



## Lincoln County Kansas

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### Agenda

Date and Time: Thursday, September 7, at Noon      Lunch provided

#### Emergency Services Building

- Roll call voice
- Introduce guests
- Approval of last meeting's minutes
- Communications –

Old Business -

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New Business

- THIRA- Jesse Knight (See attached)

Agency Reports

Public Forum

Adjourn

Robert Keach, PIO - Chair

Brandon Cochran, EMS - Vice-Chair

Elizabeth Sheldon, Health – Secretary

Shawn Esterl - Environmental

Kelly Gourley, Business and Industry

Dustin Florence, Law Enforcement

Dennis Ray, Elected Official, Co. Commission Chair

Kati Hembrey, Hospital

Jesse Knight – Emergency Management, Regional Homeland Security

Craig Walker – Community

Dale Hlad – Transportation

Jarrold Heinze – Firefighting

Rick Horn- KDEM

Diane Walter-Lincoln Park Manor

## **THIRA Discussion Introduction:**

The LEPC facilitator would introduce the topic of THIRA and explain its purpose. They would also review the three steps of the THIRA process:

1. Identify the threats and hazards of concern.
2. Give the threats and hazards context- apply them to realistic past, present, or future incidents that have, will, or would directly affect Lincoln County.
3. Establish capability targets: (The specific capability targets for a small rural county will need to be tailored to the specific risks and hazards that the county faces.)
  - a. **Evacuation:** The county should have a plan in place to evacuate its residents in the event of a disaster. The plan should identify evacuation routes and sheltering locations. The county should also have the resources to support an evacuation, such as buses and trucks.
  - b. **Firefighting:** The county should have a fire department that is capable of responding to fires. The fire department should have the necessary equipment and personnel to put out fires and protect property.
  - c. **Medical response:** The county should have a medical response system that is capable of responding to emergencies. The system should include hospitals, ambulances, and other medical personnel.
  - d. **Hazardous materials response:** The county should have a plan in place to respond to hazardous materials spills or releases. The plan should identify the types of hazardous materials that are present in the county and the resources that are needed to respond to a spill or release.
  - e. **Public information and warning:** The county should have a system in place to warn residents about hazards and to provide them with information about how to stay safe. This system could include sirens, public address systems, and social media.
4. Additional considerations for small rural counties when setting capability targets for THIRA:
  - a. **Limited resources:** Small rural counties often have limited resources. This means that they may need to prioritize their capabilities and focus on the most critical threats and hazards.
  - b. **Remote location:** Small rural counties are often located in remote areas. This can make it difficult to get resources and personnel to the scene of an emergency. Counties may need to develop partnerships with neighboring counties or states to ensure that they have the resources they need in the event of an emergency.
  - c. **Specialized needs:** Some small rural counties may have specialized needs, such as a large agricultural industry or a high number of tourists. These counties may need to tailor their THIRA to address these specific needs.

5. Discussion of threats and hazards: The LEPC would discuss the threats and hazards that are relevant to their community. This could include natural hazards such as earthquakes, floods, and wildfires, as well as man-made hazards such as hazardous materials spills and terrorist attacks.
6. Discussion of context: The LEPC would discuss the context of the threats and hazards. This could include factors such as the community's size, population density, and infrastructure.
7. Discussion of capability targets: The LEPC would discuss the capability targets that they need to achieve in order to be prepared for the identified threats and hazards. This could include things like having a plan in place, training for responders, and having the necessary equipment.
8. Action items: The LEPC would develop action items for the next steps. This could include things like conducting a hazard vulnerability analysis, developing a communication plan, or training for responders.

Here are some specific questions that the LEPC could discuss during the THIRA discussion:

- What are the most likely threats and hazards that our community could face?
- What are the consequences of these threats and hazards?
- What are our current capabilities for responding to these threats and hazards?
- What gaps do we need to fill in our capabilities?
- What are our priorities for improving our preparedness?
- What resources do we need to achieve our goals?

**Natural hazards:** Tornadoes, floods, droughts, wildfires, and hailstorms are all common natural hazards in Kansas.

**Man-made hazards:** Hazardous materials spills, terrorist attacks, and transportation accidents are all potential man-made hazards in Kansas.

**Social hazards:** Infrastructure failures, economic collapse, and public health emergencies are all potential social hazards in Kansas.