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April 27th, 2023 at 5:30 PM - Johnson County EMA Commission Meeting Minutes

1. Opened the meeting and determined the quorum was met of at least 7 of 13 elected Commissioner members, 9 Elected Commission Members participated as did another 3 alternates, Dave Wilson - EMA Director, **Tim Kemp** – Hills Mayor & Commission Chairperson, **Brad Kunkel** - Johnson County Sheriff & Commission member, **Royceann Porter** – Johnson County Supervisor & Commission member, **John Thomas** - Iowa City Councilperson & Commission member, Greg Morris – City of Solon Alternate, Orey Schwitzer – City of Coralville Alternate.
2. Roll call via Conference Call of Commission members:
Present via Conference Call were: **Louise From** – University Heights Mayor & Commission Vice Chairperson, **Meghann Foster** - Coralville Mayor & Commission member, **Brian Wayson** - North Liberty Councilperson & Commission member, **Heather Johnson** – Oxford Mayor & Commission member, **Chris Taylor** - Swisher Mayor & Commission member, Jim Hennes – City of Oxford – Alternate.
3. Action on consensus items:
 - A. Motion to amend or accept the present agenda
 - B. Motion to amend or accept the meeting minutes from the last meeting
 - C. Action on the current financial report
 - ✓ Motion by Greg Morris for Solon, second by John Thomas for Iowa City, all ayes and motion carried to accept consent agenda, minutes and financial reports as listed.
4. Comments or topics from the public: None.
5. Topics from the Commission: Felt the March Tornado response was handled well.
6. Director Report:

Directors Report for March & April 2023

- The current financial report is in your packet, cash balance on hand is \$287,788.78 as of 4/21/23 and that does not account for an additional deposit of \$1,000.00 on Monday and we are at 60% expended. The 3rd JECC payment will come out this coming Monday and is not reflected in the expenditure percentage but also does not affect our cash on hand as that is passed through directly via the treasurer at the time of the claim.
- The State grant reimbursement for the HSGP grant balance owed is approximately another \$30,000 and that barrier trailer which is the last of the items tied to that grant is due in sometime in June from Wright way Trailers of Hiawatha. Once that trailer is in and the claim for expense/revenue reimbursement is processed that will close that grant.
- Travis has a final small covid closeouts grant reimbursement being processed by FEMA for a few thousand additional dollars as well as one more EMPG grant which has revenue due.
- The ICAP grant arrived Monday and was deposited which was \$1,000.00.
- A reminder that the FEMA covid claims come to a close May 11th 2023. Only expenses that occurred prior to that day may be reimbursed and no NEW claims for costs incurred AFTER 5/11/23 will be accepted by FEMA.
- We have a year-end budget amendment scheduled for May 25th for \$265,000.00 to amend in for various grant revenues and expenses not anticipated this current FY. The new budget amount after the amendment will be \$4,861,663.00
- We hosted several multi day classes in house the past couple of months for Water, Waste Water and Flood Emergency Trainings.
- Both Travis and I have also had out of town trainings that we attended over the past two months and are now well over our annual training requirement set in Iowa Code.

Johnson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management Agency

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- We have secured ICS 300 & 400 in house courses finally for this year and the flyer for dates and how to register will be out next week. They will be late summer and early fall. Both are 2-day face to face deliveries for supervisors.
- The EMA legislative change has gone through a recent amendment that no one here likes and the schools and city mayors as well as others have changed their positions on the bill from in favor to opposed. With this being the final week for the legislature who knows what will happen but the recent changes add several things that are unpopular on the makeup of the Commission. The recent copy of the proposed legislation is in your packet.
- Travis has had some time off for FMLA and is expected back this upcoming Monday.
- The recent “SWATTING” events hit over a couple of days so that involved special teams and we had a hazmat call this past month as well. It was a fuel spill.
- Dive team training pool sessions and station equipment work on gear took place these past couple of months, and one event was cancelled due to low attendance availability. The new members (X4) are all completing their training and pool sessions are ending for the last one soon. The checkout dives happen in May and early June. In June we have Keith from Lake Wazee coming down June 23rd through the 25th to get all 5 new divers certified in ERDi level 1, full face mask, Dry Suits, Tender levels that weekend. This will put the team at 13 divers and 3 members in tender only support roles. (16 total on the team)
- One of the two JCAS dive team member who had been unable over the past nearly 2 years to get his initial diver open water training completed is no longer with the team. He felt unsure when he could complete his training so he is a drop.
- Both Travis and I have had several online FEMA webinars and state meetings as well these past couple of months.
- All recent Hazmat calls have been billed out and paid. The Fed X one which is over a year old is at a collection agency. I do not have a progress report from Travis on that.
- Sometime in May or June the team will recover the submerged snowmobile from the Coralville lake from the February call out.
- No progress has been made on the storage building project.
- We are working with Two Rivers Emergency Planning on cost estimates for the FEMA required 5-year Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation plan update due at the end of 2024 and anticipate signing a contract soon to have them renew that plan.
- Still no update from vendors on the replacement Tahoe or the 1-ton truck.
- I supported the week-long search of the missing person Christian Martinez and worked with the USACE to lower water levels to aid in the search as well as assisted in various other search related tasks. The drones, boats and other assets were used heavily which is consistent with EVERY search that is conducted in this County for all missing persons.
- We destroyed a total of 5 props and 3 prop guards as well as had sand and debris sucked up in a couple of the boat motors used during that search. The railroad bridge area even when we had normal water flowing is what damaged the props. Those replacement props are in and will go on next week this present week is annual boat training. Solon was getting the boat we house with them into Mid River Marina as was Swisher for annual service. I expect some hefty boat repair bills related to the Martinez search due to the section of river the search was in which is shallow on most days.
- March 31st saw an EOC limited activation for the tornado outbreak that day. We were issued a SBA Disaster Declaration on 4/25/23 following several days of joint preliminary damage assessments with SBA and HSEMD, local jurisdictions and EMA. There will be no FEMA Stafford Act declaration requested by HSEMD as the State is at least a million low on estimated eligible costs.

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- The recovery has progressed well and United Way has been leading the COAD in frequent meetings and partner agencies have already secured long term housing for at least 7 family members displaced from Coralville as of 4/25/23 and several others through the Coordinated Entry, Private Insurance and HACAP or other programs were also placed. Most of the affected apartment and condo building owners are already well underway with reconstruction/repairs and some occupants are already back in their original properties. We know of only two families that are still being assisted through various LTRC programs via the hotel/motel transitional housing program and 98% of those affected are in some type of other more traditional housing or are back in their units. Some found other permanent housing.
- Plan updates and meetings continue for the annual updates. This year we update ESF 10, 11, 12 & 14.

7. Deputy Director Report: No report – scheduled absence/FMLA
8. Old Business: Status of the now complete mitigation buyout properties X3
9. New Business: Discussion of May budget amendment, Discussion 3/31/23 Tornado – Response/Recovery, Discussion of Bill related to EMA Commission at Statehouse now known as SF570 (was SF352 and SF81), Discussion of Commission performance evaluation tool related to Board of Supervisors proposal to change from merit pay tied to evaluations moving to standard annual raises.
 - All elected officials present voted in favor of maintaining the present form of Merit evaluations tied to staff raises for EMA Commission employees and also keeping the annual COLA raise. Alternates votes were not counted but also voiced agreement with the present system. Elected members were Brian Wayson, Louise From, Chris Taylor, Heather Johnson, Brad Kunkel, Meghann Foster all in favor of maintaining the present Merit and COLA methods for EMA staff. Motion was by Brian Wayson and Second by Louise From. All elected officials roll called in favor. No nay votes. Dave is to bring back a policy to adopt at the May meeting that mirrors what is presently done.
10. Other Business: None
11. Next Meeting Date: May 25th 2023 at 5:30 PM
12. Motion to Adjourn by Greg Morris and Second by Brad Kunkle at 5:56 PM all in favor and carried.

Dave C Wilson – Coordinator / Agency Director