

Black Hawk County Emergency Management Commission Meeting

Thursday September 23, 2021 4:00PM

Meeting began at 4:00 pm

Roll Call of Members Present: Black Hawk County Sheriff, Black Hawk County Supervisor, Cedar Falls, **Dunkerton**, Raymond, Waterloo. Also, Present Chief Bostwick, Jason Dolf

1. Motion to approve the agenda
2. Motion to approve Minutes of August, 2021 meeting minutes by Raymond, second by Cedar Falls, motion carried

Coordinator report

August/September 2021

Trainings

- 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
- Homeland Security Conference-October will be attending virtually
- Are there any other trainings that commission would like me to look for? Or items for me to be trained for? HSEMD has updated their training requisites for EMA's for each year; 12 training hours will be centered around the current years ESF's the additional 12 hours of the total 24 will be of the commissions/EM's choosing. The EM will need to have verification of their training as well as a sign off from their commission as to the training (letter)

Meetings

IDHRC, District 6, County COVID, Waterloo Schools Safety Committee, Cedar Falls Schools Safety Committee, Health Care Coalition Work Group, Healthcare coalition meeting, NIRG, Mentoring Meeting for IEMA, Drought workgroup, State 911 meeting, ISICS board meeting (EMA appointee), IEMA Awards Committee Meeting, Step-C, Black Hawk County 911, Waterloo Traffic Department,

Misc.

- Worked with Matt Lukehart with CFU to get their Sirens all on line. 1st
- Met with Waterloo Traffic Department to discuss and make plans regarding outdoor warning sirens, (testing, coordinating, & set up their ability to do their own sounding when fixing sirens)
- Presbyterian Church in Cedar Falls on Safety Plans, Monthly Siren Test, Don Hampton Awards IDHRC,
- Alertlowa operational on July 1st continuing to work with care facilities & public health on their internal systems.
- Have been appointed training chair for ISAC-Spring session.
- pick-ups of PPE in Cedar Rapids, PPE for Schools, and EMA
- July 14th Storm-issue accessing NEXGen siren system, had zoom call, our IT did not make it to call, Rick Claussen was gone. Discussion with NexGen as to their side of the system & Next steps. Discussed with them the NWS piece, also will have Bergan examine the two firewalls. Next zoom

call for work session is October 4th at 11A, IT made this call, discussion between two vendors they will continue their trouble shooting. NexGen will send quote for new server for EMA office.

- Worked with a grad student from U of I on a research project on EMA/disasters
- Also starting to work on Next year's ESF's which are 6 Mass Care,8 Public Health,11 Agriculture,10 Hazardous Materials
- EMA/NWX DXM radio test, will be doing monthly testing. (Pilot program)
- Have been polling/resetting sirens on Mondays as weekly checks.
- Have been locating and reviewing Plans;
 - currently looking at Evacuation/Reentry. There is one written for Cedar Falls/Waterloo. Do other communities have one in place?
 - Mass Casualty & Mass Fatality Plans-looking for a plan
- Are there any other items that commission members would like myself to do on a regular basis? Or start planning for, for the future? Items such as community outreach? Hosting training sessions? Being more involved in various groups/activities?

Old Business

- A. COVID-19-Benson stated to members present all the cloth masks that were discussed at previous meetings have been received for each community and will be delivered soon. Mayors would like to also see vaccinated vs. non-vaccinated numbers. Benson will start to forward out the reports from Lisa Sesterhenn with the county COVID-19 information and reports. As well as including more zip code information on the Flash Report. Cedar Falls-with high numbers Staff have to wear masks when they are within 6 feet of someone. Masks are recommended by citizens when in City Hall. City Council meetings can be held remotely when COVID is in the high citatory. Sheriff-On going discussion regarding mandatory vaccinations and how that is a tough decision to enforce. There is a lot of research and homework going on in this regarding this topic. Sheriffs Office will always host vaccine clinics for employees that are requesting the booster when that becomes available. Waterloo-Two weeks ago the signs were up reference to vaccinated people and masking, those signs have been taken down and requesting all people to mask while in City Hall. Raymond-more there is a push the more we have people tend to resist. Raymond is still urging to do what is best for them.
- B. Drone Update-Not a big update, all equipment is in hand. Still have 5-6 core people that are training and ready to go for a call out.
- C. NexGen- July 14th Storm- issue accessing NEXGen siren system, had zoom call, our IT did not make it to call, Rick Claussen was also gone. Discussion with NexGen as to their side of the system & Next steps. Discussed with them the National Weather Service piece, also will have Bergan examine the two firewalls. We held a second virtual work session with NexGen, & Bergan KDV on October 4th, Bergan KDV made this call, discussion between two vendors they will continue their trouble shooting. Both vendors are still under the impression that their systems and servers were running without any issues. Benson asked NexGen to explore the link that their company had to write a code for between their system and the National Weather Service updates. Members would like a quote to get the previous alerting equipment back on line as well as from NexGen on the status of the quote for a new Server as well as components.

New Business

- A. After Action Reports from City of Cedar Rapids and Linn County on the Derecho from August 2020-** Cedar Falls presented Derecho after action reports from both agencies, the reports were discussed. The members on the call and present explored the Linn County AAR focusing on the areas of Observations and Recommendations. Motion was made by Cedar Falls to create a subcommittee to explore the Linn County AAR and return to the commission with a report and possible recommendations. Benson will send out an email to Commission members for volunteers, a group of 3 members for this subcommittee as well as Benson will compose the committee. Second by Sheriff all aye.
- B. EOC Discussion-** Discussion was held by members as to what should or what do we want an EOC to look like if we have a countywide EOC, Unified/area Command. Learn how to tailor an EOC to the disaster, have flexibility in our EOC but also have a whole county approach. It is on each community for their employees to understand each roll of an Emergency Support Function (ESF). Discussion about expectations for the EOC prior to an event occurring, as well as when to call in or make a request for an Incident Management Team (ITM) Benson also provided information to the committee members that the State of Iowa has various EOC position trainings across Iowa.
- C. EMA Commission Notification Group-**Benson would like to create an EMA Commission group in the AlertIowa system so any important messaging can be sent out to members via cell phone group. This would be a quicker more efficient way to send messages. Members present were in agreement. Benson will send out a brief form to fill out and have returned to get everyone uploaded to the AlertIowa EMA Commission Group.

Items for General Discussion- none

Next meeting October 21, 2021 4:00pm

Motion to adjourn by Cedar Falls, second by Raymond, adjourned at 4:58pm