

**Kansas Law Enforcement Resources Working Group  
May 25, 2017**

**Call to Order**

The Kansas Law Enforcement Working Group (KLERWG) was called to order by Chairman Eric Sauer. Sauer called the meeting to order shortly after 10:00 AM on May 25, 2017 in the Director's Conference Room of the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC) in Hutchinson, Kansas.

Those in attendance: Eric Sauer – KHP, Andy Van Der Wege - NW Region, David Grittman – KHP, Mark Engholm – FBI/JTTF, John Koelsch – NE Region, Darin Beck – KLETC, Danny Thayer – SE Region, Edna Cordner – KHP, Doug Jorgensen – KSFM, Alvin Sower - KLETC, Ed Pavay – Member at Large, Toby Prine – KDEM, and Melanie Lawrence – KHP.

**Review of March 2, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Van Der Wege and Koelsch seconded to approve the minutes as written. Motion passed.

**Chairperson's Comments or Reports**

Change in chain of command at the KHP. The Emergency Operations section was under Major Kyle Moomau and the Homeland Security Section was under Major Scott Harrington. Both sections have been reunited and moved back under Major John Eichkorn. Sauer no longer has the responsibilities of Troop N, and has the focus of rebuilding the Emergency Operations/Homeland Security unit. Lieutenant Dave Grittman has now joined the unit. While Grittman's focus will be more Emergency Operations, he will be assisting Lieutenant Edna Cordner with Homeland Security Ops. In turn Cordner's focus will be Homeland Security with assisting Grittman with Emergency Ops. Possibility of expansion with up to two additional Technical Troopers.

Kansas Sheriff's Association has nominated Chuck Dunn to represent the association on this Working Group. Dunn already represents NC Region, and it is allowable to represent two entities.

**Membership Reports/Updates**

KSFM - Jorgensen reported nothing new or different at KSFM. They are starting to have recruitment and retention issues because of salaries. Jorgensen has asked for a 5% increase on salaries, because they cannot compete with the county, city agencies, or the private sector. KSFM have agreements with several fire departments with Class 1 and Class 2 to accept their reports for inspections in schools and hospitals.

Another issue is the IRS interpretation of some State retirement system language: an individual cannot go through any pre-arrangement for employment and may only re-apply for a state job after waiting 30 days with KP&F and 60 days with KPERS. State of Kansas is all one employer even when retirements are different – KPERS, KP&F and Board of Regents. Next year KPERS could get a different opinion next year.

SE – nothing new. Neodesha may be getting a new PD building.

KLETC – has a general police instructor position open until filled. Please look at the current IRS interpretation for retirements before applying.

JTTF - provided training at the KBI in-service over the John Booker case for four hours. Want to do more training once his sentencing is official. Went through the investigation and talked about strategies and tools in small groups. Received great feedback, and have hours of audio and video available.

IMT – There is a real need for Law Enforcement involvement with the IMTs. Having additional law enforcement personnel would help make a better response to law enforcement incidents, because there is a real need for LE Incident Commanders. This is a time commitment for both the individual and agency – minimum of three years. Even with the minimum time requirement that only allows for the minimum qualifications. It will be a challenge with smaller agencies to have the commitment – training and deployment. Please talk to your regions. If you have ideas on how to recruit please talk to Mark Engholm. This is a large response gap that we would like to see filled.

NW – things are going well.

TAG – nothing to report.

SLATT – State and Local Anti-Terrorism Specialized Workshop being offered in June. One day course \$25 includes lunch. Sponsored by Valor for Blue.

KLETC – original goal has been met to fund the Tactical Medical training and kits.

### **Special Business/Old Business**

LT Cordner has been brought in to talk about the State Homeland Security Grant Program:

- Some changes this year with the way the grant projects are vetted. We still need to have procedures for the SAC, but are looking at using the specialized working groups for each discipline as a way of vetting the projects. By using groups such as the KLERWG provides an overall state and local view for consistency and transparency.
- The goal of the grant is to prevent duplication and provide transparency. The Tactical Medical Kit project did receive support across the state mainly because of the support of the KLERWG – each of you going to the meetings and backing up the presentation. It allows us to be more pro-active and open up communications. If it ever does become a problem we don't have to do it. We won't ask for a lot of extra work, but an extra set of eyes

CAT – September is when it should be online. AJ Wolfe (KDEM) is in charge of it. Had been in limbo – had technical issues and deployments that pushed it back. Sauer thinks this is a neat tool, and hopes we get a lot of participation in it. Nothing is perfect, but there is so much information that you can glean from it. Many regions rely on organizational memory, and this can help capture those memories. This tool will allow you to play out your greatest weakness with the jurisdiction or agency. Provides a very methodical way of looking at capabilities. You can actually see what you actually need. Please be watching for this tool.

### **New Business**

#### Latest SEOC activations. Wild Fires

- Discovered a lack of communication coming from the scene.
- Mutualaidnet.net people have not been taking the time to enter in the equipment they have, which is what the fire chiefs were using.
- Need to have discussions on what Kansas aircraft across the state can and cannot do.
- Reimbursement process was not the easiest, and many of the smaller fires were not receiving assistance.
- IMT is struggling for membership, and did not have the ability to full staff 24-hour shifts.
- Surplus military vehicles received from the KS Forest Service had broken down.
- Johnson County had to have a rest break upon arriving do to the drive time.
- Many department were not sending people because the conditions were ripe for fire all over the state.
- Looking at establishing task forces from 5-6 departments so that fire can assist without hurting anyone department by being deployed.
- Our forestry service has a staff of four people. Oklahoma has more because the state has put in money into their program. Trying to go to the KS legislature for more, but there is a political issue.

CRCMS hasn't been working great because of the lack of information. Under EMAC you can draw resources from other states, but they don't come free and you have to find the money to pay for it. \$200,000 bill from South Dakota IMT to deploy to the Reno County Fire.

Recent winter storm with flooding in late APRIL. Surprised how much and how quickly it paralyzed the state. Guard response was valiant and fervent but futile. Citizens and responders were all getting stuck in the conditions. We spent the entire winter being told this is the big snow storm and it moved on us. Told this is a big one and it is April 30. Suggested need to work with the KDOT to coordinate with surrounding states and affected counties on road closures. Had motorists stranded in small communities by people trying to avoid the closed I-70 by utilizing secondary roads.

FirstNet –presentation by AT&T. Every state either has to opt in or opt out within 60 days; no one is sure what Governor Brownback is going to do. Sheriff's Association tabled it because they didn't want to support AT&T because you had to have an AT&T phone. Most sheriff's office are on Verizon. Options are: Opt in or Opt out and build it yourself. If the Governor opts in AT&T, FirstNet will immediately start building in Kansas. This discussion prompted Captain Sauer to mention another recent change in command with the KHP he had forgotten earlier. Captain Zeller has moved from Troop B to Troop M ( the Patrol's Communications unit). Capitan Bramlett, who was recently over Troop M is not over Troop B.

Have any agencies, KOPA, KSA talked about the use of lasers on law enforcement officers? What we are coming up against – no state law only federal. More and more powerful lasers are going out to the public for less and less money. People are blinding officers as they are coming on to the scene. Is there something legislatively we need to do – attack on an officer? We need to start tracking this first to see if there is a problem. We can make laws all the time, but it works better if you can use an existing law and add case law. Intent to cause harm. There is a whole subculture around lasers.

#### **Announcements**

None

**Adjournment**

Engholm moves and Pavey seconds to adjourn at 11:15.