


Lac qui Parle County
Local Emergency Planning Committee
4th Qtr. Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order – **1:08pm**
(8 Members Present, 0 Public)
Blain Johnson, Gloria Tobias, Mike Cleveland, Ann Jensen, Scott Schake, Kirsten Gloege, Allen Anderson, Josh Beniga.
2. Introductions (*name, title/agency*)
Mike Cleveland introduced himself. He has applied for Jerry Berge's old position as maintenance supervisor and is hopeful he gets the job, filling it temporarily right now. Normal members represented the rest of the group.
3. Approval of 3rd Q Minutes / 4th Q Agenda
Motion: Anderson, Seconded: Beniga. No Discussion. Motion passed.
4. Old Business
 - a. County Shelter Agreements
Blain updated group that Lac qui Parle Valley and Dawson-Boyd Schools signed an updated Red Cross Sheltering agreement to use for citizens in the event a shelter is needed. Blain is working on additional shelter signatures and assessments but warns it may be a while before they are signed.
5. New Business
 - a. Bylaws review
Blain still working on. Hopes to have draft out for January meeting for official approval.
 - b. Law enforcement report (*Sheriff Anderson, Chief Stock*)
New CAD Map system, more options. No major update.
 - c. Emergency manager report
 - i. 2019 Flooding Update, FEMA
FEMA has talked to all county departments and are working through the townships. Blain said the process has been very easy and the check for EM is already on its way. Things are going well it sounds like.
 - ii. Weather Update
Wet, normal temperatures. Blain said the NOAA site is offline until the new budget is approved so he was unable to access the data he usually uses for the update.
 - iii. Hazard Mitigation Plan
Finally into HSEM and FEMA for approval after 2.5 years. Looking to get that back to utilize Hazard Mitigation money for Dan Aakre who is

looking for assistance for his house move, levee building, or buyout options. Blain working with him on options.

d. **County/City Emergency Exercise**

Ann discussed Dawson FD mock car crash with Ambulance and SO on Sept 18th. 3 car, 8 victim triage with helicopter landing. First landing on the new Dawson Hospital helipad. Went well, with a good hotwash. Looking to do a county exercise.

Ann participated in a dual county (Nobles/Murray Co) exercise which was very good, but took a lot of planning.

Design Team Meeting: **Thursday, December 5th @ 2pm Design Team Meeting** via Conference Call. Blain will send out information. All LEPC members invited to attend.

e. **County Radio Drill (Nov. 14 @ 6pm)**

Blain scheduled a county radio drill for first responders for Nov 14th at 6pm to test interoperability and access and knowledge of radios. Dispatch wants to test out a couple patches and simultaneous hails to local responders.

Family Services does not have 800mhz radio, neither does the courthouse. (Flyer handed out). Mike said county highway is still on VHF, Scott added Fire and EMS is still pages on VHF. Blain said schools wanted to participate, but neither has an ARMER radios. Some committee members worried about how long radios are going to last, Blain threw in an Emergency Management grant for 9 new radio's. Will not find out about that until March or so.

f. **No Travel Advisory Policy**

Blain, Al, and Sam met yesterday and revised the January 2019 No Travel Advisory policy and changed some language. Main changes were to additionally page out responders to let them know. Also a morning meeting between Al, Sam, and Blain before schools decide to open/delay for the day.

g. **LENS signups**

Blain plans to revise signup sheet. Asks members to push that out to courthouse and other agency staff/volunteers. Thinks we have about 450 signups but would like to see more. Al mentioned we need to get the IPAWS portion working to push no matter the registration status for cell phones; especially when 911 is down, we can notify citizens. Blain will work with dispatch on training and testing the county IPAWS certificate.

6. **Communications Roundtable**

How do we communicate when a security issue or emergency happens. Family services can send a group text if something happens. Mike said the highway department just calls one another, Al seconded that calling is sometimes the easiest way. Josh said the courthouse has panic buttons, but family services does not have this feature yet, so they would need to call dispatch if there was an issue. Blain said Jake just developed an 'all employee' email list which could be utilized. Family Services on a different email server (co.lac-qui-parle.mn.us, not lqpc.com).

Committee didn't think the county webpage was used very much so it is unsure how much of an effect utilizing this medium is for

7. Election of Officers for 2020

Chair: Blain Johnson, Vice-Chair: John Maatz, Secretary: Kirsten Gloege.

Motion: Anderson, Second: Beniga, No Discussion. Motion Passed.

Welcome to the Board Kirsten!

8. Committee Member Updates

a. Agency Updates

Public Health (Gloria): Next June MDH has a statewide POD (Point of Dispensing) exercise on June 17th, Gloria helping with planning. Hospitals may practice 'closed POD' in conjunction. Dawn Bjergund picked to replace Gloria when she retires in March of 2020; she starts November 4th. Gloria will be missed!

Mike Cleveland (Otis): Getting ready for winter, prepping the plows. County highway has 3 openings now and the department is still reeling from the loss of maintenance supervisor Jerry Berge. Mike applied for the maintenance supervisor position, if he got that, there would be additional positions that would need to be filled. All road damage fixed and taken care of from the 2019 flooding. Co Hwy looking to get a couple cots in the shops in case employees need to stay the night if the weather gets too bad this winter.

Dawson Ambulance (Ann): Nothing new.

Madison Ambulance (Scott): 205 calls on the year, about average. A slight uptick in mental health transports.

Family Services (Kirsten): All staff got flu shots from hospital/public health. Have presenter coming on the 23rd discussing rural mental health/stress focused on stress. They are 1st or 2nd in suicide rates across the nation.

Sheriff's Office (Al): Was the 2019 'poster-child' for the Madison Hospital Flu Shot PR Campaign on Facebook! Mindee Lovgren resigned from the dispatch center, Al has no plans to fill until it is decided on what is done with dispatch and a new building; he will backfill with current staff. No county building committee update, next meeting is set for November. Al went to a dementia awareness speaker at the last Madison Kiwanis Meeting, and wants to start pushing that through the Sheriff's Office and becoming a 'Dementia-Friendly Community'.

Veterans Office/Safety (Josh): Got a urgent-care benefit. Vets can go to an urgent care facility 3 times per year and it will be paid for (Madison and Canby). Nothing other than that.

Emergency Management (Blain): Update – Blain is working on getting a forecast point for the Dawson river gage and is working with the NOAA and North River Forecast Center on that. Models still need to be run on the drainage basin so does not think it will be done by spring. This will help in preparedness and response efforts for local responders during times of high waters.

9. Public Comments

None present

10. Next meeting

- a. Thursday, Jan 9th, 2020 @ 1-2:30 – EOC

Committee set 2020 Meeting dates. All will occur at the County EOC at 1:00pm.

1st Quarter – January 9th

2nd Quarter – April 9th

3rd Quarter – July 9th

4th Quarter – October 15th

11. Adjournment – 2:19pm

Motion: Anderson, Second: Beniga. No Discussion. Motion passed

Meeting #: 6