

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE WATER COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ron Highland at 9:00 am on Wednesday, February 03, 2021, in room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Christina Haswood – Excused

Committee staff present:

Chris Waggoner, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Meredith Fry, Legislative Research Department
Victoria Potts, Legislative Research Department
Zach Fridell, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Angee Morgan - Division of Emergency Management, Kansas Adjutant General

Others in attendance:

No list available

Presentation on: Division of Emergency Management, Kansas Adjutant General

Angee Morgan, Deputy Director of the Kansas Adjutant General's Division of Emergency Management, delivered a presentation to the committee about her organization's duties and responsibilities ([Attachment 1](#)). The KDEM's mission is to protect Kansans from all hazards by providing and coordinating resources, expertise, leadership, and advocacy through a comprehensive, risk-based emergency management program. Morgan explored the structure and budget of the organization before describing the phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. Disaster response is primarily the responsibility of counties, though state assistance is available when several criteria are met. State assistance includes public water supply delivery, technical assistance, and Governor's declaration of emergency. The Kansas Response Plan is activated by the Governor's declaration of emergency, and provides the framework for all phases of emergency management ([Attachment 2](#)). Morgan then described federal response assistance, which is available through FEMA but requires a Major Presidential Declaration. Federal help includes a public assistance program to aid in immediate recovery, as well as Hazard Mitigation Assistance Funding and the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities program, which help the community mitigate future severe disasters.

Morgan then stood for questions, which covered topics such as response to uranium contamination in rivers in western Kansas and whether KDEM is responsible for condemning properties.

With no further questions, Chairperson Highland adjourned the committee at 9:49am.