



# POLK COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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## MINUTES

The Polk County Emergency Management Commission met on Wednesday, March 21, 2007 at 1300 hours at Polk County Public Health, 1914 Carpenter Ave., Des Moines, Iowa.

### I. Call to Order at 1300 hrs.

### II. Roll Call/Introductions

#### A. Members

- |                                    |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alleman   | <input type="checkbox"/> Des Moines    | <input type="checkbox"/> Pleasant Hill       | <input type="checkbox"/> Urbandale       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Altoona   | <input type="checkbox"/> Elkhart       | <input type="checkbox"/> Polk City           | <input type="checkbox"/> West Des Moines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ankeny    | <input type="checkbox"/> Grimes        | <input type="checkbox"/> Polk County BOS     | <input type="checkbox"/> Windsor Heights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bondurant | <input type="checkbox"/> Johnston      | <input type="checkbox"/> Polk County Sheriff |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clive     | <input type="checkbox"/> Mitchellville | <input type="checkbox"/> Runnells            |  |

**Members Present:** Cox, Krohse, Mathis, Milewski, Phillips, Vorlander, Walters, and Whetstone.

#### B. Staff – Mumm and Reelitz

#### C. Guests/Public –

### III. Approval of Agenda

**Commission Action:** Moved by Walters, seconded by Whetstone to approve agenda as presented.  
Motion passed unanimously.

### IV. Invited Guests or Speakers - none

### V. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – February 21, 2007

**Commission Action:** No amendments needed.

### VI. Reports

#### A. Administration and Finance

##### 1. Grants Management – Attachment #1

##### a. 2005 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP)

Region 1 awarded \$1,826,529.73. Decision packets have been submitted to include a regional WMD Assessment. Performance period ends 9/31/07. Regional projects include: mass care sheltering supplementary equipment; WMD/ICS/NIMS training; radiological detection device acquisition; mass fatalities planning; fusion center conference; and missing persons/search and rescue training. 6 month extension awarded to HSEMD. February meeting canceled due to weather. Next meeting scheduled for April 5 at 1300 hrs. at Polk County Communications Center.

**Proudly serving the communities of:**

Alleman - Altoona - Ankeny - Bondurant - Clive - Des Moines - Elkhart - Grimes - Johnston - Mitchellville  
Pleasant Hill - Polk City - Polk County - Runnells - Urbandale - West Des Moines - Windsor Heights

**b. 2005 Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant**

Application submitted on March 8, 2005. Budget of \$207,612.50 (\$150,579.53 federal share and \$57,032.97 local share) over a three-year performance period was successful. Grant will help bring all Polk County local jurisdictions compliant with Disaster Mitigation Act standards. Community Profile draft expected to be released to jurisdictions for their review in early January.

**c. 2005 Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) Grant**

Award of \$227,592 Performance period began October 1, 2004 and will end March 31, 2007. City of Des Moines Fire Department EMS working with area hospitals, public health and Emergency Medical Services. Chief Vorlander is the Authorized Representative. Auxiliary power supplies installed at Grandview College and Des Moines EOC. Des Moines is recognized in the 2006 HSGP as a MMRS community and will be granted \$228,000 for projects until March 2008. Meeting will be held on March 21, 2007 to close out the 2005 MMRS grant.

**d. 2006 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)**

Award of \$4,295.29. Performance period began October 1, 2006 and will end March 31, 2008. Ankeny CERT has submitted scope of work and budget for funding.

**e. 2006 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP)**

Award of \$778,647. Performance period began October 1, 2006 and will end March 30, 2008. Regional initiatives have been established by the state and include: NIMS; Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program implementation; EOC development and enhancement; emergency planning updates; regional planning; and infrastructure protection planning. Story County signed agreement to act as subgrantee.

**f. 2007 Hazardous Materials Emergency Program (HMEP)**

Award of \$25,432. Performance period began October 1, 2006 and will end September 30, 2007. This is a 7-county grant to be used for hazardous materials planning, emergency responder training, and to conduct the annual hazmat symposium in Ames. Contracted with EHS Response Group to develop ethanol planning template.

**g. 2007 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)**

Award of \$37,832.59. Performance period began October 1, 2006 and will end September 30, 2007. Funding will be used to support personnel costs in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters of the local fiscal year.

**h. 2007 Health Resource Systems Administration (HRSA)**

Award of \$6,040. Performance period began July 1, 2006 and will end June 30, 2007. Implementation strategy drafted by Staff and the Polk County EMS Association.

**i. 2007 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems Development**

Award of \$8,652. Performance period began July 1, 2006 and will end June 30, 2007. There are a series of performance-based components to the funding. Implementation strategy drafted by Staff and the Polk County EMS Association. Approximately \$5,000 in text books (PHTLS, ACLS, and PEP) have been purchased for EMS services to check out from the EMA and approximately \$1,000 in PHTLS instructor registration fees have been covered through this grant.

**B. Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment, and Capability Assessment**

**1. WMD Capability Assessment**

Currently implementing the strategy recommended by Tetra Tech and approved by the Commission. See Agenda Item VI.A.1.a. for more information.

**2. Hazard Analysis and Risk Assessment**

Community Profiles are being developed as part of the PDM local mitigation planning process.

## **C. Resource Management**

### **1. Resource Management Database**

This effort will develop as part of the WMD Capability Assessment and will be supported by the Region 1 Homeland Security Board through the 2005 HSGP. The Commission will need to consider formal adoption and implementation of the NIMS Resource Typing System in the coming months. Resource Typing guidance can be found in FEMA Document 508 Series. Polk County EMA has been asked to sit on an advisory panel with other local and state officials to analyze the merits of a prototype component in WebEOC. Jurisdictions that exist in multiple counties should report resources to the county in which the government headquarters exist (i.e. City Hall) to avoid duplication of reported resources.

## **D. Planning**

### **1. Part A – Operations**

Current state status is compliant. Next update is due to HLSEM by October 1, 2007. Evacuation planning will be required of Iowa's 10 largest cities and each will be granted \$10,000 to complete a plan. Staff suggests that Des Moines and West Des Moines combine their efforts and complete a metro evacuation plan in cooperation with the Metro Emergency Planners and the Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Review of draft CEP Base Plan (see Item XI – Programs/Presentations).

### **2. Part B – Mitigation Strategy**

Current state status is compliant. Next update is due November of 2008 or within 180 days of the formal closing of a Presidential disaster incident period.

### **3. Part C - Recovery**

Current state status is compliant. Next update is due October 2008 or within 180 days of the formal closing of a Presidential disaster incident period.

### **4. Local Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)Plans**

See Item VI.A.1.c.

### **5. Biological Emergencies/Pandemic Planning**

Polk County Public Health is the appropriate lead agency. Emergency Management and Public Health will continue to pull in additional stakeholders to address issues that match the comprehensive span of the potential impacts of this risk. The core of the strategy involves four major steps: 1) identification of functions that will need to be initiated before, during, and after a pandemic; 2) identification of agencies and organizations that carry out those functions and invite these stakeholders to become more deeply involved in the planning process; 3) agencies and organizations must critically examine their ability to carry out those functions given potential restraints such as reduced staff levels, use of required but limited PPE, and other resource restrictions (essentially a Continuity of Operations planning exercise); and 4) cross check our dependencies on common solutions and each other to identify common points of failure in implementing such a plan. Meeting held March 15 and included a tabletop exercise and will be continued at the April 19 meeting.

### **6. Emergency Management Commission Strategic Plan**

Poster is being converted into a traditional document form for distribution.

## **E. Direction, Control, and Coordination**

### **1. National Incident Management System (NIMS)**

2006 NIMS Training requirements have been largely satisfied and the 2007 requirements are being distributed from the NIMS Integration Center.

## **F. Damage Assessment**

### **1. Damage Assessment Team (DAT)**

Staff is developing an implementation strategy for presentation to the Commission.

## **G. Communications and Warning**

### **1. Outdoor Warning Sirens**

Polk County Public Works has initiated a status check of approximately 15 sirens in rural Polk County and will bring them into proper working condition. Staff will be working with the jurisdictions to obtain more information regarding maintenance of the entire system. Board of Supervisors' staff has recommended that the townships budget for the ongoing maintenance of the sirens in the unincorporated areas through township tax levees. Staff will be drafting a letter to Township Trustees with input from the Board of Supervisors to be distributed in March. Letter will address responsibilities and liabilities addressed in Iowa Code and Administrative Code.

## **H. Operations and Procedures**

### **1. Polk County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)**

**Background:** Vorlander sought interest from the Executive Committee in drafting a 28E agreement for a consolidated Emergency Operations Center (EOC) between the Polk County Emergency Management Commission and the City of Des Moines.

**Staff Update:** Staff is currently researching best practices as well as required and desired capabilities of a functioning EOC. Staff will continue to develop a concept support document under the advice of Commission Members. Other concerns that will be addressed include operational layout options, communications capabilities, and security. Greater consideration will be given to this item following the results of the WMD capability assessment. Commission members should continue to give thought to this concept and be prepared to discuss upon the completion of the capability assessment project. EOC Subcommittee met on March 22. Pros and cons of 4 options were presented by the Coordinator. Coordinator shared the preliminary discussion that he had with Public Health regarding a joint EOC.

**Commission Discussion:** Coordinator shared with the Commission that he had a conversation with Polk County Public Health Director Terri Henkels regarding the potential for a joint EOC to be developed at the building at 1900 Carpenter. This space is possibly being vacated by Polk County Supplemental Foods and would make a very suitable location for a countywide EOC. Coordinator will keep the Commission informed of further discussion.

**Staff Update:** Coordinator has met with the Board of Supervisor's Staff, Mike Freiling, on Thursday, December 14 to discuss space requirements. EMA, Public Health, and the Medical Examiner will be included in a meeting with the architect in early 2007.

**Commission Discussion:** Chair asked Coordinator to draft a letter to Supervisor Brownell expressing the Commission's support of previous discussion to relocate EMA administrative offices and develop emergency operations center in space vacated by Supplemental Foods.

## **I. Training**

### **1. NIMS IS-700 Series**

New independent study courses have been released by the FEMA web-based training directorate at <http://www.training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/crslist.asp>.

- a. IS-701 – Multiagency Coordination System
- b. IS-702 – NIMS Public Information Systems
- c. IS-703 – NIMS Resource Management

## **J. Exercises**

### **1. Camp Dodge Exercise**

Local tabletop exercise held March 20 and functional exercise for April 17, 2007 and will be held at **Camp Dodge beginning at 0900 for EOD and at 1300 for fire and EMS**. Steve Noland and Chief Krohse have been meeting to develop exercise objectives.

### **2. Amber Waves II**

State-sponsored tabletop exercise with the Iowa Business Council to evaluate communications between the public and private sectors. Coordinator has been asked to sit on subject-matter-expert panel representing local emergency management. Exercise date has been scheduled for April 26 with after-action reporting meeting on April 27.

### 3. Integrated Emergency Management Workshop & Exercise

State government is bringing together department directors to attend course that culminates in an exercise the week of May 14, 2007. HSEMD has asked Polk County EMA to participate in exercise design and exercise control to better ensure appropriate local-state coordination.

## K. Public Education and Information

### 1. Hazmat Cost Recovery - Cityview

Cityview is planning a cover story article on the cost recovery program utilized by Polk County and the City of Des Moines Fire Department for hazardous materials program and response billing. Article scheduled to run in the March 22 edition.

### 2. KCCI Severe Weather Special

KCCI meteorologist Kurtis Gertz asked Coordinator to appear in the taping of their annual severe weather special to air the week of April 2. Taping to be scheduled.

## L. Homeland Security

### 1. Information Sharing

Coordinator continues to distribute relevant information from Department of Homeland Security, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Highway Watch Program, and other credible sources when received by the Agency. Staff is also working with LEIN Region 5 Fusion Center located in the DMPD to foster information sharing relationships among public and private sectors.

## VII. Old Business

### A. Transportable Radio Cabinet

**Background:** Radio communications capabilities are currently limited to mobile applications from the agency vehicle. This base communications weakness/lack of capability was identified by staff as well as by the Commission during the SWOT analysis. Staff requested a no obligation quote from Racom to build and install a transportable radio cabinet for the agency office/EOC. Racom has exclusive rights as vendor for Polk County Communications. This will allow radio communications capabilities with all three PSAPs during special events and disaster operations.

**Staff Recommendation:** Review and approve Racom proposal as provided in Attachment #2 and fund with 2005 HSGP funding from the EOC upgrade package supplemented by approximately \$2,000 from the agency's Supplies budget.

**Commission Discussion:** Following a staff presentation of the historical transcript from the Board of Supervisor's voting on awarding the Polk County Communications Center communications system bid and a letter confirming award to RACOM, the Commission requested that Steve Holmes be invited to the June meeting to field questions from Commission members. Was suggested that representatives from Des Moines Fire and Police Dispatch and WestCom be invited as well.

**Commission Action (May 2006):** Moved by Mathis, seconded by Holt to delay action until invited guests answer additional technical questions. Motion passed unanimously.

**Commission Action:** Moved by Vorlander, seconded by Walters to approve the purchase of the radio cabinet and request that the invoice be detailed to provide a break down for specific charges related to each radio purchase, programming, and installation. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion:** Roe inquired about the purchase of a WestCom radio. Coordinator explained that a WestCom radio would need to be purchased, but it was not part of the RACOM bid. Roe volunteered to get pricing and dimensions of radio that could be added to the cabinet and work with Steve Holmes of RACOM for details needed. Pricing and purchasing information would be passed along to the Coordinator for procurement with potential grant funding.

**Commission Action:** Moved by Roe, seconded by Holt to authorize the purchase of a mobile radio to be included in the Radio Cabinet as itemized on Illowa Communications Sales Quote dated 12 July 2006. Motion passed unanimously.

**Staff Update:** This project was a priority of the 2004 HSGP reauthorization application and will be implemented through those funds.

## **B. Polk County Fire Chiefs TEAMS Job Aids**

**Background:** The Polk County Fire Chiefs have approached the Commission with a request for funding assistance to produce laminated prompting cards to be placed at each dispatch consol and in each piece of fire apparatus in the county. The funding would also go towards the production of a job training video on the TEAMS and its implementation. Discussion also included finding ways for collaboration with law enforcement on the TEAMS. This project is eligible under 2005 HSGP Region 1 county pass through NIMS implementation funding.

**Executive Committee Action:** Moved by Whetstone, seconded by Walters to recommend to the Commission approval of funding support in an amount not to exceed \$500 for training tools and job aids to be NIMS compliant. Motion passed unanimously.

**Commission Action:** Moved by Roe, seconded by Bein to support the funding in an amount not to exceed \$500 for training tools and job aids to be NIMS compliant. Motion passed unanimously.

**Commission Discussion:** Recommendation will be made to the Polk County Fire Chief's Association to give consideration to all existing PSAPs in Polk County regarding language in job aides.

## **VIII. New Business**

### **A. Commission Elections for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**

**Background:** Commission elections are scheduled to be held in March. The Commission Chairperson has historically appointed a Nomination Committee to bring forward a slate of candidates for Commission Chair and Vice-Chair to be voted on in March.

**Nomination Subcommittee Recommendation:** The Nomination Subcommittee has reported to Staff that the stated desire of Commission Members is to present the following slate of candidates for the elected offices at the March meeting: Chairperson – Chief Phil Vorlander, Vice-Chairperson – Chief Gary Walters.

**Commission Action:** Motion by Nomination Subcommittee Chairperson Milewski to nominate Vorlander as Commission Chairperson and Walters as Commission Vice-Chairperson. No objections. Motion passed unanimously.

### **B. Intergovernmental Agreement for Sheltering with Kansas City, MO – Attachment #2**

**Background:** A proposal was recently made by the Kansas City, Missouri Office of Emergency Management to the Polk County Emergency Management Commission. Agreement has been shared with the County Attorney's Office as directed by Commission. County Attorney's Office has found no legal justification not to sign the agreement. Commission to hold a media conference with the representatives from Kansas City to sign the agreement in April provided the Commission approves the agreement.

**Staff Recommendation:** Approve the agreement with the City of Kansas City, Missouri as written and authorize the Chairperson to sign the agreement jointly with the Coordinator as the Commission's Authorized Representative.

**Executive Committee Action:** Moved by Walters, seconded by Phillips to approve the agreement and authorize the Chairperson and the Coordinator to sign the agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

**Commission Action:** Moved by Cox, seconded by Milewski to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation. Motion passed unanimously.

## **IX. Other Business**

**Commission Discussion:** Coordinator asked to draft a letter to past Chairperson Burns thanking him for his service to the Commission.

## **X. Upcoming Events**

- A. Executive Committee Meeting – March 14 @ 1100 hrs. – Polk County Communications Ctr.
- B. ISAC Spring School – March 18-20 – Des Moines Marriott
- C. Commission Meeting – March 21 @ 1300 hrs. – Polk County Public Health, 1914 Carpenter
- D. Severe Weather Awareness Week - April 2-6
- E. Statewide Tornado Drill – April 4 @ 1000 hrs.

- XI. Programs/Presentations** – Discussion of the draft of the Comprehensive Emergency Plan – Base Plan.  
**Commission Discussion:** Commission members discussed the draft plan for approximately 20 minutes. Discussion was captured by staff and will be reflected in second draft to be distributed in April. Goal is to approve the Base Plan in May.
- XII. Adjourn**  
**Executive Committee Action:** Moved by Milewski, seconded by Phillips to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously at 1402 hours.