

GRANT COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/DISASTER SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING
GRANT COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER
Lancaster WI 53813
September 12, 2011

The Grant County Emergency Management/Disaster Services Committee was called to order September 12, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman John Patcle. The following members and personnel were present:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/DISASTER SERVICES COMMITTEE: Larry Wolf, Pat Schroeder, Steve Adrian, Lester Jantzen and Robert Scallon - Vincent Loeffelholz was excused.

GUESTS: Steve Braun, Emergency Government, Sheriff Keith Govier, Grant County Sheriff's Department, Chief Deputy Jack Johnson, Grant County Sheriff's Department, Grant County Coroner Ron Sturmer, Kelly Bird, Grant County Sheriff's Department, Carla McAndrew, Maintenance supervisor and Julie Loeffelholz, Recording Secretary.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman John Patcle.

Steve Braun verified the agenda has been posted by the County Clerk at the Administration Building, Courthouse, and also on the county Website. Larry, second by Lester, motioned to approve the agenda as mailed. The minutes were approved in motions by Pat and second by Bob. All above motions carried.

The Monthly Director's Report was given by Steve Braun.

Under Old Business Steve discussed that the AFG grants to firefighter's application period opened and we have about 36 grants we are working on in a very short window. This number includes several regional grants including an upgrade of the county's simulcast paging system, a mobile air system, grants for mobile and portable radios and pagers, and a grant for training and props at SWTC. Question about what it means when a department is "sponsoring" a grant. Steve explained that since this is the Assistance to Firefighters program, all grants must be sponsored by a fire department, even the regional projects such as communications upgrades. Question about simulcast upgrade and why it needs to be done. Steve explained that controls for paging are in the Sheriff's Dept building with the transmitters on each tower. This equipment is very old and antiquated and the last time it went down, it was down for several days while our service provider called all over the country to find parts to get it back up and running. The paging system is a critical system since it is the primary means of notifying ambulances and fire departments of emergency calls, and is getting to the point where it is no longer reliable. Questions about the match. This will be a 20% match as it is based on the population served and we are over 50,000. Motion by Pat, second by Lester to send to the full county board. More discussion about which budget it should be placed in from the general fund. Keith and Steve discussed the fact that although the Emergency Management Office writes grants and often gives advice on communications issues, the communications center is under the Sheriff's Department's domain. The motion was recinded so it could be discussed during the law enforcement meeting.

County-wide EMS: Steve gave an update on the status of EMS recruiting that he had been working on several months ago. There are more than 30 people in the EMT basic classes which just started.. Many of the squads are having significant issues with responding to calls since the number of EMT's in our region has been steadily declining. A number of services are sometimes failing to respond to 9-1-1 emergency calls because they are unable to get a legal crew together. Steve is hopeful that the new recruiting will help to make a difference for the services who are critically in need of help.

Pat told Steve that several people with him the night of the tractor pull at the county fair felt that several of the Lancaster firefighters were disrespectful while at the gate to enter the pits. He said that this put a bad light on Lancaster and the firefighters. He asked that Steve address it with his firefighters. Steve stated that he'd like for Pat to have those people contact Steve so he can find out what the issues were and would then address them appropriately.

Under New Business, Steve put forth a request for software for two computers in 2012 through the technology budget. As usual, the computers will be purchased with grant monies from the State, but the software needs to be purchased by the

county. The software is the basic microsoft office package installed on all county computers. Motion by Pat, second by Lester to approve the request to the technology committee. Motion carried.

Budget: Steve noted that the budget format looked different this year, but he was trying to make things more consistent with how other departments presented their budgets. Nancy also recommended some changes to accounts to give a more accurate breakdown of how some funds were allocated. In 2011, the cost to Grant County for our office was \$74,444. The 2012 budget is at \$76,354. This is an increase of \$1,910. The increase is due to salary and insurance increases. Discussion about insurance premiums and that this number should be lower. Steve responded that there will be changes in his insurance since he is getting married. The committee offered their congratulations. Motion by Larry, second by Pat to send the budget with the \$1,910 increase to the county board. Motion carried

Grants: Discussed during Director's Monthly Report and the paging grant will be discussed during the Law Enforcement Committee meeting.

Conflict of Interest: Steve Adrian stated that he wanted to apologize for the way he approached this issue at the last meeting, but that he still felt that there was a conflict of interest regarding the fire department not signing a liability waiver at the fair. Steve Braun stated he would continue do his best to avoid conflicts between the roles that he serves in.

Public Forum: None

Motion to approve bills by Steve, second by Bob. Motion Carried.

Motion by Lester, second by Pat to adjourn the meeting until October 10, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the lower level of the Law Enforcement Center.