

April 16, 2025 Minutes
Emergency Management Commission Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting of the Story County Emergency Management Commission was called to order at 6:08 PM by Chair Linda Murken.

Attendance:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Name</u>
BOS	Linda Murken	Ames	John Haila
Cambridge	Bobby Chubbic	Collins	
Colo	Jeff Brinkman	Gilbert	Jon Popp
Huxley		Kelley	Jackie Sapp
Maxwell	Dale Higgins	McCallsburg	
Nevada	Ryan Condon	Roland	
Sheldahl		Slater	
Story City	Mike Jensen	Zearing	
Sheriff	Paul Fitzgerald	ISU	Anthony Romero
SCEMA	Melissa Spencer	SCEMA	Josh Harding
Guest	Tim Salaski-Kelley	Guest	Rich Higgins-Ames

Consent Agenda

Approval of January Minutes

Approval of April Tentative Agenda

Motion by Fitzgerald, 2nd by Gilbert to approve the Consent Agenda. MCU

Old Business

EOC Project Update

Spencer and Facilities Management Director Brogden presented the final drawings to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) on April 8th. Due to the anticipated construction costs of \$2 million they were instructed to explore other options within the Administration Building footprint. The high costs of the project are due to the building code requirements to harden the EOC space. Spencer and Brogden will work with RMH architects to bring other options to the BOS for approval. Spencer recommends keeping the funding in the designated reserve until a decision is reached with the BOS.

Legislative Update

Iowa Emergency Management Association (IEMA) legislative efforts to create secure funding for Emergency Management Agencies are dead for this session and future sessions as well.

There were last-minute changes to the funding options made without knowledge of the Association that caused an issue with the legislation moving forward and has damaged the reputation of the Association at the State House. It will take many years to repair IEMA's reputation with the Legislature so Spencer does not foresee the issue coming up for many more

years. This means the Commission is back to business as usual with no changes to Commission membership or budget requirements.

Stop the Bleed Update

The project started last year with the Story County Public Health grant supplying at least one wall mounted stop the bleed kit in everyone school. Once that was completed, we moved to provide three wall mount kits in each school and one bagged kit foreach school bus of which there are 167 buses in the County. All of the product has been received and we are working with AJ Plach with Ames Fire and Captain Lennie to get the remaining kits into the schools. The next step will be training the bus drivers and deploying the smaller kits.

So far there have been 87 wall kits deployed to schools and there will be 167 bus kits for a total of 1002 total single pack kits available across the County. Along with the schools, there has been wall kits provided to County and City buildings along with the Story County Fair Grounds. So far, 200 people have been trained, which is mostly school staff. We are waiting to train Ames Schools after they to change their bus vendor.

All of this is being done through the Public Health grant with no additional costs to the public. Time spent coordinating and training is being used as soft match for the grant. The training has been provided by our partners with Story County Sheriff's Office, Ames Fire, Mary Greeley Medical Center, Story County Public Health, Story County Medical Center.

New Business

Approval of Plans

The annual review ESF 10- Hazardous Materials did not require changes this year. The functions of the plans are well established.

Recovery Support Function (RSF) Infrastructure is a new plan as part of the six new recovery plans required by FEMA. The plan is very general as it is situationally dependent on the disaster or emergency at hand. The plan simply identifies who will come together and general concepts of what they will focus on. Motion by Story City, 2nd by Fitzgerald to approve the plans as presented. MCU

Fitzgerald asked about concerns over changes to the local level with the cuts at the federal level. Spencer is concerned about losing grant funding from the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) which is a \$39,000 loss to the budget and also the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) that has allowed the office to increase EOC capabilities over the years. There is also concern from a Presidential Directive that local planning could be shifted away from all hazards planning to infrastructure planning. Infrastructure planning is already addressed through all hazards planning. There continues to be a lack of understanding from the federal level of how their actions affect local emergency management agencies.

Fitzgerald reported at Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has ceased several efforts and staff have been fired as Trump continues to look at FEMA.

Approval of Annual Training Requirements

Iowa Code requires Emergency Management staff to complete 24 hours of annual training. Twelve hours are required Iowa Homeland Security topics that relate to the ESF & RSFs that are updated for the year. The remaining 12 hours are at the discretion of the Commission to approve. Both Spencer and Harding met the training requirements. Motion by Ames, 2nd by Colo to approve training hours as presented. MCU

State Incident Management Team (IMT) Selection

Harding has been selected to become a member of the Iowa Homeland Security IMT Team. This team assists local communities and counties with incident management when they are overwhelmed by the scale and scope of a disaster. Having staff trained to a higher level of incident management will bring a higher level of capability for strong incident management in Story County. This is a voluntary team where we have first right of refusal to allow him to deploy. Iowa Homeland Security will reimburse travel and training costs while the agency will pay his salary while deployed.

Quarterly Report

Spencer reported on one item that did not make the report prior to the meeting. Spencer has been nominated for one of three IEMA Awards that will be presented at their May University of Okoboji Conference. The three possible awards are Program of the Year, Coordinator of the Year and the Mitch Nordmeyer Pillar of the Community Leadership Award. The awards are secret and she will not know if she has won until she attends the conference.

Other

Weather Related Emergency Sheltering Plans Discussion

Haila asked if other communities were having an issue with homeless individuals and the need for extreme weather sheltering. Most of the homeless population tends to gravitate to Ames as they have most of the resources and therefore a need to shelter during extreme temperatures. Everyone agreed that opening a shelter and letting people come in without the proper supervision and trained personnel is a significant liability issue. Spencer mentioned with Central Iowa Shelter Services coming into Ames, there might be an opportunity for discussion as they have done emergency weather sheltering in Polk County. No action taken or direction provided at this time.

Next Meeting:

July 16- Year End Budget Review

Adjournment: Motion by Fitzgerald, 2nd by Cambridge MCU Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM