

Buffalo County Minutes

Committee/Board: Local Emergency Planning Committee

Date of Meeting: Thursday, August 20, 2020

Date of Filing: Wednesday, August 26, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Hentges at 2:00 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Tom Hentges, Mr. Bruce Fuerbringer, Mr. Dave Rynders (via TEAMS), Mr. Leif Tolokken (via TEAMS), Mr. Ryan Howell (Sheriff's Dept.), Mr. Jason Poser (via TEAMS), Burlie Williams (Red Cross via TEAMS).

Members Excused: Michael Taylor, Roxann Halverson, Sonya Hansen, April Loeffler, Carol Burmeister, David Brommerich, Robert Jumbeck, Hwy. Dept. Representative –vacant.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Motion by Leif Tolokken to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Dave Rynders. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None.

Review/Discussion/Action: LEPC Financial Report: The financial report was presented by Mr. Fuerbringer. It was noted that spending outside of wages has been minimal due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Approximately 41% of the Emergency Management/LEPC 2020 budget has been expended as of the end of July. The budget is expected to come in under budget with limited expenditures likely the continued immediate trend with the pandemic in play. Committee acknowledged the financial report without a motion.

Review/Discussion/Action: Spill Report: No spills to report since the last meeting.

Review/Discussion/Action: EPCRA Grant Award: Mr. Fuerbringer reported that he had received a letter dated August 3, 2020 from Wisconsin Emergency Management indicating that the FFY20 EPCRA (LEPC) grant award is \$5,611.03, contingent on the successful completion of the FFY20 EPCRA plan of work requirements. No action required.

Review/Discussion/Action: Approval Request for 2021 EPCRA/LEPC Budget: Mr. Fuerbringer presented the fiscal budget plan for the EPCRA/LEPC portion of Emergency Management. The budget is based on the EPCRA grant award, which represents 50% of the budget, the County provided the 50% balance in funding. Mandated expenditures include the annual publishing of the Right-to-Know newspaper ad. Other expenditures involving outreach efforts were also mentioned, as well as Off-

Site report requirements for EPCRA planning facilities. Motion by Lief Tolokken to approve the 2021 budget as presented, seconded by Dave Rynders. Motion carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Emergency Management Directors Report:

Mr. Fuerbringer explained items he has been working on as described in his written report. Included in the report was information that the full-scale exercise slated for Fountain City in September 2020 has been postponed until late spring 2021 due to COVID19 concerns. FEMA has granted an extension of the project and associated grant monies. The pandemic has also created a large demand for personal protective equipment (PPE), which Mr. Fuerbringer has been very involved in procuring and dissemination to local emergency response agencies, and county public service departments and agencies.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding LEPC Member Reports: None.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the LEPC Chair Report: None.

Introduction of new American Red Cross Representative: Ms. Burlie Williams of the La Crosse office of the American Red Cross noted that the Red Cross service areas were adjusted so that Buffalo County will not be served by the La Crosse office. She stated that Ms. Mollie McCormick will be the individual working with Buffalo County. Ms McCormick was presently deployed to Iowa to assist with the tornado damaged areas and was unable to attend this meeting, but will be doing so in the future.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Next Meeting Date and Time:

Adjourn: Motion by Lief Tolokken, seconded by Mr. Ryan Howell to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted:

Bruce Fuerbringer
Buffalo County Interim Emergency Management Director