

Marion County Emergency Management Commission Minutes  
February 08, 2017 at 7:00 pm at Marion County Public Health

1. Chair Jim Mitchell called the Marion County Emergency Management Commission meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.
2. Kim Pettyjohn took a verbal roll call and the following members were in attendance:

City of Bussey	Larry Pinegar
City of Hamilton	Absent
City of Harvey	Dennis Seibert
City of Knoxville	Brian Hatch
City of Marysville	Corey Bakalar (VC)
City of Melcher Dallas	Terry Fisher
City of Pella	Dan VanderBeek
City of Pleasantville	Bill Moore
City of Swan	Absent
Marion County BOS	Absent
Marion County Sheriff	Jason Sandholdt

*Also present*

Knoxville Fire Department	Jim Mitchell (Chair)
Knoxville Township Fire Dept	Kenny Thompson
Knoxville Township Fire Dept	Kyle Thompson
Knoxville Township Fire Dept	Tyler VanderLinden
Marion County Sheriff's Office	Martha Dykstra
Marion County EMA/E911	Jeff Anderson
Marion County EMA/E911	Kim Pettyjohn (Secretary)
Marion County Human Resources	Lisa Seddon
Pella Fire Department	Doug VanGorkom
Pella Police Department	Robert Bokinsky
Pella PD/E911 Com. Chair	Marcia Slycord

3. Approval of the Agenda:

On a motion by VanderBeek and a second by Bakalar, the agenda for regular session February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 was approved unanimously.

On a motion by VanderBeek and a second by Hatch, the consent agenda for regular session minutes from February 10, 2016 was approved unanimously. Chair Mitchell advised he believes there needs to be more than one meeting a year as there are some matters that need voted on and they will adhere to the by-laws.

4. Public Hearings:

There was a motion by Bakalar to open the public hearings, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Seibert. All were in favor. There were no written remarks and no one from the public present. There was a motion by Fisher and a second by VanderBeek to close the public hearing. All were in favor and the motion carried.

5. Other Business:

A. Appointment of Executive Board: Chair Mitchell advised the by-laws call for a chair, vice chair and three executive board members. He is chair and Bakalar is vice chair, so the appointment of three executive board members needed done. As the chair, he appointed VanderBeek from the City of Pella, Sheriff Sandholdt, and Fisher from the City of Melcher-Dallas. No action needed.

B. 28E for HazMat with City of Des Moines: Chair Mitchell advised he's received a 28E from the City of Des Moines and there are four cities from the Commission that are interested in obtaining an agreement to support, not replace, our current HazMat team. He advised the City and County Attorneys have read the 28E and have given no feedback. This would be for major incidents, as the county currently has no big brother to call. Knoxville has chemicals that come through and a lot are a hazardous waste and a mix of many chemicals. He advised they could have a situation that would be too much for the current team. As the incident commander for the City of Knoxville, he is concerned. He would like extra expertise and equipment for the current team. Des Moines has two trucks with over \$7million of equipment. There was a very thorough discussion on what Des Moines HazMat could provide. They operate on fiscal year and per year and their fee is \$18,931 annually and a charge of \$3,000 per response to the Commission. The Commission would bill the spiller and the spiller would reimburse the Commission. If the spiller is unknown then the Commission would pay for it. Anderson advised there is currently an agreement in place with Jasper County through IMAC. Mitchell advised Knoxville and Pella's concern is that agreement with them is that we would also take our stuff there. There was additional discussion on the actual amount that would be billed to the commission and Mitchell stated again it's an insurance policy. The discussion continued on the topic of who can make the call for the HazMat team. Some believe it should be the call of the incident commander or fire fighters on scene, others believe that EMA should still make the call, so HazMat isn't being called when not needed. There was discussion on why this is coming up again, when the county used to contract with Des Moines HazMat and then decided to do away with that contract and build their own HazMat team and now is looking at contracting with Des Moines again. Money spent was for the local HazMat team for training and to get up and running, so now it's being discussed to take that away and put into DSM for an insurance policy, where are we going to get money to put toward our own team. It was said that with the budget at \$50,000, that \$18,000 would be put toward the Des Moines contract and the remaining \$32,000 would go to the local team. Mitchell stated that maybe there is a different way to fund it, each city could put in a little. Anderson said that based on a mistake that was made previously with not sharing info with ICAP, he would like to provide them with copy for approval as they didn't know about it before and the county got penalized. There were questions on invoicing and how it all works and if this should all fall under the commission. Mitchell thought this would be a great conversation, but doesn't want to cloud that discussion with the DSM HazMat discussion. The discussion continued with the possibility of workers comp insurance and how many other counties (7) contract with Des Moines HazMat. It was asked how the BOS member Mark Raymie and how he feels about this and if his opinion has been asked. Mitchell advised he hasn't personally spoken to him, but knows city administrators have. Anderson advised the Board of Supervisors have different feel for this discussing what came up with his budget discussion. They feel the cities have no skin in the game and it is very easy for them to say sign another contract. They were upset with the cost in regards to HazMat, we had a contract, got rid of it and built a team. The BOS advised him to provide them with data on how to fund EMA. They asked him to explain the per-capita to them and he has no feedback from them. Mitchell asked how the current budget is drawn from taxation. Anderson advised it is funded through BOS through general supplemental and is done equally. There was a bit more discussion on how the EMA budget works and what

options there are to fund EMA. Anderson's fear is that if the commission signs an agreement with DSM HazMat, then they will have to go per capita. With this Pella will benefit and all others will be burdened. Sandholdt asked if this is a threat. Mrstik advised Pleasantville would have to levy and he would tell his citizens to complain to BOS. There was more discussion on this topic and Mitchell asked if they don't want to cut \$18,000, how do they come up with a new way to fund the contract with Des Moines. Anderson suggested to strike the DNR section from the contract, send it to ICAP for review and set up meetings to discuss this further. Fisher advised he would be in favor of a discussion with the BOS. The local HazMat team is a great asset and we don't want to hurt the members we currently have. Hatch stated there is enough disagreement and uncertainty to not move forward. He asked if they can take a few steps forward like striking DNR and have ICAP review it and have a discussion with the BOS. Anderson advised to submit the agreement as is with intent to strike the DNR. There was a motion to table this for further discussion by Bakalar and a second by Vanderbeek. All members were in favor and this agenda item was tabled.

- C. 28E with South Central Iowa Cedar Creek Watershed WMA Board: They are looking at ways to reduce stream infiltration and damages. A county engineer made a presentation and some of the numbers he presented were eye opening. According to data on an average year the Cedar Creek does approximately \$60,000 to Marion County. To Anderson this is something viable that we should be involved in if there is any way we can mitigate future damages to the county. This is long term and they meet once a month. They have also invited the ADLM EMA Commission. Sandholdt asked what the role would be if they signed the 28E. Anderson advised they just sign the 28E and then our commission has a membership on their board. There was additional discussion on what this would entail and why the EMA Commission should be involved. Sandholdt advised he did not feel this was necessary. Anderson advised the commission plays a huge role in mitigating future disasters. Fisher asked Anderson if he sees the importance of being on this board. Anderson advised if we can work on something that would reduce the damage to anywhere in the county wouldn't we take a hard look at it. There was a motion by Fisher and a second by Bakalar for the EMA Commission to join the South Central Iowa Cedar Creek Watershed WMA Board. The motion passed with a 7 to 2 vote.
- D. Potential new EMA budget financing option: Mitchell advised he finds it interesting that the BOS is alarmed at providing an \$18,000 service to the county, that they would offer a new budget financing that would cost everyone substantially more money, excluding Pella. It is the Commission to decide on how EMA is funded, not the BOS. Hatch asked if the BOS is actually proposing this change and Anderson advised it is just a discussion and they asked him to provide them with numbers. Sandholdt suggested the county attorney get asked who can make decisions for the Commission. Anderson advised John Benson with the state has said that BOS can decide not to use levies, which then gives two other funding options. Mrstik believes this sounded like a direct threat from the BOS and that it's unacceptable and unprofessional and the info will be passed on to taxpayers. Mitchell advised Des Moines HazMat doesn't care how the contract is funded, so maybe each jurisdiction can pitch in to pay for some of it. Sandholdt thinks it's ridiculous the Commission wouldn't pay for this and if so, there would be no need for the Commission. Mitchell asked if each entity wants to go back to their jurisdiction and see if there is money to scrap up. Sandholdt asked how many cities would have been in favor of doing the HazMat

contract and stated that this would have passed had there not been concern with the BOS funding. There was a bit more discussion on the actual budget and Anderson advised that per Benson BOS cannot defund a Commission they can only take levies away. There was question on how the BOS can say the Commission can't use what code 29C says they can. VanderBeek asked about adding \$18,000 to the \$50,000 HazMat budget. Anderson advised they couldn't do it today, but they could do a budget amendment if that's what they chose to do. Seddon advised she sat in on some budget meetings and the BOS threw many surprises at many people. They are not picking on one area, this was a countywide thing and they asked everyone how they can generate revenue without raising taxes. Mitchell stated he doesn't think they are picking on the Commission, but it sure sounded border line threatening. Seddon advised him to go to the BOS and ask them about it then. Hatch suggested that all individuals reach out to the BOS members so that they can move forward.

- E. Agreement with E911 Board: There was a brief discussion on the proposal from a few years back about the E911 Board and the EMA Commission sharing staff and how the EMA Commission had voted that they did not want to share staff with the E911 Board. Seddon asked what the issue with the county using 2 people to fill positions is and stated that there is no agreement between the E911 Board and the EMA Commission. Sandholdt stated there are multiple issues with this. Seddon advised the EMA Commission that if there is an issue with Anderson or Pettyjohn's performance then this needs to be directed to her. Mitchell advised he doesn't think there is a performance issue and brought it up in homes to bury this. Sandholdt advised he just wants determined that when the Commission acts upon something that BOS can't over rule it.
- F. Resolutions: Anderson advised the county contribution is the same as last year and that it's approximately \$12k less than FY 15/16. Anderson explained that this is due to the communication project and hazard mitigation plan that moved through. Sandholdt asked if you take out all grant funding it's the same and then made a motion to accept this as proposed. There was a second by Fisher. Bakalar asked if the 911 truck purchased and asked about the percentage of truck. Anderson advised it was done 50/50 and Sandholdt stated it should have been 75/25. There was more discussion on this and Anderson advised he would correct it in the budge. The motion carried.
- G. Housekeeping items: Anderson advised the Commission that they are compliant with all training and exercises and are eligible for grants. Anderson also advised the commission the Assistant Coordinator and Commission Secretary Kim Pettyjohn had received her Iowa Emergency Management Coordinator certification two years ahead of their five-year plan.

6. Adjournment:

- ❖ Bakalar motioned and VanderBeek seconded to adjourn the meeting and all were in favor.

Respectively submitted

Kim Pettyjohn