

# Minutes

# EMS Technical Advisory Committee

Friday, March 28, 2008  
8:30 AM  
MEDIC EMS  
Lower Level Conference Room  
1204 E High Street  
Davenport

**Meeting called by:** Decker Ploehn, Chairman  
**Type of meeting:** Regular Monthly Meeting  
**Note taker:** Shawna Robbins

## Agenda topics

Call to Order  
Introductions  
Minutes of the February 29 Meeting  
Homeland Security/EMA Report  
Exercise Planning Committee  
Communications/Consolidate Dispatch Report  
Public Health Planning Report  
Hospital Planning Report  
SCEMSA/QM Report  
Scott County Fire Chief's Report  
Education Report  
Law Enforcement Report  
Other Partner Agency Reports  
Other Items of Interest  
Next Meeting April 25, 2008  
Adjourn

Mass Fatality Planning – After TAC

Exercise Planning Committee – After MFP

# Minutes

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**Meeting called by:** Decker Ploehn, Chairman

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**Attendees:** Paul Andorf, Ross Bergen, Bill Boom, Mary Briones, Amy Cannady, Dennis Conard, Denny Coon, Francis Donchez, Dave Donovan, Chuck Gipson, Dave Helfrich, Bart Howard, Jane Imming, Dave Kelly, Steve Knorrek, Stephanie Latham, Nita Ludwig, Linda Nielsen, Travis Noyd, Decker Ploehn, Phil Redington, Shawna Robbins, Scott Roenfeldt, Adam Sowell, Tricia Steines, Kevin Takacs, Jamie Temple, Richard Vermeer, Gerry Voelliger, Steve Wearth, and Chris Webster

### Agenda topics

Call to Order

Everyone introduced themselves.

## Minutes of the February 29 Meeting

Discussion: Decker Ploehn

Motion to approve the February 29 meeting minutes was seconded and approved unanimously.

## Homeland Security/EMA Report

Discussion: Ross Bergen

The annual severe weather season classes were held at Genesis. Talked to their safety personnel about what could happen and protection measures that could be employed.

A flood meeting was held with Davenport One a couple weeks ago and discussed some options available to them as an organization and what was anticipated for this spring. Also had a flood meeting with the county yesterday (March 27) in preparation of anticipated flooding. The latest reporting of flood probability are: 55% of reaching 11 ft at Lock & Dam 14 and 70% at Lock & Dam 15. The river is expected to start rising around April 1, reaching flood midmonth and the highest stages are expected between April 20 – 30.

Attended a number of VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters) meetings and the activity is picking up due to flooding. We will be working through VOAD because of the resources available for animal sheltering. There are some plans being developed on the Illinois side, which we plan to utilize and adapt for Scott County.

Currently working on a draft of the Infectious Animal Disease plan. Will be sending around for comment upon completion.

Looking for some more support (manpower and monetary) to assist in our requirements for the nuclear power plant plan specific to the Eldridge reception center. We do have an evaluated exercise with FEMA in August.

FEMA will be taking over the oversight of the sheltering program from the American Red Cross. Unsure how this will affect the support relationship with the Red Cross; unsure they even know yet.

Working on getting a list together of the individuals who still need to complete the NIMS 300 & 400. NIMS 300 is required by 9/30/08 and NIMS 400 is required by 9/30/09; both are two-day courses. Once the list is compiled, we will try to get a class (during daytime hours of the work week) where we can show definite support and number of attendees.

Evacuation planning for Scott County is coming along well with support and work that's being done by BiState. There is some new information out for comment that went out over the internet. Hopefully we can get all your comments in so BiState can continue on and complete this project. Right now because of contractual arrangements with the state of Iowa we want to complete and get approval of our plan before approaching the Illinois side and starting the process there.

## Communications/Consolidated Dispatch Report

Discussion: Dave Donovan / Decker Ploehn

Dave Donovan - Thursday, March 20, at 6:30pm, the SECC (Scott Emergency Communications Center) Board met for their second time, with the order of business being to approve the hiring of Brian Hitchcock as the new SECC Director. Brian Hitchcock will begin work on Monday, March 31. He brings several years of 911 dispatching experience and has been involved with the consolidation of two facilities, with the most recent one being in the Chicago area. He is originally from Wisconsin, has obtained temporary housing in the area and is working on finalizing his relocation.

There is a team out there that has done some preliminary work. The team is represented by the city of Bettendorf, Chief Gerry Voelliger, Dee Bremer, Linda Frederiksen, Paul Andorf, Dave Donovan and Tammy Speidel. This team has begun the process of recruiting a consultant to assist in the pre-architecture of the SECC building. Proposals are due back by April 10. At this point, we are not necessarily hiring an architectural firm, we're hiring an expert; someone who may or may not be an architect but can guide us through the pre-architecture phase where we can determine what are the needs for space in the building, square footage of those needs, how they relate to each other, etc. Once all the preliminary work is done, we'll turn our attention to hiring an architectural firm. Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) have already been sent out to 18 firms across the country. We're currently waiting on responses and expect to start receiving requests sometime after April 1.

Other than the building, Brian Hitchcock will be tasked with selecting the various technology that will go into the center, personnel issues (the SECC Board has recommended Brian hire his Operations Manager almost immediately), along with a host of other duties.

Decker Ploehn – There was some discussion that we need to make sure that the Illinois interests in the 800 mhz system are still represented.

Dave Donovan – It will be the responsibility of Brian Hitchcock to make sure the Illinois interests are taken care of.

## Public Health Planning Report

Discussion: Denny Coon / Ross Bergen / Dave Helfrich

Denny Coon - We're working on our regional deliverables from the FY07-08 grant year. Two of them have been signed off on this morning by Larry Barker, the Isolation and Quarantine operational checklist and Community Containment checklist. Community Containment is a list of different strategies that could be employed during a wide spread public health event or disease outbreak. This could include anywhere from good hand washing to isolation and quarantine social distancing to the canceling of special events where large gatherings of people convene.

Tricia Kitzmann, Regional Epidemiologist, has resigned from her position with IDPH, and has become the new Deputy Director for Johnson County Public Health.

Amy Thoreson has been named the new Deputy Director for the Scott County Health Department, replacing Carol Schnyder, who retired on March 25. We will be recruiting for a Community Health Coordinator to replace Amy Thoreson in that capacity.

In preparation for the May 1 drill, we will be working on the JIC (Joint Information Center) procedures. At the last Region VI meeting it was decided to funnel the leftover FY07-08 public health preparedness funds, about \$80,000, towards helping EMA (Emergency Management Agency) purchase emergency trailers. The money would be used to purchase these trailers, as well as equipment for emergency evacuation shelters.

Ross Bergen – We are looking at a large trailer in each of the counties that will have sheltering equipment in them as an initial asset before the Salvation Army or Red Cross personnel arrive. It is the goal to obtain and have both regular and special needs cots in all trailers, along with other sheltering supplies. EMA had enough funds to get the trailers and some supplies but not enough to fully stock the trailers so the Region 6 EMAs are doing a partnership with the public health agencies to obtain additional funds.

Denny Coon – This would enable the counties to have some stand alone capabilities while providing backup generators in addition to the other items in the trailer.

Dave Helfrich – We (Red Cross) have a large capacity. When we open a shelter here, we can supply or start out with 10 – 15 cots but there are 100s of cots, blankets and supplies in the warehouse. If an incident gets bigger than that, we can call the other areas for supplies.

Denny Coon – It looks like the state of Iowa for next year will be getting around \$5 million in funding versus the \$9 million received this year. A survey was filled out prioritizing activities, programs and positions (both regional and state) so everyone should plan to re-budget for next year.

## Hospital Planning Report

Discussion: Travis Noyd / Tricia Steines / Chris Webster

Travis Noyd – The Midwest Spring Conference is going on today at the iWireless Center. Trinity is currently working on planning for the mass fatality and May 1 drill.

Tricia Steines - The hospitals in Region VI will be using their carryover funds to replace filters and buy surge beds and patient slides, for vertical and horizontal evacuations, for the 22 regional hospitals. All decisions as to where funds will be distributed has to be in by 1pm today and the work plan has to be in by Monday.

Genesis is a pilot hospital for a bed capacity tracking system. Training was given at the last Region VI meeting as to how we were going to do this, and it is also available through the HAN. Working on who's going to accept HAN calls and be responsible for bed tracking reporting through our system right now. Hopeful to have this system go live sometime this summer.

Working on getting staff ready for May 1 drill; explaining the importance of this drill to staff.

ED (emergency department) is going to go on full lockdown. The exact date is still unknown but will be sometime in the near future. All outlying EMS systems, fire agencies or anyone needing to utilize the ED will no longer be able to just walk through the doors. Still working on allowing access to the emergency area. Badges can be obtained by security.

Working on our Evacuation and Mass Fatality policies. Each of the hospitals in the state of Iowa, with our grant, has been tasked with hosting a multi-disciplinary meeting. Topics briefly discussed (will be discussed in more depth after this meeting):

- ✚ Review of Mass Fatality Plan – “Care of the Deceased Body”
- ✚ What would be done in the event we exceed the number of bodies a hospital can hold?
- ✚ How would Public Health and EMA become involved?
- ✚ Containment / Confinement – In the event of a pandemic
- ✚ The Physician's Advisory Board does not need to be involved.

Chris Webster – On April 11, the Illini campus of Genesis will be going on trauma bypass for roughly 12 – 16 hours (starting at about 8 – 9 pm). The hospital will also be going down on emergency power in order to replace a transfer switch in the generator. We will also be replacing the floor in the CT scanner room at the same time, so Genesis Illini will not have a CT available either.

The Illinois Department of Public Health is now posting and trying to fill 11 vacant positions in their EMS division.

Working on credentialing any volunteers that volunteer before or during a disaster. The state of Illinois will be utilizing a program called ‘Credential Smart’, which will allow any spontaneous volunteer to be entered and several background queries can be run on them (sex offender, abuse and driver's license check). This can be done at any location remotely, and will give any hospital the ability to print identification on site. Also, all the hospitals can enter staff credentials so that if doctors or nurses show up, their credentials/identification can be verified as well.

Nita Ludwig – In Rock Island County, we (Rock Island County and Illinois Emergency Management ) have been given the charge of coming up with a spontaneous volunteer plan, and the draft plan is near completion.

## SCEMSA/QM Report

Discussion: Paul Andorf / Denny Coon / Decker Ploehn

We had our monthly Quality/SCEMSA meeting at Buffalo Fire Department last week. A lot of the talk was surrounding the upcoming recertification for all the EMS agencies in Scott County; paperwork has to be completed on the state website. Also discussed the new system standards for agencies within Iowa. Four counties (Jones, Des Moines, Calhoun & Woodbury) have been chosen to pilot this program.

The next Physician's Advisory Board meeting will be 7am on April 2 at the Scott County Health Department.

The Riverboat Grant was submitted for just under \$90,000; items varied from new defibrillators, upgrade defibrillators for the area agencies, education materials, audio/visual equipment and some equipment to get the MCI vehicle fully operational.

Working on creating a training video for area law enforcement and EMS agencies on how to handle high risk refusals.

Denny Coon – Brian Jacobsen and Ted Priester would like to present on high risk refusals at the next law enforcement meeting. Ted Priester believes that Iowa Code 229 would actually work to cover high risk refusals but there would have to be a property agreement between the law enforcement agencies.

Decker Ploehn - Requested the city attorney's be made aware of and/or involved in what's going on.

## Scott County Fire Chief's Report

Discussion: Scott Roenfeldt / Denny Coon

The fire chief's meeting was held last night in Long Grove.

An updated Chief's contact list is now available.

Crawford County, Iowa, is in the running to do a pilot program for volunteer and paid fire departments, which the paid department would take on the duties of doing all the paperwork and make sure everything is up to date with the state and nationally. This program is currently in legislature for approval. If approved to pilot, this program will also allow for the paid fire departments to respond or be backup during the daytime in a volunteer agencies jurisdiction, when they have no one available to respond. We're going to keep a close look at how the program develops to see if this is something that could be used in Scott County. This program is expected to run for 4 years, but would like 6 years.

Denny Coon – Ref: Pilot Program in Crawford County / A core service may be created for areas that do not have a fire service; like a fire management agency or responder group.

Scott Roenfeldt - Mike Walton, County Attorney, also attended the meeting and discussed some of the many county arson cases in the county that were successfully prosecuted due to departments maintaining the evidence on scene.

The Civil Air Patrol was in attendance. The Civil Air Patrol is comprised of several Scott County members who respond to emergencies. They have a fixed wing aircraft so they can go out and do search and rescue. They do have an office in Scott County.

A representative from Code Red came out and showed the group new defibrillators.

The next meeting will be May 22 in Maysville.

## Education Report

Discussion: Mary Briones / Jamie Temple / Steve Wearth

Mary Briones – MEDIC EMS and EICCD are currently looking at dates for the 2009 refresher; should have dates available by the next meeting.

We've had some internal restructuring of the college. Our current Paramedic Specialist program is running three evenings a week but in August 2008, our program will go to a day program (Monday and Thursday from 8am – 3pm) and Jamie Temple will be the lead instructor for this course.

Jamie Temple – If anyone needs to or wants to get their people to the National Registry basic level, our next basic practical exam will be June 7 at Scott Community College. If you're looking to get back into the national or test from another state June 7<sup>th</sup> is the date.

Steve Wearth – Our Quad City Midwest Regional Fire School is on track and will be held May 16 – 17 on the Rock Island Arsenal. This will be a joint effort by area fire training officers to put on a hands-on, quality program for area fire fighters.

The Midwest Regional Safety & Rescue Center has 12 fire related, reoccurring programs on the books for this summer. That center is also used by other agencies, not just fire. The construction industry uses the facility for their OSHA compliance training; local industry uses the center for their onsite responders. Civil Air Patrol also requested search and rescue training.

The fire program has a steering committee that's made up of fire chief's from all the counties served; servicing four full and two partial counties. The steering committee is focusing on training props at training site. We're currently gathering information in regards to cost, vendors, training props and that will be presented at the next steering committee meeting.

The wave pool is still being utilized for water rescue training.

## Law Enforcement Report

Discussion: Dennis Conard / Kevin Takacs

Dennis Conard – During the Civil Air Patrol’s presentation at last night’s fire chiefs meeting, it was stated that there could potentially be a charge for the use of their services. So to resolve any conflicts in the field, for rural Scott County, the Sheriff has authorized payment for service if the question ever arises. Radio operators have been given authorization by the Sheriff to approve any request that comes through the Sheriff’s Office dispatch center. The current rate of pay for this service is \$35/hour plus fuel. The Civil Air Patrol’s response time is much greater/longer than MedForce so they would be viewed as a secondary resource.

Kevin Takacs – MedForce has never turned down a request for search and rescue but do not want to necessarily get involved in pursuits of armed robbers or anything like that. The other day, Bettendorf called MedForce for a body search in a remote area and MedForce responded. MedForce was pretty instrumental on an ice rescue not too long ago in Clinton County; ending up working with the rescuers more than the victim. Operational cost \$3666/hour just to start their aircraft; showing MedForce’s commitment to the community.

## Partner Agency Reports

Discussion: Nita Ludwig

As of this week, the Rock Island County ESDA (Emergency Services Disaster Agency) has changed its name to the Rock Island County EMA.

The Rock Island County ESDA/EMA Director is retiring today and the new Director is Randy Heisch; he is also a member of the Rock Island County Sheriff’s Department. Randy Carlson is now the new Assistant Director; he comes from East Moline Fire.

Rock Island County will be doing a full scale exercise on May 1<sup>st</sup> as well. We were planning to join in on the Scott County exercise but Scott County’s exercise is only going to be functional. Rock Island is actually going to be doing a dispensing operation, where candy “antibiotics” will be passed out the exposed people.

Rock Island County does have a Medical Reserve Core. It’s made up of 106 pre-identified volunteers that are going through some training and will be called upon in the event of a public health emergency. An IS-700 NIMS training will be held for some of these volunteers on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Rock Island County Health Department. There will also be a training session later in April to train some of the volunteer to assist with the May 1 exercise. We’re going to try to incorporate Medical Reserve Core volunteers, RSVP volunteers and our own health department staff in that exercise.

Dave Helfrich – In the last month, we assisted 65 families who were affected by the Rock River flooding. Assisted Bettendorf with a couple fires. Expect to be more active in mid-April.

Other Items of Interest		
Discussion:		
No new discussion		
Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Next Meeting April 25, 2008		