

Black Hawk County Emergency Management Commission Meeting

Thursday November 17, 2022

Meeting called to order at 4:15 pm

Roll Call of Members Present: **Black Hawk Co. Sheriff, Black Hawk Co. Board of Supervisors, Dunkerton, Evansdale, Gilbertville, Hudson, Waterloo.**

Visitors Present: Michelle Weidner Black Hawk County Finance Officer, Judy Flores Manager of Consolidated Dispatch, Laura Benson

1. Motion to approve the agenda by Dunkerton, second by Evansdale, motion carried.
2. Motion to approve Minutes of October 2022 meeting. Supervisor had a correction of the October minutes, there were 2 Supervisors present for the Oversight Committee Meeting. EMA Benson will update the October minutes. Approval of minutes with correction; Dunkerton, second by Evandale, motion carried

Coordinator report

October/November 2022

Trainings/Drills

Meetings

IDHRC (chair), ISICS board meeting (EMA appointee), EMA District 6, Iowa Emergency Management Association Meeting, IEMA Awards Committee Meeting, STEP-C-ISAC, Black Hawk County 911, Safety Committees-Waterloo Schools, Black Hawk Co Department Head Meeting

Misc.

Organization

- Meeting with Sheriff Thompson at Dysart Middle School regarding school safety

Response/Weather-

- NWS and NOAA testbed for the VBOT.

Planning-

- School Safety Assessments (Waterloo Schools)
- Started working on Emergency Support Functions for 2023 (ESF's 11,12,14,10 & RSF)

Exercise(s)-Working on Table Top TTX for Waterloo Airport Full Scale exercise in summer 2023

Mitigation-

- DNR debris management testbed. (Hudson)

Other-

- Grants-EMPG ARPA 2021- awaiting reimbursement
- EMPG 2022 is submitted waiting on partial reimbursement from the State.
- EMA Training Requirements (what training track would commission like to see for EMA Benson)
- Started working with the new BHCO Safety Coordinator, Brad Metcalf.
- Mentoring new EMA from Delaware Co.
- Winter Weather Hazards-Virtual Training
- EMPD Trainer highlighting training

Old Business

1. **Drone Update-** Sheriff Thompson provided update, he had met with the Black Hawk County Engineer reference to them to purchase their own drone and the possibility of operating under the Black Hawk County EMA Drone COA. Suggestion was provided to Engineer that would benefit both parties is having her employee(s) join the county drone team as additional resources as well as being able to fly their own projects.

2. **Funding Options for 911 Communications**-Judy Flores was present to present two budgets to the members present on funding for the Fiscal Year 2024. There were lengthy conversations that voiced in regard to funding the Consolidated Dispatch Center through the EMA levy. Dunkerton as well as Waterloo agreed that this option has been talked about for the last 5 or more years. Judy Flores presented the EMA Board with two budgets one budget that is funded 100% and the second at 150%. The additional increase in the second budget would be if all of Deltaworks recommendations were followed in the next fiscal year. Judy also stated that her center could not hold all the additional employees that were recommended by Deltaworks. Her recommendation would be to increase employment staffing to their recommended levels gradually over the next few years. This next fiscal year would be adding a Warrants Clerk. EMA Benson stated that her budget for EMA will not see any significant changes or increases.
Discussion was also held regarding to the Iowa Attorney General opinion on EMA Levy. As well as the legal opinion of the Consolidated Dispatch Centers legal counsel, Steven Weidner. Weidner's letter also stated that the current 28E agreement of the Consolidated Dispatch Center would need to be amended to recognize the role of the EMA Commission. Judy will get an Oversight Committee meeting scheduled in the next couple weeks to get the 28E amended.
Motion by Hudson to move forward on the EMA Levy supporting Consolidated Dispatch. Seconded by Dunkerton. Roll call vote was preformed, Sheriff, yes. Supervisor, yes. Dunkerton, yes. Evansdale, yes. Gilbertville, yes. Hudson, yes. Waterloo, yes.
3. **Black Hawk County Trails** –Sheriff Thompson started out the conversation regarding trail safety, that the EMA Commission has been working with Laura Benson, as well as Mike Hendrickson from Conservation for the last few meetings. Now that we are getting into the winter months, focus will need to shift to other duties and this topic will be revisited during spring months. EMA Benson, as well as Hendrickson with Conservation are working on this topic, and will continue to collaborate with Laura on the topic. In the hopes that there can be some public service announcements come warmer months. Laura will continue her research; she and EMA Benson will continue to touch base.
4. **EMA Training for 2022-2023**- EMA Benson stated with some focus on School safety and school assessments, she would like to explore the Commission training recommendations of classes that pertain to Schools and their safety.

New Business, no new business

Items for General Discussion, EMA Benson advised the Commission that she was contacted by Kaitlin with Black Hawk County Public Health in regard to the possibility of a shared employee. BHCOPH has grant funding to assist in the salary and benefits portion of the position. EMA has funding in the budget for a part time person. The shared position will benefit both departments as they can have a focus of preparedness as well as help with the daily office items in Benson's absence while at meetings, trainings, and etc. More information will be coming as Benson and Kaitlin work with Human Resources on this topic.

Next Meeting: December 15, 2022 @ 4PM

Motion by Dunkerton, second by Evansdale for adjournment at 5:22PM