

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

The Kossuth County Emergency Management Commission meeting was held Tuesday December 19, 2023, at the Kossuth County Emergency Response & Training Complex 219 S. Phillips St in Algona.

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

A quorum was established.

A motion to approve minutes from October 24, 2023 meeting was made by Christy Skilling with a second from Tom Johnson. Motioned carried.

A motion to approve Agenda for Commission meeting December 19, 2023, with removal of EMA office from agenda made by Wendy Zielske with a second from Deb Stevens. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

29c Update- Charissa provided the Commission with an update on the 29c bill. She reported IEMA Legislative committee met with the Governor's office staff on 12/11 and Representative Latham/Bloomington on 12/15. Both meetings were to provide information on the SF EMA bill that will be continued this January. She provided a Fact / Myth sheet that IEMA has made and distributed to the Commission.

Weather Radar update- On Friday the 1<sup>st</sup> of December Humboldt County EMA and Charissa met with the Humboldt newspaper and KHBT radio to present the weather radar gap information to them in an effort to get the word out. The meeting went well and from it 2 articles were written, One in the Humboldt County paper and the second in the Pocahontas County paper. The story in the Pocahontas paper is big because Laurens is a location for one of the Climavision radars.

On Friday, the 8<sup>th</sup> Humboldt County EMA and Charissa met with the Kossuth media and the a few of the EMA commission members to present the information. A great discussion came from that meeting. Climavision is going to pursue putting up weather radars in Laurens, Waterloo and Kiester, MN. by spring. Laurens City Council wants to speak with Climavision about the program.

Drone update- On December 5<sup>TH</sup> & 6<sup>TH</sup> held Part 107 class for 6 people consisting of Deputies and PD along with a retired Deputy. Goal is to have 6 of us obtain our Part 107 license by mid January. We did fly the drones for ALICE drill at North Union School to video and test our live feed. We did run into issues with the live feed lagging and eventually froze. We have areas in Kossuth that do not have adequate cellular signal. Looking at other alternatives such as Skylink- we can try for 30days and if it doesn't work full money refund. The team is looking at other avenues.

Crisis Canine- Charissa provided an update on the Crisis Canine Program. Maverick continues to be called to Bryant school for a student which he has help on every call. Crisis Canine Academy is scheduled for March 26-30, 2024, so she will be going to Des Moines these dates. I will have another county EMA cover while I am gone. We continue to visit the schools, courthouse, and LEC as well as other outreach.

Winter Preparedness mailer- Pamphlets were sent to the print shoppe. Once I receive them, I will place them at the city halls, library, KRHC, and Care Team.

HMGP Update-Charissa reported the final planning meeting is scheduled for January 10 at 6pm or via

zoom. The intent of these meetings is to gather and review vital information including updating previous mitigation alternatives, identifying new mitigation alternatives, and reviewing previously collected data. **FEMA requires at least one designated representative from your jurisdiction to participate in the planning process in order to be recognized as a participating jurisdiction.** This is the second and final meeting required in this planning process.

#### **New Business**

Budget- Charissa provided 2 options for FY 24/25 proposed budget. Discussion was had amongst the Commission with adjustments of line items. Utility & radio expense line items were reduced to \$0. Option 2 showed vehicle line item up \$60,000 for potential of new vehicle to keep response equipment clean and house drone monitoring equipment. The current vehicle would remain for the purpose of pulling equipment. Open public hearing will be set for January 23, 2024 at 6:00 pm. As a reminder we will need a quorum for this meeting.

Elect Chair/Vice Chair- Charissa stated under the Bylaws - SECTION 2. Officers. The Commission shall elect each year from its membership a chair and vice chair to serve for a period of one (1) year beginning on the calendar year. Commission shall elect chair and vice chair in December. Chair and Vice Chair nominee discussion had amongst the Commission. Motion for current chair, Rick Murphy, remain as Chair and Deb Steven as Vice Chair was made by Tom Johnson with a second by Christy Skilling. Motion carried.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 6:00 pm- This will be the Public Hearing for budget, will need to have a quorum.

A motion to adjourn was made by Deb Steven with a second from Christy Skilling.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Charissa Mueller, Coordinator

**\*\*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. \*\***