

GRANT COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/DISASTER SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING
GRANT COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER
Lancaster WI 53813
June 11, 2012

The Grant County Emergency Management/Disaster Services Committee was called to order June 11, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Larry Wolf. The following members and personnel were present:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/DISASTER SERVICES COMMITTEE: Larry Wolf, John Beinborn, Lester Jantzen, Robert Scallon and Vincent Loeffelholz.

GUESTS: Steve Braun, Emergency Government, Sheriff Keith Govier, Grant County Sheriff's Department, Chief Deputy Jack Johnson, Grant County Sheriff's Department, Sergeant Nate Dreckman, Grant County Sheriff's Department, Captain Anthony Sheckles, Grant County Sheriff's Department, Sergeant Brian Bierman, Grant County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Jay Fitzgerald, Grant County Sheriff's Department, Grant County Coroner Ron Sturmer, Kelly Bird, Grant County Sheriff's Department, Robert Middendorf, Media Representative, Two (2) Mid-America Representatives, One (1) Insurance Representative and Julie Loeffelholz, Recording Secretary.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Larry Wolf.

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

The Monthly Director's Report was given by Steve Braun. He explained that we are working to close out the State paperwork which is required from our office twice each year to receive funding from the State/Federal government to support our office.

Steve told the committee about an exercise-turned actual incident in Livingston in the past month. Representatives from the Village and others such as Steve and Jeff Kindrai, Health Department Director, were supposed to participate in a drinking water emergency exercise. When they arrived at the fire station for the exercise, it was determined that the village, was in fact, having a water emergency. Due to the Highway 80 roadway reconstruction, a water main had been damaged and was leaking. It had leaked so much that it had drained the entire water tower. The leak was located and refilling of the tower began. Jeff and Steve assisted the Village with issuing a "Boil Water" notice until samples could be tested and the water proven safe.

The Hazard Mitigation Draft should be ready for WEM soon. Steve will provide electronic copies or hard copies to members of the committee. Steve mentioned the contractor is doing a good job.

Under Old Business Steve updated the group on activities related to both the communications grants we have open. The environmental study has been completed for FEMA paging grant at the tower sites and bids can go out soon. This project must be done before snow since it involves tower work. The second radio grant for mobiles and portables will be discussed at the County Fire meeting later this week.

Under New Business, Steve discussed that the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) program opened today. We will be working on 40 to 50 grants between now and July 6 when the application period closes. They gave us very little notice as to when the grant period would open and the guidance only came out a week ago. We will begin writing on Thursday for individual departments. There will be discussion at County Fire on Wednesday night to determine who is interested in submitting.

Regional grants were discussed next. Steve has been discussing communications with the sheriff's office, and proposed that we write an AFG grant to further improve the county's radio communications system. We have purchased with grants the repeaters, paging, microwaving and voting in a stepped approach. The upgrade Steve proposed for this year's grant program

was to simulcast our towers, so that all radio traffic could be heard throughout the county. This would be a substantial improvement from the existing system, where cars in the north can't hear cars in the south and vice-versa. Steve noted that last year's installation of a program fixed half the problem, and dispatch can hear cars well throughout the county. The problem that remains is that cars have difficulty hearing dispatch. Steve discussed how we've built out the communications system in pieces as grant funding was available, and noted that he felt that this was the last big step we needed to take to get our communications system where it should be. Preliminary cost estimates put the project at \$315,000. Grant County would need to provide a 10% match of \$31,500.

Sheriff Govier discussed his thoughts on the grant and expressed support. Question by John Beinborn about funding for match. Answer that with last year's communications project, the funding was placed in the Sheriff's Dept. budget for the following year. This could be done since the grant won't be awarded until November at the earliest, and the project would be completed in 2013. Question by Lester, how old are the towers we are using. Answer, most are from the 1950's and 1960's. Motion by Vince, Second by John B to give permission to Emergency Management to apply for an AFG grant for simulcast upgrades for the County. Motion carried.

Grants: No other grants are being considered at this time.

Public Forum: None

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

Motion by John Beinborn, second by Vince to adjourn the meeting until July 09, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the lower level of the Law Enforcement Center.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie G. Loeffelholz

Recording Secretary