Coordinator** – Senior Expo/Health Fair on 4/26; Suicide and Resilience Symposium on 3/7.

- **TCPHE** – New Deputy Director Austin May starts 2/16 -post covid has other responsibilities and need to grow. We have a grant to bring in all hazards training from “I Love You Guys” foundation. More information to follow. Seeing a lot of RSV/Flu, reminder if sick stay home. TCPHE has flu shots.
- **4H/Fair Board** – County Fair from 7/26–8/3; facility upgrades ongoing. Colorado Springs Utilities is doing a career presentation about fire mitigation to the 4-H kids.
- **OEM** – Updating hazard mitigation plan; Integrated Preparedness & Training Plan in progress. Bringing in ICS 300-spring & 400-fall, requirement to take most recent courses-changed in 2020. ICS-100, 200, 700, 800 are online
- **CCPD** – Ice Castles event from 2/15–2/26.
- **Search & Rescue** – 76 operations in 2024; 8 already in 2025. We have 2 tracked UTVs.
- **MARC** – Ham radio installation at SWTCEMS; radio training on 3/1 at TCSO.
- **TCEH** – No report.
- **CCFD**: Firefighter academy ongoing
- **SWTCEMS**: Hosting Vitalant blood drives in Cripple Creek 4/14 6/24 & 9/5
- **FVFD**: Updated response zones and response matrix to have more apparatus and mutual aid respond initially to provide a higher level of service, also help get all fire stations in the county renamed to make sense. Ongoing BLS courses for FVFD & other agencies, hands on CPR & STB, covid & rotavirus high this year, asked about free covid kits-online only. Looking to make Florissant 51-make it to a quick clinic to test for covid/flu testing to stay away from hospitals.
- **Charis** – No report.
- **Aspen Mine Center** – Conducting Heart health training, blood pressure station at the west location, and health services available. Teller County Resource Group meeting on Wed 2/12 @ 9 AM at AMC or online.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83848781576?pwd=RS9EMWg0RDVydTlwTCtxOTZrWHFrQT09>
- **Resident of B Lazy M**: Retired helicopter operator Hall Moore willing to help out.
- **Oxygen Task Force** – Emergency backup batteries available can deploy during emergency events for critical needs by SWTCEMS & UPRAD-check out & return good for 10-14 hours. Hosting lunch and learn with O2 providers exploring options for having more O2 on hand for emergencies. Asking for you to talk with neighbors, friends, and family on O2 to prepare for power issues and having ways to be prepared! Have a plan!
- **OEM Radio** – Developing updated radio training.
- **Pikes Peak Community Foundation** – \$65,000 disaster relief fund available; regional survey in development.
- **NETCO** – Firefighter/paramedic position open until 2/7; TIMS classes to Teller County at NETCO in March 4, 6,7 from 9a -1pm. Contact drial@netellerfire.org to sign up.
- **Forest Ridge** – Developing evacuation plans with county and community partners.
- **Cripple Creek Transport** – In 2024 they did a couple thousand transport, 30 each week between Victor and Cripple Creek, Wednesday they go to WP from CC, also doing ice castles transports.
- **Divide Fire** – Shift changes implemented for enhanced response coverage.
- **John Wesley Ranch** – No report.

Adjournment: at 09:25 AM.

Next Meeting

- **Date/Time:** Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 8:00 AM
- **Location:** Divide Fire Training Room