

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

August 30, 2024, 8:30 A.M.

The meeting was Called to order by Decker Ploehn at 8:32 A.M.

Attendees: Paul Andorf, Mackenzie Briggs, Mariah Bryner, David Coulin, Jim Hawkes, Melissa Ketcham, Keith Kimball, Matt Lawson, Marion Llyod, Isaias Martinez-Garza, Ricky Newcomb, Patrick Newman, Brian Payne, Courtney Pershall, Tiffany Peterson, Decker Ploehn, Troy Said, Eli Soliz, Bryce Stalcup, Daniel Sterner, Richard Vermeer, Patsy Willits, and Courtney Pershall.

### **Call to Order- Introductions**

The meeting began with introductions.

### **Approval of Minutes of the July 26, 2024, QCEPC Meeting**

Keith Kimball motioned to approve the QCEPC meeting minutes for the July 26, 2024, meeting; Brian Payne seconded the motion—all Ayes.

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

Jerry Shirk, Rock Island EMA, stated they will hold a Volunteer Reception Center Training. The speaker is from Des Moines, and they anticipate forty participants.

Brian Payne, Scott County EMA, reports that the Be Ready Emergency Resource Fair was a huge success. The public appreciated the event, and EMA will evaluate it after five years through an evaluation with the committee. Brian Payne stated that Scott County received the Presidential Declaration for those affected by the flooding and storms. FEMA will evaluate it, and the Disaster Recovery Center will be open.

### **Communications Center Updates**

Melissa Ketcham, Scott Emergency Communications Center, stated the 911 phone lines were down without much knowledge of the severity. Possibly a fiber cut in Manchester, IA. Calls were routed to the State of Iowa and then to Johnson County (JEC). SECC sent 3 dispatchers to help with the call load at JEC. The issue is still under investigation. Melissa Ketcham stated no calls were missed. Troy Said, Bettendorf Fire Chief, requested that departments/first responders be notified for situational awareness.

### **Healthcare Coalition Reports**

Mackenzie Briggs, Genesis, stated they kicking off FY25 meetings/sub-committees to plan tabletop exercises, including bio, chemical, and natural disasters.

### **Other Hospital/Healthcare/Public Health Reports**

Dan Sterner, Durant Ambulance, stated that the 7th-floor call light project is completed. Construction continues with the Cancer Center. A high volume of nurses attended Exelon Radiological training.

### **EMS Reports**

Paul Andorf, Scott County Medic, stated AirCare, University of Iowa Hospitals, will establish a location in Scott County where they will be available for services.

Dr. Vermeer, Medic, stated they are revisiting infectious diseases, including Ebola and other emerging pathogens. A training plan is being put together by Region 7, anticipated exercise/drill in April 2025.

### **Fire Service Reports**

Troy Said, Bettendorf Fire, stated they won an Area Ameritime award. Ameritime is leading a multi-day exercise that will be a TTX with Iowa, Illinois, Arsenal, and Hazmat.

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

Keith Kimball, Bettendorf Police, stated how drones helped locate a person in need in the Mississippi River. They were able to locate the individual almost immediately and radioed to the Channel Cat for assistance in the rescue as they were very near the incident. He could not express enough how valuable drones are for law enforcement and other first responders.

### **Education Updates**

No Updates.

### **Public Works/Secondary Roads/Waste Commission Reports**

Brian Seals, Scott County Waste Commission, stated currently working on adding additional cells to county landfills to maintain natural disasters.

### **Civil Air Patrol, Bi-State, and Canadian Pacific Kansas City**

No Updates.

**Other Items of Interest**

The U.S. Coast Guard will start recruiting next month.

**The next meeting will be on Friday, September 27, 2024, at 8:30 a.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 A.M.