

  
**Lac qui Parle County**  
**Local Emergency Planning Committee**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Qtr. Meeting Minutes**

**1. Call to Order – 1:08pm**

(10 Members Present, 0 Public)

*Blain Johnson, Kirsten Gloege, Jordan Baldwin, Dave Craigmile, Don Tweet, John Maatz, Jill Wittnebel, Ann Jenson, Gloria Tobias, Dawn Bjorgan*

**2. Introductions (name, title/agency)**

Dawn Bjorgan introduced herself as Gloria's replacement who will be retiring from Countryside in March this year. Jordan Baldwin is representing the Dawson PD today.

**3. Approval of 4<sup>th</sup> Q Minutes / 1<sup>st</sup> Q Agenda**

Motion: Craigmile, Second: Jenson. No Discussion. Motion passed.

**4. Old Business**

a. County-wide radio drill – Nov 14<sup>th</sup>

Blain updated committee on successful 11-14 radio drill. 16 local agencies participated minus the highway department. Steve Tait from ECN was present at the exercise and was impressed by the event. There were a few patching issues with dispatch and programming issues with the hospital, but easily fixable items. The exercise was highlighted on the ECN website:

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ecn/Pages/default.aspx>

b. Dawson Radio Training – Jan 8<sup>th</sup>

ECN's Steve Tait conducted 1.5 hr radio training at the hospital in Dawson which went well. Was set up by Dawson-Boyd PD and attended by school, hospital, sheriff's office, EM, and city staff. Blain likes the idea of hosting this in Madison for rest of county and surrounding fire departments.

**5. New Business**

a. Law enforcement report (*Sheriff Anderson, Chief Stock*)

Nothing new. Brandon is leaving Dawson PD for Florida effective at the end of January. Al not present.

b. Emergency manager report (Blain Johnson)

i. 2019 Flooding Update, FEMA

Still finishing up from flooding. Blain just finished paperwork for county reimbursement for his time and other mapping costs in the amount of \$12,000. Some issues with FEMA being reported, but nothing significant. Lac qui Parle Twp was accidentally left out of the process by the state and FEMA but Blain has been working with them and Tim Milbeck on ensuring the Twp receives appropriate reimbursement.

ii. Weather Update

20" of snowfall so far this year. December was a degree above normal but overall the year was below average temps. The very wet conditions

continue, with hopes of some dry months before spring melt. Dave will add to weather report.

iii. **Spring Flooding Potential**

State is voicing concern and encouraging preparedness for spring runoff. Wet fall and early snowstorms have put us in a precarious condition once again, on top one of the wettest years on record; water concerns. Melt is the big factor moving forward: how fast will it warm up and will we get any precipitation during that time.

iv. **Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Getting approved by FEMA, and is needed to get certain forms of assistance. Should be signed off on by March after each individual city signs off.

v. **Email Spam Attacks**

Blain had county email impersonated asking for different direct deposit information. Encourages everyone to be mindful of spam attacks. Also will double-check with county IT provider (Morris Electronics) to ensure training and exercises are being provided to county.

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

d. **2020 MDH POD Exercise**

Gloria gave committee an update on the June 17<sup>th</sup> MDH sponsored Point of Distribution (POD) exercise which has to be done statewide every 5 years. Each LPH has to open up a POD (Lac qui Parle Valley HS) for mass dispensing in an event of a large disease outbreak. Need to determine how long it takes patients to get through POD, need 50 volunteers at minimum. Gloria and Dawn had EM and EP meeting to discuss options and security. Addition topics were discussed by Gloria and Dawn.

e. **LENS signups**

Blain encouraged everyone to push the local emergency notification system to their volunteers and staff if they get the opportunity. There is a silent mode for nighttime so registrants do not get woken up by an alert. Blain will put a local ad in both papers this winter to encourage signups. Discussed IPAWS function.

6. **2020 County Exercise Planning Discussion**

a. **HazMat Incident at AGP in Dawson**

Blain discussed Dec 5<sup>th</sup> conference call with some of the committee. Exercise idea is to have a Hexane spill at the AGP plant in Dawson causing a large county-wide response from fire, ems, hospital, law enforcement, and the school. Want to focus the exercise on Incident Command, roles and responsibilities by agency, communications, and resources. Preliminary Exercise Date: **April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @ 6pm** in Dawson somewhere. Blain will send out survey to schedule next meeting. Some discussion on whether or not to hold a tabletop vs full-scale – room in general agreement a tabletop (discussion-based) should come before a full-scale; allowing agencies to discuss the issue before attempting to response physically.

7. **Committee Member Updates**

a. **Agency Updates**

**Countryside PH (Gloria/Dawn):** Nothing to add to MDH FSE 2020 discussion

**Dawson Ambulance (Ann):** Rep Hewitt discussion of retention issues for rural ambulance services. A lot of 2020 legislative initiatives involving EMS. Hewitt will be hosting a town hall meeting in Redwood at the RAC next Wednesday (1-15) beginning at 6:30pm.

**Madison Hospital (Jill):** Just did full-scale. Did tabletop first and had multiple planning meetings. Waiting on Dan to get back to them.

**LqP Board (John):** Had organizational meeting and set up 2020 structure. Todd Patzer will be Board Chair; John will again serve as the LEPC rep.

**Watershed/Zoning (Dave):** Jenny Breberg delegated to inspect all the feedlots. Done annually on rotation. Watershed has been dealing with concerns over reservoir in S. Dakota at top of watershed. Meeting with commissioners to renew. Water quality studies are ongoing, will lead into a plan. Discussed MNDNR stream gages (3). Radar installed in one south of Dawson, pressure sensors on bottom of river on the other one at 5 mi corner, trying to upgrade that.

Blain mentioned Dan Aakre's buyout; who is no longer looking at leaving after preliminary studies by the LqP Hwy Dept on the new bridge near his house were favorable for water flow around their property.

## 8. Public Comments

None present

## 9. Next meeting

- a. Thursday, Apr 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020: 1-2:30 – EOC

## 10. Adjournment – **2:10pm**

Motion: Tobias, Second: Maatz. No discussion. Motion passed.

*Meeting #: 7*