

Meeting of the Wapello County Emergency Management Commission
7:00 pm, July 31, 2018, 330 W. Second St. Ottumwa

In attendance: Mayor Doug Greenlee, Eddyville; Sheriff Mark Miller, WCSO; Mayor pro-tem Nate Bissell, Agency; Mayor Jerry Potts, Eldon; Mayor Tom Lazio, Ottumwa; Mayor John Richmond, Chillicothe; Mayor pro-tem Kevin Smith, Blakesburg; Mayor Jason Leffler, Blakesburg.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Commission Vice-Chair Sheriff Miller.

Minutes. Mayor Greenlee moved to approve April and June meeting minutes. Mayor Leffler seconded. All ayes.

ESF Updates. Coordinator Richmond reviewed what Emergency Support Functions are and the purpose of them. Coordinator reviewed the updates in Emergency Support Functions: #6 Mass Care, #8 Public Health & Medical, #9 Urban Search & Rescue, and #10 Hazardous Materials. ESF #10 reviewed in-depth. Discussion on including Cargill complex in our plans. Discussion on working more with fire departments on Tier II reports and educating them on ESF #10. Discussion on commodity flow study commissioned this year in partnership with Mahaska EMA studying traffic flow into the Cargill complex. Mayor pro-tem Bissell moved to accept and approve updates. Mayor Richmond seconded. All ayes.

Update on 2018 EMPG work plan. Radio Communications Plan 2/3 complete. Reprogramming of all fire department and ORMICS radios complete. Remaining is to make recommendations to OPD, WCSO and WCSO Reserves. Testing also needs completed. ESF updates for 2018 complete. Credentialing/Accountability program proved to be a much larger project than previously thought. Radio plan took more time than anticipated. Credentialing will be revisited in the 2019 EMPG work plan.

Pella tornado disaster response. Coordinator reported on his involvement in the Pella tornado response. Coordinator served as the incident scribe and was able to gain insights from the experience. Coordinator participated in the FEMA Basic Academy at DMACC in Des Moines and come across the tornado on the way home from a session. Checked in to the Pella Fire station and was asked to respond with the ambulance service to Vermeer Manufacturing.

Drone program update. Drones are on hand. Thermal camera is the only missing piece and should be shipping soon. Coordinator is still working on time and study to take the Part 107 test and develop a COA for the Agency. There have been several opportunities to use the drones but are unable to fly due to lack of pilot's license and insurance. Sheriff commented a drone would have been handy at Vermeer to do damage assessment.

Mayor Lazio asked if dispatch communications were interoperable. Sheriff Miller stated the dispatch PSAPs are interoperable. Mayor Lazio asked about a joint dispatch. Sheriff Miller indicated the project to join the two PSAPs stalled due to funding. Mayor Lazio is concerned about liability because of our lack of ability to provide EMD. Mayor Lazio stated we need to continue working toward combined dispatch. Sheriff Miller agreed. Mayor Lazio asked if that project could be done under the Emergency Management Commission. Coordinator recommended waiting to see what results from current lawsuits in Mahaska County between EMA/911 board and Board of Supervisors. Coordinator commented on the great improvements the Mahaska EMA has made with the dispatch center and basis of disagreement between supervisors and EMA. Sheriff Miller explained the law creating E911 boards are interpreted many different ways. Wapello County 911 board provides for infrastructure but is not a governance board. Sheriff answered Mayor's question in that the Emergency Management Commission could levy funds to create a joint dispatch center.

Adjourn. Mayor Lazio moved to adjourn. Mayor pro-tem Bissell seconded. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.