

## **Minutes of the Quad Cities Emergency Planning Committee**

February 28, 2020, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting called by: Decker Ploehn, Chair

Attendees: Andrea Bladel, Eric Bradley, Mike Brown, Joe Caffery, Bethaney Conklin, Terry Conklin, Tara Cullison, Robbin Dunn, Cameo Echelberger, Linda Fredriksen, Chuck Gipson, Bob Graff, Adam Haut, Jim Hawkes, Joe Heim, Darin Keith, Keith Kimball, Steve Knorrek, Jeff Koenig, Gayle Lundeen, Laura McDonald, Kate Meyer, Mindy Meyers, Decker Ploehn, Jacob Pries, Ed Rivers, Tracey Sanders, Scott Starns, Amy Thoreson, Richard Vermeer, Chris Webster, Todd Whitcelo, Patsy Willits, Brian Wright, Jeffrey Yerkey, Shawn Cisna, & Eli Soliz.

### **Call to Order – Introductions**

Everyone introduced themselves.

### **Minutes of the January 31, 2020 Meeting**

Jeffrey Yerkey motioned to approve the QCEPC January 31, 2020, meeting minutes; Steve Knorrek seconded the motion. All Ayes.

### **Homeland Security/EMA/IMT/PIO Workshop**

Mindy Meyers reported that FEMA is finishing up projects in her county and will vacating her building today.

Jim Hawkes advised bringing an All-Hazards Safety Officer class to the Quad Cities, working with Rock Island County EMA, as well as working with Illinois Fire Service Institute to allow Iowa IMT members into the course.

Robin Dunn reported that Leap Into Flood Preparedness Conference is tomorrow, Saturday, February 29.

Brain Wright reported that on March 30, there is a Storm Spotter class happening in Muscatine. April 3, class management response team volunteers in disasters. April 14 & 15 Basic PIO training.

Dave Donovan reported that the Port Security Grant is currently open; the deadline for applications is March 15. Scott County EMA is applying for a DRONE.

Dave Donovan reported that the State of Iowa gave funding to its flood mitigation board. \$20 million was provided in response to last year's flooding. The city of Buffalo was awarded over \$200,000 for a drainage project. Scott County EMA, in collaboration with Genesis Medical, was awarded \$417,000 to install back-up water well at Genesis East. Donovan thanked Genesis, Al, Dave Kelly, Ross Miller, Scott County Facilities for their help and collaboration.

Dave Donovan advised that on March 23, there is a group of about nine people going to Kansas City, MO, to learn more about how they handle homeland security issues.

Dave Donovan advised that the State of Iowa signed an MOU with Scott County EMA. They will stage one 6" pump and two 4" pumps in Scott County.

Jim Hawkes advised that on March 10-12, EMA is hosting a Flood Fighting Class. EMA instructors from National Weather Service, Army Coor of Engineers, & Scott County EMA.

### **QCLEPC: Training, Planning, Exercise**

Dave Donovan advised removing the LEPC group from the QCEPC group and merging with the CARE group. A vote will be needed.

### **Communication Center Updates**

Tracey Sanders advised SECC hired three dispatchers. They will be finishing classroom training soon. The eligibility roster has been exhausted. Plans are in the works to hold an open house for recruitment. The next phase of hiring will be in June with an expected start of around the end of July.

Tracey Sanders advised the implementation of EFD has gone well. Response times have not been affected.

Dave Donovan advised the Quad City area-wide P-25 radio project is progressing nicely. The SECC board approved the acquisition of the last two tower sites. A total of 7 tower sites on the Iowa side. Bid packages are expected this spring for construction on the towers. Construction to begin late spring or early summer. SECC is working with its vendor, Racom, to plan for equipment moves, installation of radio console computers and servers, as well as the master switch for the Iowa side of the system, to be installed at SECC. Multiple meetings are in the works with partner agencies to discuss radio sets, features, and agreement for the terms of said radios.

### **Healthcare Coalition Updates**

Andrea Bladel reported that the Healthcare Coalition Steering was a success.

Andrea Bladel advised there will be a state-wide table-top exercise on April 27, in Des Moines.

Bethaney Conklin advised they are currently working with Racom to place 10-700 MHz encrypted preprogrammed radios within their hospitals and public health agencies. They will stop using the old system on June 1, 2020.

Bethaney Conklin advised there is a lot of information coming out daily regarding COVID-19.

Bethaney Conklin reported that the Health Coalition Cert Exercise on Friday, February 21, was a success. They had an evacuation rate of 100%. Three hospitals were chosen to participate; they coordinated the evacuation of patients within 90 minutes.

Bethaney Conklin advised working with Scott County EMA their Salamander purchase has been approved. They will be moving forward with the \$8,000 plus purchase of deployable assets for RapidTag Evac and Command applications from Salamander for Scott County EMA & Johnson County EMA.

Bethaney Conklin advised Iowa's Trauma Conference will be August 24 & 25.

Bethaney Conklin advised the Quad Cities Regional Disaster Conference registration, and the flyer went out. Registration closes April 15, is \$40, and includes lunch.

Bethaney Conklin advised AED Grant, which is being pursued by the Iowa Department of Public Health. It will provide AEDs in all first response vehicles. Vehicles with already have an AED could re-purpose those for other community needs.

### **Other Hospital/Healthcare Reports**

Patsy Willits advised Trinity Muscatine Hospital participated on Friday, February 21, in the Health Coalition Cert Exercise as a receiving hospital; there was a communication problem; they are working on a solution.

Ed Rivers reported that COVID-19 continues to be a global concern. Current statics as of February 20: 82,294 cases globally; 2,804 deaths. Outside of China, there have been 3,634 cases, with 57 deaths. In the USA, there are 59 cases and no deaths. Of those 82,000 + cases globally; 78,360 cases and 2,747 deaths have occurred in China. The R naught, which is the measurement of infectivity, seasonal flu has an R naught of 1.4; SARS 4; Ebola & HIV 2, so far COVID-19 is about 2 – 2.5. Seasonal flu continues to be more infectious and deadly.

Kate Meyer advised that iHeart media misreported that Unity Point had tested 70 cases for COVID-19 and that two were positive for COVID-19. There are no cases in Rock Island County, Illinois, or Scott County, Iowa. iHeart media will be printing a redaction. She expressed the importance of handwashing to help from spreading illness.

#### **EMS Reports – QCA Opioid Crisis**

Adam Haut reported he attended an EMS in Rural Healthcare class at the Iowa Hospital Association in Des Moines.

Adam Haut reported there a couple of bills under review, one of which would make EMS an essential service.

#### **Fire Service Reports**

Todd Whitchelo advised the Sound the Alarm Campaign will be April 25.

#### **Law Enforcement/TSA/Intel Reports**

None

#### **I-74 Bridge Project**

Jeff Koenig reported they are currently going through a couple of Federal adjustment phases public and outreaches for traffic control in Bettendorf and Moline on the interstates. Land-based work will continue this year. Two pieces of the arch were installed this week. Two more are planned in the next week/week and a half. Issues regarding Federally protected mussels were worked through; therefore, the pre-built bridge deck pieces will be brought out from their staging area, out onto the river, and lifted into place once cables are hung.

#### **Education Update**

None

#### **Other Public/Private Sector/COAD Reports**

Gayle Lundeen reported COAD is going to be rebranding. They will now be known as Quad City Disaster Ready.

Gayle Lundeen reported that the CERT class was cancelled. There will be a class in Clinton County in May.

#### **Other Items of Interest**

None

**Next Meeting March 27, 2020 at 8:30 AM**