

Minutes of the Quad Cities Emergency Planning Committee

September 29, 2023, 8:33 A.M.

Meeting Called to order by: Decker Ploehn

Attendees: Mariah Bryner, George Carizey, Dave Donovan, Dustin Edwards, Rich Flies, Don Hahn, Keith Kimball, Kevin Lange, Al Loeffelholz, Lily Leduc, Sara Meguffy, Kate Meyer, Ricky Newcomb, Patrick Newman, Brian Payne, Tiffany Peterson, Scott Ryckeghem, Troy Said, Margo Sparbel, John Stephens, Tera Weets, Todd Whitchelo, and Patsy Willits

Call to Order- Introductions

The meeting began with introductions.

Approval of Minutes of the August 25, 2023, Meeting

Keith Kimball motioned to approve the QCEPC August 25, 2023, meeting minutes; Brian Payne seconded the motion. All Ayes.

Homeland Security/EMA/IMT/PIO Workshop

Brian Payne, Scott County EMA, reported that the Be Ready QC Fair had excellent community participation. The general public requested more hands-on activities for both adults and children. The committee will continue to move forward with planning for next year. If anyone has suggestions, please forward them to Brian.

He discussed the USCG Risk Assessment that was recently conducted. They went to Le Claire Park, ADM, I-74 Bridge, utilizing drones up and down the river and anticipating a full report received in December.

Communications Center Updates

Scott Ryckeghem, QCOM, reported they are fully staffed and three new agencies to join in December.

Dave Donovan reported that SECC continues to be short-staffed. They have three in training and are hiring three more trainees in October. Donovan noted that the Quad City Interoperable Communications Network Board met recently to discuss issues regarding the QCA public safety fiber optic network. Matt Hirst with Scott County IT is pulling together the QCICNet technical committee to discuss and make recommendations. Donovan also mentioned that there has been some discussion of disbanding the QCICNet Board. Donovan recommends against such a move.

Healthcare Coalition Reports

Al Loeffelholz stated that Region 2 will work on their Chemical Surge Annex with an exercise schedule for spring 2024. OSF will be taking over the regional exercise and has been awarded the Pediatric Preparedness Grant.

Dave Donovan added that Dr. Vermeer mentioned providing the CHEMPAK training to volunteer fire departments. Al Loeffelholz stated that IDPH has new procedures, and he will contact Dr. Vermeer to discuss and facilitate.

Kate Meyer, Rock Island Public Health, stated they are waiting for the COVID vaccine; COVID tests are available for two tests per household. They have issued over 240 gunlocks for child safety and suicide prevention.

Tiffany Peterson, Scott County Health Department, stated they continue to work on revising their Preparedness, COOP, and Communication plans.

Other Hospital/Healthcare/Public Health Reports

Al Loeffelholz, Genesis, stated that on October 17, 2023, Silvis would participate in the Excelon Nuclear exercise. He will be conducting IC training in Silvis/MercyOne.

EMS Reports

Kevin Lange, MEDIC, stated they are conducting chart audits for all volunteer agencies that are going well and working with the technical advisory group on system standards.

Paul Andorf, MEDIC EMS of Scott County, stated they are working on onboarding MEDIC employees to Scott County by January 1, 2024. The county voted on the transfer of all MEDIC assets.

Fire Service Reports

Troy Said stated there will be an RTF training – QCRTFOG for five days to include over three hundred police officers and over one hundred firefighters at the Vibrant at the end of June 2024. Training will consist of Rescue Task Force for active shooter or violence/assailant, Stop the Shooting/Stop the Dying. MEDIC/EMA/Administrators will participate as observers.

Brian Payne stated the need for ICS for City Administrators and Mayors. What their role is and the need to get together before to help them with the RTF training in June 2024.

Said agreed that we need to get City Administrators onboard with EOC/ICS and how to facilitate this.

Law Enforcement/TSA/Intel Reports

Keith Kimbell stated they are preparing to demo the last of the old I-74 bridge sometime in October. This will be an underwater explosion on the substructure. They do not anticipate any issues, and he will communicate the date once it is set.

Education Updates

No report.

Public Works/Secondary Roads Reports

No report.

Other Public/Private Sector/ COAD Reports

John Stevens stated they would be lighting up ELT and demonstrating how to find the beacon at the Camporee on Arsenal Island. They anticipate over three hundred and twenty Boy Scouts and fifty volunteers. The beacon works the same as a black box in an airplane. The exercise is to educate how a search is conducted.

George Carizey stated this would be his last meeting as he resigned and took another position in the community. He thanked the committee for their guidance and partnerships.

Other Items of Interest

Nothing noted.

Next Meeting Friday, October 27, 2023, at 8:30 A.M.

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 AM