

GRANT COUNTY EMERGENCY DISASTER SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING  
GRANT COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER  
Lancaster, WI 53813  
April 14, 2014

The Grant County Emergency Disaster Services Committee was called to order April 14, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Larry Wolf. The following members and personnel were present:

EMERGENCY DISASTER SERVICES COMMITTEE: Vincent Loeffelholz, John Patcle, John Beniborn, Lester Jantzen and Bob Scallon. Pat Schroeder asked to be excused.

GUESTS: Grant County Coroner Ron Sturmer, Sheriff Nate Dreckman, Grant County Sheriff's Office, Chief Deputy Jack Johnson, Grant County Sheriff's Office, Kelly Bird, Grant County Sheriff's Office, Steve Braun, Emergency Government, and Tonya White, Recording Secretary.

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Steve Braun verified the agenda had been posted at the Courthouse by Linda Gebhard and it was posted on the county website. John B. second by Lester approved the agenda. Vince second by Bob approved the minutes. John B. second by Lester approved the bills. All above motions carried.

Public Comment: None

Under Director's Monthly Report Steve advised that the office has been pushing a lot of paper. March 31<sup>st</sup> is the end of the fiscal year so we have been busy getting all the paper work done and sent into the State.

We have also been working with schools and facilities making sure the emergency alert receivers that they have are working properly. Severe weather awareness week is next week and there will be a statewide tornado drill on April 24, 2014. It will begin with a tornado watch at 1 p.m. followed by a tornado warning at 1:45 p.m. where all the tornado sirens will sound in the communities.

Under Old Business Steve spoke about the assistance to families and individuals. Steve passed out a letter that Misty Molzof received from the Governor's Office last week. The EAP program has tightened up since the last time we were involved with it, so some of the people that were thought to be a part of the program will not be eligible. In the past the state seemed more able to flex rules and now they are perhaps a little less willing to step outside the bounds of the program guidelines. In some past floods, we were allowed to assist families with an income of up to 100% of the county median income; this year the cutoff is 80% of the median. This will affect a large number of families, since many of the applicants lie within that 80-100% range. The Long Term Recovery Committee has disbursed approximately a third of the donated funds but is holding off until they are certain what the EAP guidelines were and which families are and are not eligible. Now that the guidelines have been stated, the CDBG-EAP program can finish making determinations on eligibility. Donated funds will then be disbursed to families that are not eligible for CDBG-EAP funding.

Also under Old Business Steve spoke about the assistance to municipalities. There have been a few issues that have come up. FEMA is refusing payment for a \$10,000 culvert project in Wyalusing

Township because the township did not have proper historical review before conducting the work. Steve believes he will be able to work this issue out with FEMA. The checks are slowly being received in our office. There have been little things here and there that FEMA has been reviewing that in some cases have been holding up some rather large projects.

Regarding the AFG simulcasting grant the radio equipment for the first phase of the project has been ordered. That equipment is the five new radio repeaters and the equipment to tie them together. We are still waiting to hear if we are able to use the extra funding from the grant. The project is slated for completion this summer.

Regarding the HMPG, Steve passed out a copy of an agreement sent out to the Village of Patch Grove for approval, addressing concerns discussed at last month's committee meeting. Steve also spoke with Dave Lambert at the Highway Department at the committee's urging. Dave feels that moving forward with the project and opening up the drainage that has been filled in at the site would likely be beneficial to the county in the long run.

Under New Business Steve spoke about the potential for a federal declaration regarding the winter infrastructure. The Governor may request that FEMA look at all the water main breaks costs from the cold temperatures. Because of the record event with the cold temperatures the state may qualify for a federal declaration. We are gathering the numbers of the damage that municipalities have incurred and will turn the numbers into the state this afternoon. This does not include snow removal, which is not eligible.

Also under new business Steve spoke about the Southwest Technical College Fire/EMS program. About two weeks ago it was announced that SWTC is considering eliminating the Fire/EMS coordinator position which covers training for Fire and EMS departments in five counties. They have already cut the lead fire instructor and two clerical positions. In the eyes of the fire and ems advisory board the program is woefully understaffed. The school received an AFG grant last year for training purposes and the school was only able to use \$28,000 of the \$82,000 available due to a lack of staff to set up and promote the training. The advisory board also feels that the advanced training that the school could do is not happening and the safety complex is not getting used to its full potential, because staffing only have time to do the bare minimum required training for departments. The SWTC board has not voted on the elimination of the position but President Ford said there was a very good chance it would happen. The board meets May 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be making a decision then. Steve made the committee aware that he may be speaking on behalf of the advisory board at the SWTC board meeting.

It was motioned by Vince and seconded by John B. to adjourn to May 12, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tonya White, Recording Secretary