

Emergency Management Agency Meeting Minutes

October 25, 2022

Present: Steve Green, CC BOS; Angie Redler, Marne; Darby McLaren, CCSO; Jim Behrens, Atlantic; Jackson Bissell, Massena (virtual); Virginia Coughlin, Cumberland; and Mike Kennon, CC EMA.

Absent: Kirk Stapleton, Griswold; Mitch Boysen, Wiota; Ryan Archibald, Lewis and Mark Harris, Anita

Guests: None.

Chair Mark O'Brien: Meeting called to order at 6:37PM.

Steve Green: Motion to approve the agenda.

Darby McLaren: Second.

Carried unanimously.

Jim Behrens: Motion to approve Minutes of 4-26-2022 Meeting.

Virginia Coughlin: Second.

Carried unanimously.

Kennon reported that ICAP grant and ARPA funds are being passed-through the EMA department. EMA will pay invoices for these grants and get reimbursed.

Jim Behrens: Motion to approve April, May, June and July, August, September expenses.

Steve Green: Second.

Carried unanimously.

Old Business

New Business

Coordinator's Report

Kennon reported on the progress on the Motorola Enhancement Project. Equipment has been delivered to the WT site and the State site in Lewis. Work crews will be here next week.

Kennon stated that the Communications Trailer is in need of an ISICS 700Mhz base radio. The 911 Service Board has approved the purchase of such a radio, but the Massena FD has an extra mobile radio that is currently still in a box. First Wireless can install this radio in the trailer and EMA/911SB will owe MFD a mobile radio if they happen to purchase another fire rig. Kennon will have a discussion with First Wireless and MFD to determine when to produce an order for a mobile radio.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kennon said that the Communications Trailer was deployed for a full week to Winterset for the Madison County Tornado this last spring. It is a valuable resource to Cass County, though it does not get used as much as Kennon would like. The addition of an ISICS radio will make the trailer an even greater asset.

Kennon reported that he had responded to incidents the last two Sundays. Two weeks ago there was a fully engulfed pickup on fire just west of Marne. Thankfully, the family inside the truck was able to escape and it did not produce a grass fire. This last Sunday in Montgomery County, there was a large grass fire that consumed about 750 acres of grassways, terraces, trees, standing corn and corn/bean stubble. There were also 40-50 mph winds. Many FDs were paged including Griswold FD, Lewis FD and Marne FD from Cass County. There was another very large grass fire in Harrison County and multiple fires in Nebraska. Many Countywide Burn Bans have been put in place since the weekend. Kennon has not received any Burn Ban requests from any Cass County fire chiefs.

Finally, Kennon reported that there has been a suggestion from the State that they would approve of combining EMA and 911SB boards under the EMA Board. Kennon recommends that we keep them separate for now. He also stated that the State has put an emphasis on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. This already fits within our mission to assist minority populations and populations with functional needs.

No public comments or concerns.

Steve Green: Motion to adjourn at 6:50PM.
Virginia Coughlin: Second.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. H.", is written over a horizontal line.

Cass County Emergency Management Agency Meeting

Sign-In Sheet

CHAIR: O'Brien
QUORUM: 5

DATE: October 25, 2022

LOCATION: Cass County Courthouse Basement Meeting Room

NAME	JURISDICTION
Jim Behrens	City of Atlantic
Angela Redler	Marne
DARBY	CCSO
Jackson Bissell	Virtual
Virginia Coughlin	Cumberland
Mark O'Brien	EMA
Steve Sweet	CCSO