

Minutes of the Quad Cities Emergency Planning Committee

September 26, 2025, 8:30 A.M.

The meeting was called to order by Brian Payne at 8:32 AM.

Attendees: Greg Behning, Shane Bleeker, Henry Bocke, Robbin Dunn, Owen Farrell, Dennis Frisch, Julie Furne, Pam Gettert, Bob Graff, Darin Keith, Melissa Ketcham, Kevin Lange, Matt Lawson, Marion Lloyd, Isaias Martinez-Garza, Bill McDonald, Patrick Newman, Breanna Pairrett, Brian Payne, Courtney Pershall, Tiffany Peterson, Steve Regenwether, Gary Robertson, Todd Robinson, Scott Ryckeghem, Troy Said, Keith Schneckloth, Doug Scott, Tracey Screechfield, Brian Seals, Jerry Sottos, Margo Sparbel, Daniel Sterner, Kelly Thompson, Richard Vermeer, Todd Whitchelo, Jennifer Wilkes, Jess Maxim, Carrie Comer

Call to Order- Introductions

The meeting began with introductions.

Approval of Minutes of the August 29, 2025, QCEPC Meeting

Bob Graff motioned to approve the QCEPC meeting minutes for August 29, 2025; Scott Ryckeghem seconded the motion—all Ayes.

Homeland Security/EMA/IMT/PIO Workshop

Isaias Martinez-Garza, Rock Island Arsenal, stated that Rocktoberfest will be held on Friday, September 26th at the Arsenal and there will be a wrestling ring, food, and music. Sunday there is a QC Marathon on the Arsenal. There will be a full-scale exercise first week of May 2026. Also, they will no longer do passes and will require your Real ID to access the Arsenal.

Brian Payne, Scott County EMA, stated that the impact of the flash flooding on July 11th, 2025, has our office looking at future options for the cities and other communities to put weather stations around Scott County pending grant. This will give insight on weather throughout Scott County to help us be better prepared for future events. Also, the AMSC meeting about a month ago and planning an exercise soon for a unified command and will “activate” the EOC for this exercise. Brian stated that he is officially going to roll out the program with Jelly Roll in October/November and dispatch him when he is called upon. Other community partners, like PD, etc., want to get their own Crisis Canine. The program is growing rapidly and they are doing amazing things. Also, a final draft was created of sub-areas of Scott County – during an emergency, it is easier to break the county down into sections (sub-areas) for situational awareness needs. Looking to schedule further meetings with partners to confirm these sub-areas and expecting it to be finalized soon. Lastly, the Iowa DOT will be at next meeting.

Communications Center Updates

Melissa Ketcham, SECC, stated that not much is going on, but they were notified of an anti-Trump rally Saturday, September 26th, at VanderVeer Park, so they are prepared for that.

Scott Ryckeghem, QCOMM, stated that they had a small administrative line phone issue that routed all jail traffic to the QCOMM network for about 30 minutes. They handled it, and there were no further issues. They are going through a hiring process and looking to fill 3 positions with interviews next week.

Healthcare Coalition Reports

March 4th, there is a table-top exercise, and on November 4th In in-person meeting at

Other Hospital/Healthcare/Public Health Reports

Tiffany Peterson, Scott County Health Department, stated that they partnered with the IT department and did a cyber assessment. They are researching PH apps (like Alert Iowa) and how it would work for them.

Dan Sterner, Durant Ambulance, stated that they are making more upgrades to their buildings.

EMS Reports/ Air Support

No Updates

Fire Service Reports

Bill McDonald, Bettendorf Fire, stated that Bettendorf and Davenport Fire donated propane kits and provided training.

Law Enforcement/TSA/Intel Reports

Doug Scott, Bettendorf Police, stated they are getting close to selecting a drone first responder program. They are down to three vendors and looking to station two drones and then have law enforcement respond to take over the drones.

Education Updates

No updates.

Public Works/Secondary Roads/Waste Commission Reports

Robbin Dunn, Davenport Public Works, stated they met with Brian Payne about weather stations and adding county-wide rain gauges. They are deciding what type of alerting they want with this to better help with planning.

Brian Seals, Scott County Waste Commission, stated that there was a lithium battery fire at the electronics facility and Davenport fire handled it quickly and they are very appreciative of their response and service.

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

Patrick Newman, Barton Solvents, stated that there was a small fire and Bettendorf Fire responded, very appreciative of their quick response and service.

Kelly Thompson, Disaster Ready QC, stated they are handling any unmet needs by providing resources for people who were affected by the flash flooding. They are open to doing a presentation in the future to educate everyone and talk more about all the committees and roles people play in DRQC.

Other Items of Interest

No updates.

Troy Said motioned to adjourn QCEPC meeting on September 26th, 2025; Todd Whitchelo seconded the motion – all Ayes.

The next meeting will be on Friday, October 31, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 A.M.