

## **Black Hawk County Emergency Management Commission Meeting**

Thursday August 19, 2021 4:00PM

Meeting began at 4:01 pm

Roll Call of Members Present: Black Hawk County Sheriff, Cedar Falls, Dunkerton, Gilbertville, Hudson, LaPorte City, Raymond, Waterloo. Also, Present Chief Bostwick

1. Motion to approve the agenda
2. Motion to approve Minutes of April 15, 2021 meeting minutes by Hudson, second by LaPorte City, motion carried

### **Coordinator report**

June, July, August 2021

#### Trainings

- G205-Disaster Recovery
- Hazmat Ops Recert-LPC
- Legal Issues in Times of Disaster
- IS120-Intro to Exercise
- I have completed my Advanced Professional Series classes. I will be working on the Basic Academy Classes over the coming year.
- I have signed up for an ICS 300 intermediate & ICS 400 Advanced Class, this class will correlate with taking the ICS train the trainer class that I'm anticipating on taking this winter/spring.
- Also have signed up for G2300, Intermediate EOC Functions. That is not until next June of 2022, also to become more EOC proficient I'm taking and All-Hazards Planning Section Chief class in Linn County in December.
- PIO Media awareness Training part of Basic Academy
- Are there any other trainings that commission would like me to look for? Or items for me to be trained for?

#### Meetings

IDHRC, District 6, County COVID, Waterloo Schools Safety Committee, Health Care Coalition Work Group, Healthcare coalition meeting, NIRG, Department Head Mtg, Hudson Elementary School Reference Safe Rooms, RAGBRAI Planning Meetings (Multiple), Mentoring Meeting for IEMA, Waterloo Schools ref COOP plan, Drought workgroup, State 911 meeting, ISICS board meeting-EMA appointee

#### Misc.

- Spoke at Cedar Falls Council Meeting ref to EOC's
- RAGBRAI came through Black Hawk County/Waterloo, wrote the Incident Action Plan for the ride, as well as had addendums for Black Hawk County, Waterloo PD/FD and Evansdale PD.
- Few pick-ups of PPE in Cedar Rapids, as well as one Large (5 Pallets) of PPE for Schools \*\*State of Iowa has been sending out multiple surveys to their tier groups to dole out PPE to various agencies/facilities, which in turn puts the pick-up/disbursement of that PPE back on the EMA. There will be 2 more surveys going on, one more for schools and then the final Tier which is EMA's as to what we would like to have in our stock pile. The State also placed the burden of picking up Test Iowa supplies (kits and equipment) on to county EMA's I had to pick up from 3 locations and return the supplies/equipment to the Node in Cedar Rapids.
- July 14<sup>th</sup> Storm-issue accessing NEXGen siren system, it was working when the storms were coming into the county. The Auto signal for the tornado warning was issued for Dunkerton area, after that the site was "locked out" or was inaccessible. I did come to the office and had the same issue from my desk top computer. This was all while the storm was taking place. Minutes after the storm passed the site was back

up and operational again on my lap top and desk top. I have been in contact with RC systems, NEXGen, and Bergan KDV. They are still trouble shooting the issue. NEXGen believes it has something to do with their site being behind two firewalls. Still awaiting Bergan's response with their research on this matter. There is still the old system in my office to set off sirens, push button box, it is not active currently. I have spoken to RACOM to put it on their radar that I want to check to see how much it would cost to get that operational again as a failsafe.

- Also starting to work on next year's ESF's which are 6 Mass Care,8 Public Health,11 Agriculture,10 Hazardous Materials
- EMA radios are all programmed on the state system, I now have ability to talk to the Des Moines National Weather Service in severe weather instances, will be doing a radio test tomorrow at 10A.
- Have the ability to apply for ICAP Grant which is \$1000, any ideas from commission on what they would like to see.

## Old Business

- A. COVID-19 Ongoing-Sheriff advised the members that there was a positive test in employees in the Communications Center as well as within other employees at the Sheriff's Office. Waterloo stated there is masking at city hall. Cedar Falls shared that there is masking as well as a 6-foot social distancing of others. The public is recommended to mask. At this time, it has been agreed upon that the EOC will not reopen for COVID. Mindy informed the commission members present that the state will have one final survey to send out to the EMA's this survey will allow the request of masks and other PPE items. There are cloth masks on the survey that we would request a case for each community to utilize in their offices as well as place masks at entry points for community members to take and use as well. Commission members were in favor of this, Mindy will request enough cases for each of the communities in Black Hawk County as well as the County offices.
- B. Drone Update-the Drone Team was utilized during Ragbrai to assist with crowds, riders, and the river.
- C. NexGen- July 14<sup>th</sup> Storm-issue accessing NEXGen siren system, it was working when the storms were coming into the county. The Auto signal for the tornado warning was issued for Dunkerton area, after that the site was "locked out" or was inaccessible. Mindy did come to the office and had the same issue from my desk top computer. This was all while the storm was taking place. Minutes after the storm passed the site was back up and operational again on lap top and desk top. Mindy had been in contact with RC systems, NEXGen, and Bergan KDV. They are still trouble shooting the issue. NEXGen believes it has something to do with their site being behind two firewalls. Still awaiting Bergan's response with their research on this matter. There is still the old system in my office to set off sirens, push button box, it is not active currently. Mindy has spoken to RACOM to put it on their radar that I want to check to see how much it would cost to get that operational again as a failsafe. Commission members asked to have the back up siren system placed back on line, obtain quote on what it would cost and send that out to all members as well.

## New Business

- A. **EMPG-ARPA** FEMA as well as the State of Iowa has opened up the Emergency Management Performance Grant-ARPA to Emergency Managers to apply for. This grant is 100% funded, there is not match. Mindy is wanting to apply for an enclosed trailer as well as the OWL virtual meeting system under this grant. Notice of interest has been submitted, the actual grant

applications are not due until September. Members present stated to apply and proceed with the process.

**Items for General Discussion-** Sheriff discussed Ragbrai that was in Black Hawk County, with an over night stop in Waterloo on July 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. The entire two days were successful, there were 3 medical transport calls even with the heat indexes over 100 degrees. Waterloo had multiple campgrounds that were at various parts of the city and those seemed to have little to no problems. The major problem that was noticed by riders was communication, i.e., signage for riders' informational purposes. Mindy was in the EOC which was at the Sheriff's Office. Drone team, as well as a boat teams and multiple law, fire, EMS, city departments and county departments also worked during those two days. Sheriff and Mindy discussed there was an issue with radio programming for Mindy's radios that was rectified by the Sheriff calling RACOM the day of Ragbrai to get the National Weather Service Channels added.

Inquiry was also made as to adding or requesting information from Public Health for the Mayors as to cases per zip code. Mindy will add information from Public Health onto the flash report on this topic as well as send out the follow up from Lisa Sesterhenn from the weekly COVID zoom calls.

Next meeting September 16, 2021 4:00pm

Motion to adjourn by Cedar Falls, second by Dunkerton, adjourned at 4:48pm

After meeting was adjourned it was mentioned that the next meeting date is League of Cities Conference, Mindy will send out email with a change of date for the next meeting being a week later.