

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Oshkosh WI
September 20, 2021**

Members present: Mike Brunn, Paul Eisen, Vicki Schorse, Tom Ellis

Via Zoom: Bill Wingren

Also present: Becky Powers, Eric Rasmussen, Amy Houle

Chairperson Schorse called the Emergency Management Committee virtual meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and confirmed that it has been publicly noticed as required.

1. Minutes of the March 29, 2021 meeting

Motion to approve minutes as written was offered by Tom Ellis, second by Bill Wingren. All voted in favor; motion carried.

2. Comments and/or correspondence from the public

None have been received.

3. Director's Report – Eric Rasmussen

• **Severe Weather**

- 7/28 and 7/29 during EAA, Emergency Management worked with EAA and Red Cross to set up a reception center at the Oshkosh Arena. Facilities identified in the emergency plan were not available.
- Emergency Management worked with senior leadership at EAA and outside agencies to help prepare to postpone the night air show and close the grounds early for the July 28 afternoon air show.
- IPAWS was used to send an alert to all people in and around EAA to urge action leading up to the storm. It was a very effective tool.
- There will be a follow up meeting with EAA next month to revisit different locations for shelter/reception center needs in the future.
- Omro/Rushford/Utica/Nepeuskun were hit the hardest. Director Rasmussen and Deputy Director Powers toured those areas with the National Weather Service. It was determined there was no tornado but the straight-line winds did reach 90-95mph. The town chairs were notified to start their documentation to see if they qualify for the Wisconsin Disaster Fund. Rushford, Nepeuskun and Utica totaled near \$150,000 worth of damages combined with their applications to Wisconsin Disaster Fund.
- There will be more training opportunities in the future to help prepare the towns for disaster reimbursement documentation.

• **Siren Report**

- Maintenance on the sirens is needed every 5 years. We have 9 sirens left to service during this cycle. These sirens are too tall for the county's bucket truck.

We have been unable to rent a bigger truck because of a liability component of the rental agreement. Maintenance on the remaining sirens will likely need to wait until next year.

- Overall sirens are working well. Test season will continue a few more weeks then end of season checks will begin.
- **Plan of Work Progress Report**
 - Close out on 2021 EPCRA is complete and application for 2022 EPCRA is submitted.
 - 2021 EMPG needs one more section of our Emergency Response Plan to come in from our consultant and then will be completed. Application for 2022 EMPG is submitted.
- **COVID-19 Response Update**
 - Public Health has taken over most of tasks. Director Rasmussen has been asked to sit on a COVID Task Force for the County.
 - Emergency Management will be looking into public assistance grants for Health Dept. staffing.
 - There were questions and concerns brought up about the Sunnyview Generator Project and where it currently stands in the process. Vicki Schorse recommended that a position statement be submitted from the Emergency Management Committee in their support of it. Paul Eisen tried to ask the group to put it on the agenda for the next meeting so the public can be aware and share their comments and concerns. The committee requested that Director Rasmussen work with Chairperson Schorse to draft a statement on the value of upgrading Sunnyview Expo Center for Emergency Preparedness.
- **Other Activities Since Last Meeting**
 - Severe Weather monitoring several times but nothing as severe as the July storms.
 - CART exercise done in June to maintain national team certification
 - EOC nuclear drill in Kewaunee attended by Director Rasmussen and Specialist Houle
 - Department Head training for EOC/ICS completed with high turn out
 - Held a shelter meeting with Red Cross at Sunnyview
 - IPAWS virtual conference attended by Director Rasmussen, Deputy Director Powers and Specialist Houle
- **Upcoming Activities**
 - Mobile Command Post training with SWAT Negotiators Team
 - WEMA Conference
 - Functional Exercise schedule with Village of Fox Crossing
 - Meet with EAA to update their emergency plan
 - Shelter Planning meeting
 - Damage assessment update from July storm
 - Basic Academy training hosted here for FEMA in January
 - Adopt Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - Propose IPAWS with other bordering counties in memorandum of understanding (MOU)

4. EPCRA Report – Becky Powers

For the 2021 Plan of Work no farms currently use any hazardous chemicals any longer. All 27 of offsite facility plans for 2021 EPCRA plan of work have been approved and mailed out.

5. Current Budget Report

Year to date budget was reviewed. No overages and the Department worked short staffed for 8 months. Due to COVID training costs were down but should pick back up and money will be used again to go toward trainings.

Discussion on timing of grant funds was a concern raised by Paul Eisen.

6. Presentation of 2022 Emergency Management Budget

Director Rasmussen presented the 2022 Emergency Management Budget. The major changes are a one-time increase to our EMPG grant funding, the addition of a general grants revenue and expense line, and a removal of a vehicle from the department budget to the executive's budget.

7. Mobile Command Post Tour

Vicki Schorse, Tom Ellis, Mike Brunn and Paul Eisen toured the Command Post.

8. Adjournment

Mike Brunn moved to adjourn; Tom Ellis seconded the motion; all voted in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

The next meeting will take place on December 6 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Houle