

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

Thursday October 21, 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, Gilbertville, Hudson, La Porte City, Raymond. Also, Present Chief Bostwick, Jason Dolf

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

### **Coordinator report**

#### Trainings

- PIO Media awareness Training part of Basic Academy.
- Homeland Security Conference attended 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, Iowa Emergency Management Association Meeting, Mentoring Meeting for IEMA, Drought workgroup, State 911 meeting, ISICS board meeting (EMA appointee), IEMA Awards Committee Meeting, Step-C, Black Hawk County 911, Virden Creek Dam Breach Analysis Meeting,

#### Misc.

- Election Table Top Exercise-Virtual
- had zoom call, our IT did not make it to call, Rick Claussen was gone for a death in the family. Discussion with NexGen as to their side of the system & Next steps. Discussed with them the NWA piece, also will have Bergan examine the two firewalls. Next zoom call for work session is October 4<sup>th</sup>. October 4<sup>th</sup> phone call IT & NexGen partners were both online. Both vendors were still without answers. Requested quote for a second time from NexGen on new Se3rver and components, their President/CEO promised to have that in my hands within a week. From this meeting we as a collective will look at why there were two firewalls on the system, as well as Mindy requested to have the National Weather Service Link researched and inspected again, as this is the only new piece in the last few months. On 10/14 RC systems emailed that NexGen *"new software does interface with NOAA correctly now. Before we had to do a workaround because of the way NOAA was set up. Now they interface with no problems."* We have also

received the quote for the new server for NexGen the price is \$6980.00 this has been submitted to the EMPG ARPA grant, awaiting approval for the grant.

- Compulert System-RC System was on site this system is still operational, do need to do some maintenance to the components, monthly test to make sure the antennas still function at fully capacity, test the outlets for function, change batteries in the components as part of routine maintenance. This will be out third piece of redundancy in the event that both key pieces of alerting software fails.
- EMPG ARPA Grant has been submitted.
- Also starting to work on Next year's ESF's which are 6 Mass Care,8 Public Health,11 Agriculture,10 Hazardous Materials
- 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?

Discussion was held with commission members present on the training path Benson will follow for the training year 21/22. Benson will follow Emergency Operations Center training to be more proficient in EOC activations.

## **Old Business**

- A. COVID-19- The County has been working with Public Health regard to test kits, DPS is supplying them to county through Public Health, there are 3-5 pallets delivered every week to be distributed to hospitals and clinics. Kits are believed they are self-test kits. County PPE information, there is still several pallets of disposable gowns left, sizes; large, extra-large, and two extra-large. There is also disposable procedure masks, and face shields available. Only 4 gallons of hand sanitizer left. The State PPE supply is getting smaller as well, gloves are difficult to get, still plenty of gowns, and disposable masks.
- B. Drone Update-Not a big update, did go out last month and supported Hudson and Black Hawk County Sheriff on a fatality accident. As well as supported sheriff Tac Team. We have another flight for county engineer on their road project. Batteries are in as well, trailer is being worked on and almost completed. Still looking for new volunteers, they do need part-107 certification.
- C. NexGen- July 14<sup>th</sup> Storm- Benson did inform the members present that she met with NexGen as well as Bergan KDV the issue from July 14<sup>th</sup> was discussed again. Both vendors still are unsure of what occurred, both vendors stated they are still researching this topic. Benson did have NexGen send quote for a new server and components due to the current system we are using is several generations old. Having a new sever would also provide some redundancy to our system. Cost for new server \$6980. This cost has been written into the EMPG ARPA Grant that Benson has applied for. Benson also had Rick Claussen and Paul

Berger from Radio Communications to her office to check on the outdoor warning siren system, Comalert. That system is functional, November she will use this system to do the outdoor warning siren test to make sure the entire system functions properly. There is some maintenance that does need to be done to this system; change out batteries as part of routine maintenance.

- D. **After Action Reports from City of Cedar Rapids and Linn County on the Derecho from August 2020-** Discussion was held on this subcommittee, suggestion to change this to a small working group of Mayor Green and EMA Benson. Once the Linn County AAR has been reviewed as well as Benson has provided feed back on her involvement with the Tama County Derecho response at that time the Commission can decide if they would like to hold a work session with key City and County leaders and employees on both items.

**New Business**

- A. EMPG ARPA- Benson advised that this grant has been applied for. Equipment was the focus of this FEMA Grant. Items applied for totaled just over \$15,000. We should be hearing back regarding this grant in the next month or so.

**Items for General Discussion-** none

Next meeting November 18, 2021 4:00pm

Motion to adjourn by Cedar Falls, second by Raymond, adjourned at 4:33pm