

Minutes of the Quad Cities Emergency Planning Committee

January 31, 2025, 8:30 A.M.

The meeting was Called to order by Decker Ploehn at 8:30 A.M.

Attendees: Paul Andorf, Josh Ball, Greg Behning, Shabe Bleeker, Mackenzie Briggs, Mariah Bryner, Robbin Dunn, Owen Farrell, Dennis Frisch, Pam Gettert, Kris Johnson, Abigail KaKac, Rich Kinney, Darin Keith, Melissa Ketcham, Keith Kimball, Kate Konecky, Kevin Lange, Matt Lawson, Marion Lloyd, Al Loeffelholz, Greg Martin, Isaias Martinez-Garza, Bill McDonald, Molly McKee, Sara Meguffy, Ricky Newcomb, Patrick Newman, Breanna Pairrett, Courtney Pershall, Tiffany Peterson, Jonathan Quast, Gary Robertson, Troy Said, Tracey Screechfield, Jerry Sottos, Bryce Stalcup, Daniel Sterner, Kevin Takacs, Hani Wadi, Todd Whitcelo, Justus Whitmore, and Patsy Willits.

Call to Order- Introductions

The meeting began with introductions.

Approval of Minutes of the December 6, 2024, QCEPC Meeting

Keith Kimball motioned to approve the QCEPC meeting minutes for December 6, 2024; Al Loeffelholz seconded the motion—all Ayes.

Homeland Security/EMA/IMT/PIO Workshop

Brian Payne, Scott County EMA, stated that EMA conducted the annual IPAWS test. The results showed significant data regarding message delivery, although there were concerns about the Buffalo, IA, area not receiving the message. Brian discussed the Quad City Region Incident Management Team; the steering committee has been established. Brian introduced Jelly Roll, who will be the EMA Crisis K-9 certified therapy dog. Also, Jodi Freet, the new Deputy Director, will start on Monday, February 3, 2025.

Jesse Doty, Rock Island County EMA, stated there will be an active shooter tabletop drill at Augustana next week. Also, the sheriff's office is preparing for the release of the video from the officer involved shooting.

Marion Lloyd, Rock Island Arsenal, stated that the FAA will conduct drone training at Heritage Hall on February 10, 2025.

Communications Center Updates

Kevin Takacs, Medforce, stated that on February 16, 2025, the Quad City Blues will play at the River's Edge Rink. This kid's foundation will raise money to support volunteer fire departments and purchase new uniforms and equipment.

Melissa Ketcham, SECC, stated they continue training new dispatchers. They did lose one dispatcher but will be hiring three more on February 17.

Healthcare Coalition Reports

Jonathan Quast, OSF Healthcare, stated that TEDCON will be held August 28-29 this year. The Save the Date will be released soon.

Al Loeffelholz, Mercyone, stated that Service Area 5 will have a virtual tabletop exercise on Medical response and Surge on March 4, 2025.

Mackenzie Briggs, Mercyone, stated that the tabletop exercise on March 4th will be virtual but held at 8 regional locations. The flyer will be sent out today.

Adam Sowell, Unitypoint, stated they are starting the second half of this year. This half's focus will be Cybersecurity Assessment / Extended Downtime and Resource Management Plan. The RFP for the 5-year project has been completed and submitted.

Other Hospital/Healthcare/Public Health Reports

Al Loeffelholz, Mercyone, stated that they will conduct all-employee safety training over the next couple of months for over 4000+ staff.

Dan Sterner, Durant Ambulance, stated that the hospitals are full, and many people are coming in with Influenza A.

Adam Sowell, Unitypoint, Rock Island, continues floor projects in the OR area on the first floor. In Moline, the infusion center project is starting to wrap up its final phases, and we will be looking to start the cancer center project this year. Muscatine is finishing up the demolition of the old clinic. We will be doing some mapping and facilities planning this spring before outside construction begins. It has been very busy lately with general illness.

Kate Konecky, Rock Island County Health, discussed long-term health outbreaks with COVID.

Tiffany Peterson, Scott County Health, stated that their internal team is working on POD plan.

Mariah Bryner, Scott County Health, stated they are working on a promotional video to capture preparedness in the community and explain what the Health Department offers. Also, informed the group that the Quad Cities Regional Disaster Conference is coming up on March 25, 2025, and registration will be sent out soon.

EMS Reports

Kevin Lange, Medic, stated they are fully staffed. Will be meeting with officers to train them in CPR, Stop the Bleed, and AED. The Iowa Donors Network training is coming up.

Greg Martin, AirCare, stated that all their staff will be through training after today.

Kevin Takacs, Medforce, stated that the newest aircraft will be completed in April. They also have a new base in Eastern Iowa and should be operational by June 1, 2025.

Denny Frisch, Durant Ambulance, stated CPR training for 8th graders will be next week.

Fire Service Reports

Troy Said, Bettendorf Fire, discussed Davenport and Bettendorf building codes and is likely to amend them.

Law Enforcement/TSA/Intel Reports

Ketih Kimball, Bettendorf Police, will retire on April 30, 2025. Decker recently celebrated his 50th anniversary with the City of Bettendorf.

Education Updates

Brian Payne, Scott County EMA, stated that we may hold another ICS 300 and 400 this year sometime in the fall.

Public Works/Secondary Roads/Waste Commission Reports

Robbin Dunn, Davenport Public Works, stated that a Quad City Community Flood Workshop will be held at Modern Woodmen Park on March 1, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Bryce Stalcup, Waste Commission, stated that lithium batteries have been causing fires weekly in the landfill. Residents can bring lithium batteries to their facility or drop them off at local stations, which will soon be located throughout the community.

Justus Whitmore, USCG, stated that their projects should wrap up in the first week of March. They will open back up the first week of March.

Civil Air Patrol, Bi-State, CPKC, Barton Solvents, and NWS

No Updates.

Other Items of Interest

Pam Gettert, Red Cross, stated that Pierre has been promoted and will be leaving the Quad Cities.

The next meeting will be on Friday, February 28, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 A.M.