

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Winnebago County Sheriff's Office
Richard Meyer Community Resource Room
4311 Jackson Street, Oshkosh WI
June 4, 2018**

Members present: Paul Eisen, Tom Ellis, Larry Smith, Bill Roh

Members not present: Jim Hogan

Also present: Linda Kollmann, Eric Rasmussen and Becky Powers

Chairman Eisen called the Emergency Management Committee meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and verified that the meeting had been properly posted.

1. Approval of Minutes

MOTION to approve the minutes of March 5, 2018 by Tom Ellis; seconded by Larry Smith; all in favor; motion carried unanimously.

2. Comments from the public

None

3. Correspondence

None

4. Siren Report

At the Chairman's request, Linda Kollmann discussed a recent news article in the Post-Crescent newspaper regarding changes in the siren system in Outagamie County. The county is transferring siren maintenance responsibilities (and expense) over to the local municipalities (individual cities/villages/townships). Outagamie County has chosen to gradually move away from the siren usage and focus financial resources on a new technology program, *AtHoc*. While Winnebago County has a similar warning program in "AlertSense" that we offer to county residents for free, Linda does not believe that we should embrace the idea of eliminating our warning sirens. While it is an old technology, we have purchased an upgraded software that runs the siren system that is a vast improvement. In our county, we are able to use grant funding from the state to cover 50% of our siren maintenance cost; if we didn't allocate it toward that, we could end up turning back funds, and future available grant funds could be reduced. In addition, with all the outdoor festivals, sports and other events that take place in our county, our siren system plays a strong role in our warning capabilities.

Other siren-related notes –

- Our new software had a glitch a couple of times, but we worked through it and are pleased with the overall performance; it is a huge improvement. It runs a polling test daily, sends notifications via email if there is an issue with a siren's performance, and performs diagnostics in much more detail. This in turn reduces the amount of time our county electricians have to spend trying to determine what the problems are.
- The siren that we are planning to remove (see minutes of 9/18/17 meeting) will remain in place and functional throughout this summer siren season; it will be removed in October after the severe weather season is ended.

5. **Training and Exercise/Director's Report**

Director Kollmann presented a PowerPoint review of the Dark Sky Exercise that was held in May. She discussed activities and the impacts they had on Winnebago County; it proved beneficial on several different levels. We are in the planning stage of applying for grant funds to host two training classes here later in the year (September or October). These are classes that Eric is required to take for his certification.

6. **EPCRA Report**

Eric Rasmussen distributed a printed status report of the off-site facility plans that he is updating for the second half of the EPCRA Plan of Work (deadline for submission is in September).

The next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Monday, September 17, 2018. (Note the change to the third week of the month, due to scheduling conflicts.)

MOTION to adjourn by Larry Smith; seconded by Tom Ellis; all in favor; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Powers