

Minutes of the Quad Cities Emergency Planning Committee

October 29, 2021, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting called to order by: Decker Ploehn

Attendees were either present in person or via Zoom.

Attendees: Andrea Bladel, Eric Bradley, Bethaney Conklin, Jason Cook, Dave Donovan, Robin Dunn, Rich Flies, Dennis Frisch, Chuck Gipson, Jim Hawkes, Alejandro Herrera, Dan Howard, Kevin Lange, Al Loeffelholz, Molly Mckee, Brian Payne, Decker Ploehn, Troy Said, Jordan Schneider, Joe Sisler, Adam Sowell, Jamie Temple, Richard Vermeer, and Dave Bowman

Guest Attendee: Diane Holst via Zoom.

Call to Order – Introductions

The meeting began by reviewing those on the call via roll call.

Minutes of the September 24, 2021 Meeting

Chuck Gipson motioned to approve the QCEPC September 24, 2021, meeting minutes; Dave Donovan seconded the motion. All Ayes.

I-74 Bridge Project

Decker Ploehn provided an update on the I-74 bridge opening. Advised that opening around December 15th or maybe sooner. Looking to have a ribbon cutting prior to opening the bridge. The bike path portion of the bridge could be delayed until 2022.

Homeland Security/EMA/IMT/PIO Workshop

Dan Howard, Clinton County EMA, discussed their drone program. Went to Georgia for a week long training related to drones. Looking to start an agreement with other agencies that can assist each other when needed. Still working on COVID related programs within the County.

Brian Payne provided a report for Rock Island County EMA. They meet recently with the Coast Guard regarding the AMSC and a full scale exercise event for next fall 2022.

Brian Payne, Scott County EMA. The EMA Commission approved multiple Emergency Support Functions within Scott County. Those same functions were approved by the State earlier in the year. Provided an update on Alert Iowa and the improvements in the program they are working on. Payne discussed a new app being developed called QC Ready. Payne gave a brief description of what that application will be utilized for.

QCLEPC: Training, Planning, Exercise

Dave Donovan talked about QCLEPC continuing to be part of this group. Changes could be coming soon with this group.

Dave Donovan discussed ESF 10 – Hazardous Materials and the plans that were approved by Scott County EMA Commission and the State of Iowa.

Decker Ploehn moved to approve the Emergency Support Function 10-Hazardous Materials. Troy Said seconded the motion. All Ayes. Motion approved.

Brian Payne, Scott County EMA, discussed future trainings that are presently being planned.

Communication Center Updates

David Donovan, SECC, gave an update on the Radio project and looking to be online later this year. Will be future testing, due to some delays, in the Fall of 2022 to complete the project. Discussed if there are in-building issues with the new radio system what to do to get those resolved.

David Donovan discussed the new paging system, USDD Phoenix, that is being used with Davenport Fire. Discussed the process of the new program and how it is helping with the dispatching process.

Healthcare Coalition Updates

Bethaney Conklin discussed the COVID related numbers within the hospitals in the local Iowa Region. Advised that both staffing and beds are a concern in the region.

Everyone thanked and congratulated Bethaney on her service to this group, as this was her last meeting.

Adam Sowell, Illinois Region, advised continuing to meet weekly with the hospitals in the region. Discussed COVID numbers within the hospitals in the Illinois region. Illinois State worked with FEMA to get some help from the VA for bed availability.

Al Loeffelholz, provided Covid numbers for Genesis Hospitals.

Other Hospital/Healthcare Reports/Public Health Reports

Al Loeffelholz, discussed recent trainings and excersises coming up for Genesis hospitals. Provided an update on the Genesis Water Well project and partnering with Iowa American Water and Scott County EMA to get that completed.

Adam Sowell, Trinity, gave update on Trinity Hospital numbers related to COVID. All Trinity hospitals are Joint Commissioned Certified. Will be working on the Stroke centers and to get them surveyed.

Eric Bradley, Scott County Health Department, is working on updated the County website with COVID information. Working on getting plans in place for Pediatric vaccine.

David Donovan, mentioned that the COVID Coalition continues to meet on Wednesdays.

EMS Reports – QCA Opioid Crisis

Kevin Lange, MEDIC EMS, advised there is a Strategic Planning event for EMS and Fire Chiefs association on November 10th.

Fire Service Reports

Troy Said, Bettendorf Fire, advised that all fire departments have pulled their boats out of the river. May see a slight increase in response times.

Law Enforcement/TSA/Intel Reports

No Report.

Education Update

Jamie Temple, EICC, talked about the annual EMS refresher. There will be an online option this year for the refresher and available for all providers. Will be going back to the regular requirements after March 2022.

Jamie Temple thanked the local hospitals for their help in getting students real world experience and through the program.

Other Public/Private Sector/COAD Reports

Jim Hawkes talked about upcoming training that Scott County EMA is hosting.

Other Items of Interest

No report.

Next meeting Friday, December 3, 2021 at 8:30 AM

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.