

Emergency Management Agency Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2015

Present: Gaylord Schelling, CC BOS; Ashley Hayes, Atlantic; Tom Harris, Anita; Ryan Archibald, Lewis; Dave Brahm, Cumberland; Darby McLaren, CCSO; Randy Baxter, Marne and Mike Kennon, CC EMA.

Absent: Mark Wedemeyer, CC BOS; Ray Zellmer, Wiot; Ryan Askeland, Griswold; Jackson Bissell, Massena

Gaylord Schelling: Meeting called to order at 6:33 PM.

Ryan Archibald: Motion to approve the agenda.

Tom Harris: Second.

Carried unanimously.

Tom Harris: Motion to approve minutes of 1-26-2015 EMA meeting.

Randy Baxter: Second.

Carried unanimously.

Darby McLaren: Motion to approve January, February, March expenses.

Ryan Archibald: Second.

Carried unanimously.

Old Business

Mike Kennon reported that progress has been halted in the Cass County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Planning process. The planner at SWIPCO who was to organize and write the plan quit right after the initial round of planning meetings and no further meetings have been scheduled since that time. Kennon said he would get in contact with Barb Barrick at SWIPCO and ask about when we might expect work on the planning process to begin again.

New Business

Kennon stated that he is in need of a new laptop computer. The laptop he currently uses has an XP operating system. He said that he should be able to get a suitable computer in the \$1500 price range.

Kennon also stated that he would like to mount a TV in the conference room of the new Communications Center. E911 has agreed to pay half of the cost. The setup would be much like the basement meeting room in the courthouse.

Gaylord Schelling asked if there was enough money budgeted to make these purchases and Kennon assured him there was.

Respectfully Submitted



Coordinator's Report

The Cass County Emergency Alert System has been implemented and tested since the last EMA Board meeting. The program was rolled out in early March and a test of the program was held in conjunction with Cass County's participation in the statewide tornado drill. All landlines and registered cell phones/email in Cass County received voice or text messaging. Results showed a 100% receipt of texted/email messaging, while much fewer than 50% of landlines showed a successful receipt. This demonstrated the importance of getting residents to register their electronic devices to receive our emergency alerts. Currently, there are about 700 registered accounts and Kennon would like to see that number grow much larger.

Kennon then talked about the county's credentialing program. Most emergency responders in Cass County carry this ID which allows them to be identified and tracked in a large scale event. Kennon said that there may be an opportunity to supplement this program with grant dollars from Cass County Coalition partners. Kennon will make a presentation this week to buy a mobile card producing unit with scanner and enhanced tracking capabilities.

Kennon reported that he has received Tier II reports from chemical facilities throughout the county and will soon start work on the annual update ESF-10 Hazardous Materials Plan.

Kennon briefly talked about issues with Wright Township in Pott County. This affects Cass County due to the fact that Lewis FD and Griswold FD have had areas of primary Fire/EMS jurisdiction there. Wright Township shopped their entire township's fire coverage to the lowest bidder without other considerations such as distance from fire stations or response time. There was a short discussion about the potential precedence this sets for Cass County and across the State.

Finally, Kennon talked about HPAI Avian Flu. This is currently affecting Northwest Iowa, but there is potential to affect Cass County, with some poultry facilities in the county. Kennon stated that an inventory of PPE-Personal Protective Equipment for responders is currently underway. Response partners will assess the need to add to these supplies at this week's Coalition meeting.

No public comments or concerns.

Tom Harris: Motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

