

Cass County Emergency Management Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Herb Bowman.

PRESENT: Ed Schrader, Randy Pryor, Tom Heflin, Rocky Buffum, Herb Detrick, Herb Bowman, Alvin Beckman, Stacey Donato, Ryan Mix

Approval of minutes was tabled due to lack of a quorum.

OLD BUSINESS

GRANTS: The county grant to run fiber optic from the court house to EMA/County Highway and the District 4 Grant for an ATV with trailer were both denied.

DISTRICT 4: The next meeting is next week. IDHS has received a consultant evaluation from Witt and Associates about possible reorganization. To date the contents have not been shared. It is possible we could see a structure with 3-5 districts instead of ten.

NIMS: FEMA is going to discontinue their role of maintaining resource and compliance databases that are completed by departments annually. Individual departments are still required to complete these annual lists and hold the information, however they will need to develop their own filing system.

WARNING SIRENS: Representatives from Federal Field Services have looked into issues around the county. Repairs and correction of wiring issues are in progress. The siren on Onward is to be installed by them.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW PLANNING INITIATIVES: The state is requesting emergency management agencies form debris management plans, work with schools on their planning, evacuation plans, animal care plans, special needs plans and health department plans. Alvin is forming committees and working with heads of other departments to get these in place.

RECENT EVENTS: Since the last meeting EMA responded to a gas leak in the area of Highway 25 and Cicott that lasted 6 ½ hours. 19 homes were evacuated. INDOT, Norfolk Southern Railway, NIPSCO, LFD and LPD were on site. The Red Cross provided food for responders and the Salvation Army offered to open a shelter for displaced residents.

Cass County did receive some damage from the storm that spawned the tornado in Peru, mostly in the Walton and Pipe Creek Falls area. Alvin reported no warning were issued by the National Weather Service until after the storm had moved through. This storm happened the week of the fair. Alvin highlighted that had the event affected the fair site there are no good places for people to go for safety.

Alvin responded to a semi incident today.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Alvin will be attending training in Seymour next Friday on Disaster Recovery in Small Communities offered by the Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium. At the end of the month Alvin will attend a nuclear spent fuel rail car training in Fort Wayne. Spent nuclear fuel will begin to be shipped through the Cass County area in the near future. Alvin will attend the EMA Conference in October. EMA will support the 2 Rivers on 2 Wheels Bike Tour September 14 and will be present at the Home Depot Safety Festival in October.

CLAIMS: Claims were submitted in the amount of \$2,162.56. Motion to approve by Herb Detrick, second by Stacey Donato. Motion carried.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS: Alvin is looking to fill the part time position at 20 hours a week, \$9.50 an hour. Instead of a secretary he is looking for someone with training and public safety background that could respond to and manage issues when he is gone and Cover is at the fire station.

NEXT MEETING: September 4, 2013 at 7PM.

Motion to adjourn by Herb Detrick, second by Ed Schrader. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Buffum, Secretary