

Champaign County Local Emergency Management Program Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

October 30th, 2018

Location: ILEAS Boardroom
1701 E. Main St.
Urbana, IL 61802
Time: 10:30 AM

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman John Dwyer called the meeting to order at 10:30 am and introductions were made.

II. Public Comment

No public comments were offered.

III. Review and approval of minutes from the March 27th meeting.

A motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was made by Stephanie Vogelsang and seconded by Bill James, all approved.

IV. Purpose

To provide coordinated input by emergency management program stakeholders in the preparation, implementation, evaluation, and revision of the emergency management program.

John Dwyer defined the committee's role as that of an advisory group that provides community input to emergency management program.

V. Report on meeting needs of the community in the following areas:

1. Weather

John discussed issues with published weather information and what happens. The Thomasboro-Gifford tornado as an example, Champaign county was in the lowest category for an event; trained meteorologists identified the conditions were not right for a tornado to occur. A tornado did occur- after the storm ran its course did the NWS place Vermillion county into a Tornado Warning box. This is a reminder that communities must be on the radio during severe weather. A reminder is whenever the NWS issues a Tornado Warning or a Flash Flood Warning, all people within the polygon will have their smart devices activated warning them of the situation. Persons outside the polygon will not receive the WEA alert. CEMA recommends the download of the FEMA severe weather App and local media weather Apps to keep informed of severe weather.

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John Dwyer discussed the work EMA had done for special events. EMA has been informing the local NWS office of special events in the community to include fun days, marathon, and other community events.

The weather radio programming event conducted on July 18th with JC Fultz at the Walgreens is SW Champaign. 30-40 in store radios were purchased and programmed in addition to the unit's people brought in for programming.

The C-U at Home pamphlet on shelter services has been distributed by CCEMA to the local emergency responders.

Preparing for the upcoming winter season the Champaign County Community Winter Storm Planning meeting will be conducted on 13 December 2018.

The annual storm spotting class is scheduled for March 2019 at Parkland College.

2. Public Education

John Dwyer described the special NWS training video developed for emergency responders. Copies of this training is restricted to only to the emergency responder-Fire, Police, EMA and dispatch. This information is not for general distribution.

CCEMA is working with the Farm Bureau on weather safety and providing Ag emergency preparedness material. Animal Care course was conducted by IDPH of the care of animals in a disaster.

3. Disabled and special needs

PACE Inc has a pamphlet (Access Alley) outlining how people can obtain information about assistive technology. There is a loan closet available through Pace Inc for various durable items.

CCEMA has a limited number of weather alert radios for schools, medical facilities or nursing home facilities.

4. Minimizing the community and financial impact because of emergencies and disasters.

Elected Official Workshop had a large representation from community leaders. The plan is to coordinate for the 8-hours workshop and expand the invitation list to include the hospitals. On the ILEAS training schedule is a Cyber-security course, it is recommended to anyone having significant computer networks attend this class. The financial cost of a cyber-attack on a community is tremendous.

5. Training and Training Opportunities

Other training events include: Pipeline exercise with people's Gas; Tolono tornado exercise; Douglas County HazMat exercise; the UI POD exercise.

6. Innovation through Technology

CCEMA utilizes professional grade radar software to monitor and track severe weather. The outdoor sirens of C-U, UI and Savoy and the controllers at CCEMA and METCAD

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have been inspected by Federal Signal to determine what is required to modernize and update the system and alerting capabilities. As an interim measure, the use of the NWS published polygons will be used to activate the sirens in the C-U, UI and Savoy whenever a tornado warning polygon is on or over a listed community boundary. CCEMA has license from the State to use WebEOC for reporting and tracking disaster information. CCEMA is using amateur radio resources to complement and enhance information exchange in an emergency as well as reduce the impact on the limited government frequencies available.

VI. Open Discussion

C-U at Home emergency sheltering plan for winter 2018. 70 E Washington is a men's facility to operate between Nov. 12, 2018 and March 30, 2019 between the hours of 2030 and 0730. This will be a damp facility. The Austin House for women will open on 1 December. C-U opens as an emergency warming center from 1200-1700 when the feel-like temperature gets to 10 degrees F.

C-U has initiated a work program offering those without addresses a portion of a day to work for cash on civic improvement activities.

C-U at Home, announced the One Winter Night is scheduled for February 1, 2019 to bring attention to the homeless issues during winter.

CCEMA participation in the UI Climate Study has identified the probable need for cooling centers to be established during the summer months.

CCEMA has a stockpile of large print and braille emergency information packets for anyone needing such material.

Carle Hospital addressed the on-going grant for distributing bleed-control kits. Process began with providing kits to schools, this has been expanded to health care facilities. The upcoming grant period hopes to address the placement of these devices into community define locations such as churches, movies and other concentrated sites.

UI Utilities, Keith Erickson identified that the UI will be conducting a hazmat exercise with Urbana and Champaign on 19 November at the Abbott facility. This year the spill will move north toward the boneyard.

The results of the spring Norfolk and Southern survey mirrors the information gathered in previous rail and road studies that flammables, corrosives and gases are the primary products being transported.

VII. Next Meeting: March 26, 2019

VIII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Sherry Wooten and seconded by Anita Guffey, all approved.

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Attendees:

John Dwyer	CCEMA
Bill James	CCEMA
Sherry Wooten	UIPD
Stephanie Vogelsang	UIPD
Carol Vorel	WDWS-WHMS-WKIO, News Gazette
Rob Davies	C-UPHD
Vic White	Prairieview-Ogden
Russell Rudd	Vermillion County EMA
Kelly-Jane Monahan	C-U at Home
Avi Laird	Pace Inc
Keith Erickson	UI Utilities
Hannah McDonald	Champaign Co Soil and Water Conservation Dist.