

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
REGULAR MEETING: December 19, 2022 1:00 p.m.
Room 003 Chippewa County Courthouse

1. CALL TO ORDER

John Andersen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Note
John Andersen	Chairperson, Media Rep.	Present	
Russell J. Bauer	Emergency Management	Present	
Jerry Clark	UW Extension	Present	
Chris Elstrand	Transportation	Present	
Rick Bowe	Citizen Representative	Present	
Amanda Lierman	Industry Representative	Present	
Chip Eckardt	Citizen Amateur Radio Representative	Present	
John Bowe	HazMat/Fire Dept. Representative	Present	
Tamee Foldy	Emergency Communications Center Dir.	Present	
Angela Weideman	Public Health Officer	Absent	
Travis Klukas	Mayo Clinic Health System	Present	
George Rohmeyer	County Board Representative	Present	
Marcy Trubshaw	Emergency Management	Present	

Also present: Randy Scholz, County Administrator

Introductions

3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO BE HEARD

None

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve the Agenda
- B. Approve the Minutes of **October 24, 2022**
- C. Upcoming Meeting Dates:
 - February 20, 2023** One week early due to Governor's conference
 - April 24, 2023**
 - August 28, 2023**
 - October 23, 2023**

Motion by Jerry Clark to approved the consent agenda with adjustments, minutes and next meeting date. Second by Rick Bowe. Motion carried unanimously. Randy Scholz moved to speak first.

5. REPORTS

A. Emergency Management Department consolidation with the Sheriff's Department Randy Scholz

A move to house Emergency Management under the Sheriff's Department was approved by the Law and Legal, Executive and County Board committees. Emergency Management will continue to have its' own budget. There will no longer be an Emergency Management Department Head. The position will be a Division Head and will report to the Chief Deputy Curt Dutton. The pay scale will be lowered however, experience will play a role into the pay location in the range. The financial difference will go back into the Sheriff's 9-1-1 dispatch increases.

The Administrator researched other counties and determined this would be the best option for Chippewa County. The department already is physically located in the Sheriff's building.

John Andersen shared three concerns. Initially, the county administrator should have reached out to the stakeholders. Also, the Sheriff, as an elected position, is a very political position. Also, the wage is not competitive.

He also stated that if a grant is missed there is significant fallout.

Chip Eckardt wanted to re-evaluate the position in one year. George Rohmeyer stated that a department chair of a county committee can request items for the County Board agenda.

Randy stated that after evaluation the position can change.

B. Chairman's Report – John Andersen

John Andersen shared thoughts and concerns regarding the recent change for Emergency Management to fall under the Sheriff's Department. These are things he has shared with the county board and the county administrator.

It was suggested that someone represent Emergency Management on the hiring committee. Motion by Rick Bowe with a second by Tamee Foldy to have Lisa Olson-McDonald serve on the hiring committee. Motion carried and will be taken forward to Chief Deputy Curt Cutton.

Note: October 2023 agenda to review current Emergency Management paradigm.

John Andersen commended Russ Bauer for his tireless work with all stakeholders as an Emergency Manager.

C. Hazardous Materials Events –John Bowe

EPCRA grant for Haz Mat equipment was submitted to the state for payment.

The first week in January there will be a meeting between Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls Level A teams to determine the Level A team status. John Bowe suggests contacting State Senator Jesse James regarding funding for the Level A team.

John discussed the spill of 200 gallons of diesel this past quarter. This did not require a team call out.

By April there will need to be determined what haz mat supplies will be requested for the Haz Mat 2023 Equipment Grant.

D. Emergency Management Report – Russ Bauer

- Russ discussed the turnover to Chief Deputy Dutton
- The courthouse will have new hours
7:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Thursday
7:30 am to noon on Friday
- The Governor's Conference is at the end of February. If two members wanted to attend they should let Russ know.
- Next Generation 911 grant is in. Tamee Foldy has requested equipment and planning and zoning has requested a GIS Grant
- Cornell is having their EOP ratified. Stanley is well on their way with their EOP.
- Russ gave a report on the winter storm. It involved a long-term power outage which involved 10 power companies. Is undetermined if Wisconsin Disaster Funds will be made available. The state WebEOC lets the state know the status of the counties

E. Community Partner Reports

Chris Elstran (Chippewa County Highway) discussed that community members will not get bare roads during storms such as the recent winter storm. He also discussed the the public safety personnel need to know the weight limits for the bridges when they are planning a detour.

Tamee Foldy reminder fire/EMS the dispatch will call highway.

John Andersen mentioned that if power line are down they should be barricaded off and the department will be free to respond to other calls.

Travis Klukas said Mayo will b running an active shooter tabletop.

The Rescue Task Force was discussed. Needs to approach law enforcement first.

Jerry Clark discussed Farm Tech Days 2024 which will be held at the Country Fest grounds August 13-15, 2024. The Close Farms will be the supporting farm.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS: None

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Tamee Foldy, second by Jerry Clark to adjourn. Motion carried 3:03 pm