

Cass County
Emergency Management Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
July 5, 2023

The Cass County Emergency Management Advisory Council (EMAC) met at the offices of the Cass County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), 1227 N State Road 17, Logansport, IN 46947 at 7pm.

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by President Ed Schroder.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Deitrich, Jeff Smith, Wally Bennett, Dan McDonald, Tracy Williamson, Rick Bair, Ed Schroder, Terry Dixon

STAFF PRESENT: Rocky Buffum

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gary Chambers, Nick Bowyer, Tim Minnick, Rick Lee, Brady Wiles, Steve Martin

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meetings for April, May and June of 2023 were reviewed. Rick Bair made a motion to approve all which was seconded by Mike Detrick.

Motion carried unanimously on a motion duly made and seconded.

DIRECTORS REPORTS

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY/STATE/DISTRICT UPDATES

The School Safety Grant is open for application. We are checking to see if we have any projects that might fit the criteria.

We received five additional pallets of Personal Protective Equipment from the Indiana Department of Health. The purchase value of the first two shipments is estimated at over \$40,000.00. We have not yet assigned a value to the last shipment received. The Sheriff's Department indicated they would be willing to help us store supplies if needed.

GRANTS AND BILLING

Grant and Billing report as of July 1 was shared. Rocky Buffum reported there is a \$5,500.00 settlement we are waiting on from a response that occurred last year. The delay has been trying to get the treasurers office to complete the steps to receive the ACH payment.

There is a \$6,750.00 invoice that was issued to Bulkmatic for responding to a Urea spill that is now over thirty days over and unpaid. They were sent a thirty day notice via certified mail. Rocky Buffum anticipates this will be the next one that needs to be referred to the county attorney, and the county attorney has already been given a heads up.

We have two grant requests out at this time. One is seeking funding to bring in a battery response course. The other is seeking a new trailer to hold shelter supplies, Community Emergency Response Team equipment, fire rehab and possibly a mobile cascade.

TRAINING AND EXERCISE ACTIVITY

The training report for June was reviewed. Rocky Buffum reported training hours were down as full attention was on finishing the radio project.

OLD BUSINESS

COUNTY FIRE RADIO PROJECT

All county departments are now up and running on the 800 system. A graphic was shared which shows the department by department investment to provide the equipment. Radios are working well. There were some challenges with the 800 pagers that ERS was working on last week. Some of these issues were related to programming errors by vendor ERS, others were due to last minute changes by the Indiana Integrated Public Safety Commission which changed tower configurations after equipment had already been programmed and distributed.

ORDINANCE UPDATES

We still have four ordinances in que for review. No updates since the last meeting.

HAZMAT Trailers

The new trailer has been purchased, loaded and decaled. Rocky Buffum invited the board to see it after the meeting.

SELECTION OF VENDOR – BRIC GRANT/ HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Copies of the Request for Proposal and Responses were distributed. Vendors were evaluated based on qualifications, approach, budget and schedule.

Upon review and discussion of the information, Mike Deitrich made a motion to engage the Polis Center with Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis to complete the project. Motion was seconded by Dan McDonald.

Motion carried unanimously on a motion duly made and seconded.

ANY OTHER OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Emergency Management has been working with a variety of agencies on emergency plans. Efforts include development of plans for issues and events that did not previously have them, and also standardizing plans into standardized format and terminology.

The Courthouse Emergency Operations Plan Annex has been reviewed by Commissioners and is waiting on the judge's review.

EMA helped Squeal on the Eel with their event plan, and also assisted the fair board with their plan. EMA is working with the Logansport Parks Department and other agencies on a template that will be used for future events at city park properties.

ANY OTHER NEW BUSINESS

None

CLAIMS REVIEW/APPROVAL

Claims were reviewed for the months of April, May and June of 2023. A motion to approve was made by Wally Bennett and seconded by Jeff Smith. Motion carried unanimously on a motion duly made and seconded.

BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

None

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

None

NEXT MEETING is scheduled for August 2, 7pm, Cass County EMA.

ADJOURMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Rick Bair and seconded by Tracy Williamson. Motion carried unanimously on a motion duly made and seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Buffum