

Minutes of the Quad Cities Emergency Planning Committee

December 4, 2020, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting called by: Decker Ploehn, Chair

Attendees: Eric Bradley, Bethaney Conklin, Jason Cook, Dave Donovan, Rich Flies, Linda Fredriksen, Dennis Frisch, Don Hahn, Tony Houdyshell, Darin Keith, Keith Kimball, Chance Kness, Steve Knorrek, Jeff Koenig, Gayle Lundeen, Decker Ploehn, Shawn Roth, Jordan Schneider, Jerry Shirk, Michelle Simms, Tammy Speidel, Richard Vermeer, Brian Wright, Jeffrey Yerkey, Chief Sweeney, and Corey Hardt all via Zoom

Call to Order – Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves.

Minutes of the October 30, 2020 Meeting

Keith Kimball motioned to approve the QCEPC October 30, 2020, meeting minutes; Brian Wright seconded the motion. All Ayes.

I-74 Bridge Project

Jeff Koenig gave an update on traffic changes coming up on both the Iowa and Illinois side. Starting the week of December 18th traffic will be moved head to head on the EB portion of the new bridge. Working on bridge decks and smaller projects during the winter months.

Homeland Security/EMA/IMT/PIO Workshop

Scott County EMA working on vaccine planning and advised that doses are starting to show up. Will follow the state guidelines with Healthcare and Long-term care facilities getting vaccinated first. Federal is breaking the vaccination phase into 1A and 1B. The PPE stockpile is in good standing. Starting to have a concern for morque and mortuary space but have plans coming together if needed.

Brian Wright, Muscatine County, advised similar to Scott County and working on vaccine clinic and planning.

Chance Kness, Clinton County, had nothing to add.

Jerry Shirk, RICO, working on vaccine planning. Advised that MABAS has purchased Salamander and would be transitioning to that program in the coming months. Will be putting their planned Salamander money to an EMA application.

QCLEPC: Training, Planning, Exercise

Nothing of significance to report this month. Have had a few minor spills.

Communication Center Updates

Dave Donovan, SECC, gave an update on the radio project. Stated that radio equipment has started arriving in the counties and other radio equipment has been ordered. Steve Knorreck, Bettendorf Fire, spoke to the group about the P-25 Advisory committee and gave an update on what they are working on.

Healthcare Coalition Updates

Bethaney gave a Healthcare Coalition update. Advised that hospitalizations are trending downwards. Had a total of 21 long-term healthcare outbreaks in the region. Working on a template for PODEX that everyone in the region is required to participate in. Discussed if EMS is in the 1A group or 1B group for vaccination – the advisory committee has not put out their recommendations at time of meeting.

Other Hospital/Healthcare Reports

Kate Meyer gave an update on numbers in Rock Island. Gave an update on flu shot clinics and drive thru testing locations. State of Illinois provided hospitals and local public health officials with a rapid test. Still working on contract tracing within the county. Will be working on vaccine planning.

Eric Bradley, Scott County, had nothing new to report.

EMS Reports – QCA Opioid Crisis

Linda Fredriksen, Medic EMS, still seeing increase numbers of the use Nalaxon. Potential for some long distance transfers in the coming days due to lack of bed space in the hospitals.

Fire Service Reports

Jeff Yerkey, Rock Island, advised that they have P-25 talkgroup meeting coming up and preparing for that.

Steve Knorrek, Bettendorf Fire, stated that the State Fire Marshall group is having meetings again. Advised that the Fire Marshall officers have changed – Jim Morris is President and Troy Said is Vice-President.

Law Enforcement/TSA/Intel Reports

Keith Kimball, Bettendorf Police, and Shawn Roth, Scott County Sheriff Office, discussed the court system and when trials would happen again. Shawn advised the group that the jail population and jail is trying to minimize outbreaks with 14 day quarantine for new inmates. Roth gave the cost for inmates being housed out of county due to no court and the jail being at capacity.

Education Update

No report.

Other Public/Private Sector/COAD Reports

Tony Houdyshell, CP Rail, said that training has been tough recently. Will be sending out flyers to departments with upcoming training opportunities. There will be an upcoming meeting in January, with more information to follow.

Don Hahn, CAP, meetings are still virtual. The State of Iowa got a new CESSna 172 G1000 and its ready to go as pilots have permission to stay active during this time.

Other Items of Interest

Nothing to report.

Next meeting Friday, January 29, 2021 at 8:30 AM