Small Business Assistance in the COVID-19 and Virtual Age

Lloyd Kirk, Director
Office of External Affairs
Oklahoma DEQ

July 9, 2020
National SBEAP Meeting
Agenda

- Major Agency-Wide Actions
- Small Business Financial Assistance
- Pivoting during the Pandemic
- Accomplishments – Oklahoma
- Virtual Age – Digital Transformation
Covid-19
Major Agency-Wide Actions

- Telework
- Communication / DEQ Webpage – COVID-19
- Division protocols
- Workgroups
  - “Emergency” staffing, teleworking and building protocols
  - Phased transition back to the office / field work
  - Post-emergency telework options
Covid-19 Financial Relief

- Phase 1 - Supplemental Emergency Funding Bill (March 6th)
  - $$ for health response, extended EIDL to small business

- Phase 2 - Families First Coronavirus Response Act (March 18th)
  - Testing, unemployment, food assistance, paid leave, FMLA

- Phase 3 - CARES Act (March 27th) – 2.3 Trillion
  - Paycheck Protection Program, EIDL Funding, Unemployment, Direct Payments, Payroll tax deferred, etc

- Phase 3.5 – Additional $321 billion for PPP (April 23rd)

- Phase 4 – ????? - HEALS Act (Senate), HEROES Act (House)
  - COVID Liability, additional unemployment, state/local $$
Pivoting During Covid-19

- Small Business / Technical Assistance requests – Decreased

- Pivoted – Businesses needed $$, not technical assistance
  - Partnered with SBA and ODOC – All Hands on Deck
  - Shared financial information / webinars w/ SB
  - Used social media – PPP, grants, and loans
  - Shared resources – U.S. Chamber of Commerce, ODOC, SBA, CDFA

- Small Business Assistance - Virtually
  - Permit Assistance - Tesla
Pivoting Accomplishments - Oklahoma

- Money received by Small Businesses
  - PPP Money Distributed – 5.5 Billion
  - SBA EIDL Distributed – 1.7 B
  - ODOC Business Relief Money - Over $100 million

- DEQ / Small Businesses Relationship Enhanced - “We care”

- How we are conducting business is being done virtually i.e.; drones, phones, pictures, zoom, etc. (Inspection TF)
Virtual Age – Digital Transformation of SBEAP

- Virtual Meetings – SBEAP Training Conference
- Innovation / Process changes
- Small Business /Technical/Assistance – Virtual
- Permit Assistance – Virtual / Digital
- EPA LMS (ELMS) Deployed Virtually @ DEQ
DEQ Social Media – COVID-19
QUESTIONS?

Lloyd Kirk, Director
Office of External Affairs, Oklahoma DEQ
lloyd.kirk@deq.ok.gov