

Cass County
Emergency Management Advisory Council (EMAC)
Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Herb Bowman.

PRESENT: Stacey Donato, Wally Bennett, Rocky Buffum, Liz Troxell, Alvin Beckman, Sharon Gerlach, Herb Detrick, Herb Bowman, Mark Strong, Ed Schroeder, Phil Rains, Zack Zimmerman, Randy Pryor

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved on a motion duly made and seconded.

OLD BUSINESS

GRANTS

Alvin Beckman reported we have three active grant projects. The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) is \$8,485.43 and is being used to purchase four new desktop computers. These funds are tied to the annual program assessment and can only be used by the Emergency Management Agency (EMA).

Funds from the Hoosier Safety Foundation are being used to purchase networking equipment to connect the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Dispatch (\$3,200). \$5,110 is available for iPads and phone equipment for the EOC.

Alvin Beckman is communicating with Cass Transit about the possibility of using an old mini-bus for firefighter rehab support.

DISTRICT 4

Sharon Gerlach, Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) reported David Kane is the new Executive Director for IDHS. Mr. Kane spent time as an Air Marshall and also worked for the Transportation Security Administration.

Guidance for District Planning Committee (DPC) and District Planning Oversight Committee (DPOC) Groups is being revised with a hope for more standardization.

November 20th will be a WebEOC Tabletop Exercise in Covington. It will be Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Compliant.

Upcoming grant cycles are expected to direct more funding to individual counties and less to the districts. Sharon Gerlach highlighted if individual counties are stronger than the overall districts will be stronger. District monies are to be more focused on maintenance and exercise of capability than purchasing more equipment.

Alvin Beckman and Herb Detrick both voiced support for re-establishment of a training center in the northern half of the state. Currently training is concentrated at Camp Atterbury and Indianapolis. It is a burden to both paid and volunteer personnel to travel.

NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS)

Alvin submitted the required resources lists to Sharon Gerlach.

FUEL CONTRACT

Alvin Beckman shared the fuel contract entered into with North Central Coop.

NEW BUSINESS

EBOLA PLANNING

Alvin Beckman had an initial meeting with Logansport Memorial Hospital and the Cass County Health Department. Meets were also held with fire, Emergency Medical Services and law enforcement agencies. A group meeting with responders and the hospital is scheduled for Friday at 830AM at Logansport Memorial Hospital. An exercise is being planned to test protocols that have been recommended by the group.

The Indiana State Department of Health is hosting a conference call for emergency responders tomorrow.

2015 BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Alvin Beckman distributed a list of EMAC members whose terms are scheduled to expire. Members were asked to sign a form if they would be willing to continue to serve if reappointed. Alvin Beckman will prepare communications to appointing authorities indicating if members are willing to continue serving or if a new member is needed to represent them.

2015 MEETING DATES

2015 meeting dates were proposed as January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 2. Meeting times are to remain at 7PM.

2015 meeting dates were approved as proposed on a motion duly made and seconded. Alvin Beckman will arrange for the required publication of dates to meet legal requirements.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE OF INDIANA (EMAI CONFERENCE)

Alvin Beckman attended the EMAI conference and indicated a lot of useful information was presented. In 2015 EMAI and the Indiana Emergency Response Commission (IERC) will have a joint conference.

UPCOMING EVENTS/TRAINING

EMA participated in the Home Depot Safety Day in October. Alvin reported cold weather and precipitation negatively impacted attendance.

The EMA Christmas party is scheduled for December 6th and will start around 530 or 6. Bingo and Corn hole are proposed activities. Members who are able are encouraged to bring a canned or dry good item for donation to the Salvation Army.

February 19th will be National Weather Service Storm Spotter Training at Ivy Tech Logansport. It is scheduled to start at 630PM.

CLAIMS

Claims were approved in the amount of \$2,023.96 on a motion duly made and seconded.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Phil Rains reported receiving phone calls about a stop sign at 325 West and 300 South. Constituents are requesting the stop sign be changed to a yield sign and Phil requested the input of the group. The recommendation of the group was to leave the sign as a stop sign.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned on a motion duly made and seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Rocky Buffum, EMAC Secretary