

Cass County EMA Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes  
June 4, 2012

PRESENT: Herb Bowman, Alvin Beckman, Wally Bennett, Rocky Buffum, Mike Clark, Phil Rains, Sharon Gerlach (IDHS)

Meeting was called to order at 705PM by Herb Bowman.

Approval of minutes was tabled due to lack of a quorum

**OLD BUSINESS**

GRANTS: 27 tough book computers were ordered as part of the BZPP grant. Alvin will be working with commissioners to get approval for the Mass Notification system by EverBridge. 13 laptops were ordered from two other grant sources. Equipment has also been ordered for the RACES grant.

DISTRICT 4: Sharon Gerlach, IDHS District 4 Field Coordinator was introduced as a guest and she provided an overview of her position and the emergency management program assessment process. She discussed the district 4 response task force and emphasized it is the only one in the state that has had all 5 elements mobilized. Alvin is still lobbying for more involvement from Cass County on the task force. The next district meeting will be June 21<sup>st</sup> in Lafayette.

NIMS: An ICS400 course was held today for those who completed the ICS300 course hosted at the Sheriff's department.

MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM: Alvin recommended the EverBridge system as it is the easiest to use, most cost effective and can additionally be used to dispatch volunteer departments as tone pagers are used for now. The commissioners have a policy any expense in excess of \$10,000 must be put out for Bid. Alvin wants to lobby for an exception.

TORNADO SIRENS: Alvin still has three in need of repair. The Town of Onward purchased a siren and their plan to install it fell through. They now want EMA to handle installation

**NEW BUSINESS**

2012 BUDGET: Alvin presented the proposed budget for 2012. He included a recommendation for a new vehicle. The Ford Explorer he currently uses for EMA business is six years old and has had numerous large repair bills this year. He also highlighted a new vehicle was promised a few years ago when multiple others were sent to auction but finances prohibited the purchase. A motion to support the budget as presented in the amount of \$124,194 was made by Wally Bennett with a second by Phil Rains. Motion carried.

EMPG Assessment: Alvin and Sharon will be working on this next week. Sharon explained the assessment is a breakdown of requirements set by the federal government for the county to receive its salary reimbursement.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Claims were presented in the amount of \$1,684.41. A motion to approve was made by Phil Rains with a second by Wally Bennett. Motion carried.

OTHER: Alvin discussed the need for a safe room at the EMA facility. The current structure does not provide adequate protection for a storm shelter.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:30 by Mike Clark with a second by Wally Bennett. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be August 1, 2012 at 7PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Buffum  
EMAC Secretary