

Cass County
Emergency Management Advisory Council (EMAC)
Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Ed Schroder at 1227 North State Road 17, Logansport, Indiana. Rocky Buffum was asked to take minutes in the absence of the secretary.

PRESENT: Ed Schroder, Jeff Smith, Dan McDonald, Rick Bair, Tracy Williamson, Rocky Buffum, Phil Rains, Alvin Beckman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

OLD BUSINESS

GRANTS

An application for the State Homeland Security Program Grant was submitted for courthouse security grant. Outcome not yet known.

There have been changes to the salary reimbursement grant. Felicity Perez-Nuscis is working on training requirements. Alvin Beckman completed older versions of the training. While he is grandfathered in he will be taking some of the newer courses as things have been updated.

DISTRICT 4

All counties in the district continue to support health department response to COVID-19.

BUDGET

The first reading has occurred. The second reading will occur at a later date. In the first reading a five percent salary increase was included to bring Cass County salaries closer to what neighboring counties pay. Alvin Beckman is proposing to combine the administrative assistant and deputy director positions. Approval of the County Commissioners will be needed. Alvin Beckman reports the consolidation will save the county about \$200.00 annually.

Alvin Beckman reported Cass County Emergency Management salaries continue to be significantly below neighboring counties. Beckman is the longest serving director in the area and has a salary of about \$37,000. In neighboring counties Deputy Director pay starts at \$47,000.00.

WARNING SIRENS

Emergency Radio Service is scheduled to be in Cass County tomorrow. There are currently seven sirens inoperable. There have been situations where they were needed and not functioning. Alvin Beckman reports he is hopeful a transition to Federal Field Services will result in better and more specialized service at a lower price.

NEW BUSINESS

ACTIVITY REPORT

A semi truck accident occurred at County Road 300 South and the Heartland Highway. Clymers Fire Department, EMA and other agencies responded. 27 bags of oil dry was used.

EMA responded to an incident with a worker trapped in a transport trailer at the truck stop on the Heartland Highway. HAZMAT and Confined Space Rescue Capabilities were needed. The operation ended up being a body recovery. Grissom Fire Department also responded.

On September 1 A Prairie Farms Truck got caught on the rail crossing on 18th street. EMA responded with Logansport Fire Department. Norfolk Southern Railroad, Cass County Highway, and a cleanup contractor from Fort Wayne also assisted at the scene.

Rocky Buffum and Felicity Perez-Nuscis assisted Logansport Fire Department with decontamination training. Logansport Fire Department will be doing decontamination with Logansport Memorial Hospital at a later date.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/TRAININGS

Andersons Safety Tour tomorrow at 530pm.

NIPSCO Safety Tour September 10 at 11am.

Felicity Perez-Nuscis will be attending the Indiana Emergency Response Conference the third week in September.

In October Alvin Beckman and Felicity Perez-Nuscis are both scheduled to attend the Emergency Management Alliance of Indiana Conference.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Claims were reviewed. No action taken due to lack of quorum.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for October 6.

Members present voted unanimously to adjourn on a motion duly made and seconded.

Respectfully submitted, Rocky Buffum.