

Quarterly Emergency Management Commission Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting of the Story County Emergency Management Commission was called to order at 7:03 PM by Chair Linda Murken.

Special Note: This meeting is being recorded and is originating from the Story County Emergency Operations Center. Public Access provided via Zoom video conferencing platform. Due to recommendations to limit gathering to no more than ten (10) people in order to help slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, public access to the meeting will be provided via Zoom. Please mute your phones unless you have a question.

Attendance:

John Haila- Ames	Rich Higgins-Ames
Steve Kovarik-Cambridge	Jon Popp- Gilbert
Kevin Deaton-Huxley	Chris Erickson-McCallsburg
Brett Barker-Nevada	Andrew Webb-Roland
Mike Jensen- Story City	Paul Fitzgerald-SCSO
Linda Murken- BOS	Keith Morgan-Coordinator
Melissa Spencer- Deputy Coordinator	

Consent Agenda

- Consider approval of January 2020 Meeting Minutes and April 2020 agenda. Motion by Haila, 2nd by Jensen to approve January meeting minutes as presented. MCU

Old Business

Update on Radio Purchases

SCEMA has received four portables for the Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator. Currently they are working with the bi-directional antenna that is already in place. It appears the BDA will not have to be replaced. Also received the three radios for the bridging unit and will work to integrate those radios into the new radio system. RACOM has been out and looked at the installation of the mobile radios in the trailer and truck. Coming onto the new radio system is progressing well.

Truck Purchase Update

There has been an issue meeting the 1800 pound tongue weight for pulling the command trailer. The returns from the first bid did not meet the towing requirements for a gas powered truck. A second bid was sent out that allowed dealers to provide bids for diesel powered trucks, a full size bed and the option of the dually. Through further research by the EMA, it was determined that

Chevy could meet the towing requirements. However, the time to order a 2020 model truck had passed. They were asked to price a truck they had in stock it was \$2,000 more. All bids were rejected and a new bid for purchase will be issued once the 2021 models become available. The purchase won't be made until FY21.

Intern

The COVID response has delayed the hiring of the intern. Also, all the students from DMACC and ISU who would be candidates for the job are not on campus. To ensure the best candidate can be found, the posting of the position may not happen until June with the actual hiring being into FY21.

New Business

Approval of Plans

ESF 1- Transportation: The goal of the plan is to optimize the movement of resources to communities and for evacuation if required. While the infrastructure is still owned and repaired by the jurisdiction, the SCEMA needs to be aware of damages to the infrastructure as this may determine how resources come in and out of the community. The additions to the plan are further definition of the roles and responsibilities for the ESF Coordinator to obtain the status of the roads from the Incident Commander. The ESF Coordinator will be able to work on behalf of the IC to facilitate resource response to the community.

ESF 3-Public Works: ESF 3 does not include transportation infrastructure. There were no significant changes to the plan. Similar to ESF 1 the plan looks to optimize water and waste water systems during a disaster. The water and waste water system and contact information gathered is an example of how ESF 3 should respond. To keep staff contacts current, jurisdictions are asked to advise the SCEMA when there are personnel changes.

ESF 12- Energy: Story County has a unique combination of private and city owned energy providers. The SCEOC will coordinate response and recovery efforts with the various service providers. There is a need to identify critical facilities such as nursing homes to be a priority for early restoration.

The lead agency for all three is Story County Secondary Roads. These plans have been consolidated into one position in the SCEOC for response and recovery. Other ESF positions have been consolidated as well to maximize the use of volunteers.

Motion by Barker, 2nd by Jensen to approve all ESF's as presented. MCU

3rd Quarter Story County Emergency Management Agency Report, January-Apr, 2020

Response: The SCEMA responded with the Sheriff's Office and Secondary Roads to three 55-gallon barrels with and unknown substance that were abandoned on the side of a county road. The barrels had to be disposed of as hazardous materials as it was unknown what was inside. As a reminder, jurisdictions should have a local ordinance for the clean-up, disposal and billing for clean up of hazardous materials that are released in a community.

Planning: ESF 10- Hazardous Materials has been updated and will be approved at the July meeting. Language was added to emphasize that the hazmat response contract with the City of Des Moines only covers Story County response. Any department that responds outside of Story County can request Des Moines HazMat for response into another County, but the cost and liability associated with the response will be with the jurisdiction where they are responding. Departments are encouraged to understand the hazmat request process for outside counties.

The Coordinator is working with Sheldahl to develop community emergency operations plans. Sheldahl is unique as it stretches across three counties. There has been involvement from members of the city council. Currently, EMS and Fire services are provided by Slater and Polk City, so they recognize a need for memorandums of understanding for resources in a disaster.

The Sheriff added that they are working with Boone and Polk Counties to create a 28E agreement that Story County will provide law enforcement services to Sheldahl. The agreement is waiting for a review and approval from a judge and will likely be in effect starting the next FY.

There was discussion about the interoperability of the Story County SARA system with surrounding county ISICS radio systems.

Ames and the SCEMA are continuing to develop processes for how emergency operations from Ames will mesh up with the SCEOC. The meetings should resume after the COVID-19 response.

Grants: The SCEMA has applied for three grants through the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG). The grants are as follows:

- Improvement of SCEOC monitors and the development of a min-server for the backup EOC laptops. The laptops and server also could be deployed to a community in need if not being used.
- Develop and conduct an exercise in April of 2022 to test the rapid development of command and control systems for Ames and the SCEOC and how they will integrate.
- Replace outdated HazMat chemical testing equipment held by Ames & ISU.

Legislation: Coordinator Morgan has spent time at the Capital as a representative for the Iowa Emergency Management Association. One focus of IEMA is improving the language in the Iowa Mutual Aid Compact (IMAC) which allows only Mayors, a Board of Supervisor and emergency management to sign the agreement. They are asking legislators to change the language to allow any elected official or their designee to sign an agreement. This would allow schools to share resources during a disaster.

The second legislative initiative is to close an identified gap in Iowa Code for protecting children and dependent adults if they become separated from their parent or caregiver during a disaster. The Deputy Coordinator was part of a statewide planning group that identified the gap and developed the initiative to resolve the issue.

Looking Forward:

ESF7- Resource Management will be on the agenda for approval at the July meeting. There will be significant updates from the lessons learned during the covid-19 response.

The Coordinator will look to hire the intern.

The severe weather season is upon Story County. This is a good time to review local response plans.

Other:

Mayor Barker had a question if cities will be notified by Public Health if there is a COVID-19 case identified in their community. Coordinator Morgan will check the guidance as it is changing every day and report back.

Mayor Haila asked if there would be an after action review of the COVID-19 response in Story County. Morgan explained there will be a review by the SCEMA addressing interjurisdictional and interdisciplinary operations.

Next Meeting: July 15, 2020 , 7:00 PM

Items for the next meeting will be the discussion of long term capital improvement projects, moving meeting to the public meeting room, review of bylaws and 28E, and approval of ESF's 10 & 7.

Adjournment: Motion by Haila, 2nd by Barker to adjourn. MCU Meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.