

Kossuth County Emergency Management Commission
219 S. Phillip Street
Algona, IA 50511

The Kossuth County Emergency Management Commission meeting was held Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at the Kossuth County Emergency Response & Training Complex 219 S. Phillips St in Algona.

Members present: Rick Murphy, Algona City Mayor; Christy Skilling, Burt City Mayor; Tom Johnson, Bancroft City Mayor; Deb Steven, Lakota City Council (Alternate); Kevin McPeak, Lu Verne City Mayor; Wendy Zielske, Swea City, City Mayor; Craig Larson, Wesley City Mayor; Kimberly Johnson, West Bend City Mayor; Dan Elbert, Whittemore City Mayor; Roger Fisher, Kossuth County Sheriff; and Kyle Stecker, Board of Supervisors (Alternate).

Members absent: Gene Miller, Fenton City Mayor; Sharon Cowin, Ledyard City Mayor; Letty Henriksen, Lone Rock City Mayor; David LaGue, Titonka City Mayor.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Rick Murphy, at 6:00 p.m.

A quorum was established with 11 members in attendance.

A motion to approve minutes from January 24, 2024, meeting was made by Tom Johnson with a second by Christy Skilling. Motion carried.

Charissa informed the Commission the agenda for April 23, 2024, would need to be amended as it does not reflect Conflict of Interest Policy that the Commission received for review or the additional trainings.

A motion was made by Kevin McPeak to approve the April 23, 2024, agenda with the amended agenda items. A second was made by Deb Steven. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

29c Update The 29c bill did not make it through legislation this year as the Governor's AEA bill dominated the majority of the time. Charissa reports she is unclear if IEMA will be making this a priority for next year's legislative session and hopefully will know more after the fall IEMA business meeting. She will keep the Commission informed. So, what does this mean for now; the Commission members will stay the same as well as the funding options.

Crisis Canine Update-Maverick completed his week-long training and graduated from Team K9 Academy March 30, 2024. He also assisted the Critical Incident debriefing for the Titonka Fire. There will be another crisis canine in the area next year as Emmet County is now pursuing this program. It was asked if Maverick has been out on visits with the schools. Charissa informed the Commission Maverick has been called to Bryant multiple times.

HMGP Update-The public review period has ended and each community as well as BOS will need to submit local jurisdiction adoption and resolution to JEO. Charissa has submitted an agenda request to the BOS for Tuesday next week. Once JEO receives all the jurisdiction resolutions they can submit the plan to HSMED and FEMA. This will allow us time to edit anything if it does not get approved by FEMA. Our plan needs to be finalized by August 2024.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget- FY24/25 budget Charissa reviewed the cut from BOS that was originally to be 50% ended up being 75% without Commission knowledge and does not reflect what was approved at the budget hearing. Informed the Commission Chairman, Rick Murphy and I meet with Josh Waechter & Kyle Stecker, BOS and at that time this was not mentioned to us. Wendy Zielske asked BOS Kyle Stecker if they plan on giving the Commission the money back as stated in EMA Budget. Kyle Stecker "Wendy you were there Monday with the library discussion, there is a possibility this can be reviewed." Chairman, Rick Murphy, did remind the Commission of the Iowa Code and legal routes the Commission can take. FY24/25 budget will be revisited again in July. Charissa reported there is \$101,044.04 left in the FY23/24 budget for May & June expenses, this includes the HSGP \$14,757.15 that's has to be spent by end of June. Charisa also reported the EMA Fund balance is currently \$342,490.69.

EMPG- 2023 EMPG has been completed and the NOI for EMPG 2024 has been submitted. There will be some changes with EMPG FY 24/25. April 2025- June 2025 will be no reporting time frame or money reimbursement. The grant is shifting to July-June time frame to match local/state fiscal year. Money for EMPG is also decreasing with more requirements.

HSGP Update- This is the drone grant. There is \$14767.15 left in this grant that will need to be spent by the end of June. Charissa did do a scope change for training fees, testing fees, and platform fees. In May Drew Strom (Algona Police Dept.) & Caleb Hill (Sheriff Deputy) will be going to Nebraska to a tactical drone training that they will bring back and train the rest of the drone team members. Our drone team is currently being paged out with the MART team for incident support and has been working very well. Sheriff Fisher shared with the Commission the value the drones have for law enforcement. Charissa and Sheriff Fisher talked about drone team and reaching out to Fire Departments for additional drone members. Charissa reported the grant will pay for the individuals first testing fee for the Part 107 if the individual fails they will need to pay for the next exam on their own.

Weather Update-Charissa met with NWS last week to discuss the storms on April 16th due to timing of the storms & the storms were already through when warnings came out. The Fenton storm popped up quickly and after the warning expired and we had released Sentral school. Charissa also had a meeting with Dispatch regarding weather and when to send out spotters/ when to trigger sirens etc. She also had a meeting with Algona School district about weather decisions of when to hold buses, communication avenues, etc. She will be having these

discussions with the other school districts. Kevin McPeak informed the group the siren is down in LuVerne and in the process of being fixed so will need to notify the Fire Department. Kevin will let Charissa know when the siren is up and operational.

Review/Approve EMA policies: Annual review of the following policies: **Protected PPI policy, Fraud Policy, Refreshment Policy, Equipment & Property Procedure, Uniform Allowance, and Procurement Policy.** With no changes or additions to the policies a motion by Kevin McPeak to approve all policies with a second from Wendy Zielske. Motion carried.

Trainings- Charissa reported KRHC is doing their ICS training April 23, 24th at the complex. She will be sitting in on their training for April 24th. The G 202 Debris Management is a free training being held in Emmet County July 8-10, 2024; Kossuth County Fair Tabletop was rescheduled for May; Kossuth/Palo Alto County LTC Tabletop in June 5, 2024; U of O Conference May 8-10, 2024, Charissa will be attending.

The Next meeting: Tuesday, July 23 2024 at 6:00 pm

A motion to adjourn was made by Christy Skilling with a second from Wendy Zielske. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

****Voting and Quorum.** Every member of the Commission shall be entitled to (1) one vote. A quorum shall be determined to be eight (8) attending voting members. ******