

# VERNON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

September 4th, 2019

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dennis Brault-Chairman, David Eggen, Glenda Sullivan- Vice Chairperson, Kay Stanek

**OTHERS ATTENDING:** Brandon Larson- Vernon County Emergency Management, Diane McGinnis- Community Development

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Cary Joholski

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dennis Brault at 09:30a.m. Affirmation of the proper meeting notice was recited by Chairman Brault.

The minutes of the August 7th 2019 meeting have been reviewed by the committee as mailed. Glenda Sullivan made a motion to approve the minutes and seconded by Kay Stanek. All voted aye. 4-Yes, 0-No

**#4. Audience to Visitors:** None

**#5. Discussion on transfer of property purchased with FEMA funds:**

- Diane M discussed a property on County Road P near Kolbo road that the County purchased in 2016 under a FEMA buyout. The WI DNR and Battle Bluff State Natural Area Conservatory are interested in the property as it connects to the property they use. It would give them better access to their property. The property is about 1 acre in size. The County cannot sell it due to FEMA restrictions, it can only be donated to certain nonprofits. Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) is okay with going ahead. McGinnis stated if the County donated it they would no longer be responsible for it but would have to check the property for FEMA compliance in 3 years. Dave Eggen mentioned the Highway Department plans to replace a bridge in front of the property in 2023, McGinnis stated she would talk with Phil Hewitt on this and it would be stated in the paperwork if donated. All in attendance were okay with McGinnis to move forward with donating the property after she talked with Hewitt and drafted paperwork with Corp Counsel. McGinnis also stated that since the beginning of the buyouts that if properties could be donated to certain nonprofits to do so as long as they follow the deed restrictions.

**#6. Command Post Generator:**

- Larson discussed he had issues with the generator not running last month. He took it to Coulee Region RV to have them look at it. They sent it to a certified company in Minneapolis MN. It was found that it would cost \$2,400 to fix it. Larson stated there have been problems in the past with it not running. Larson stated he has funds within his budget to either fix it or

purchase a new generator for \$5,980 plus labor and freight. Discussion was had and a motion was made by Stanek to purchase a new generator and transfer funds within the budget as needed. A second was made by Sullivan. All voted Aye 4-Yes, 0-No

#### **#7. Director's Report:**

- Larson gave an update on the flooding from July. The Preliminary Damage Assessments went very well and FMEA only had 2 questions and got answers for them. He stated a federal declaration has been issued for the County and he and municipalities will start to work more with WEM and FEMA next week. There was about \$405,000 in public infrastructure damage in the County.
- Larson discussed the 2019 EMPG and EPCRA grants are due at the end of the month and the 2020 EMPG and EPCRA grants have been submitted and are awaiting approval.
- Larson stated the National Night Out went very well and ID cards were made for kids and about 200 were made in 4 hours.
- Larson discussed the Vernon Co fair next week, he will have the Field Command Post there and is working to fill EMS shifts for the first aid station.
- Larson is working on hydrostatic testing of 27 medical oxygen tanks and then refilling them .He stated this needs to be done every 5 years, these are kept in the Mass Casualty trailer.
- Larson is working with GIS to finalize the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program grant, will be submitting a final reimbursement request in the next week.
- September is preparedness month and Larson is doing some public outreach for this
- Larson has had a lot of news outlet inquiries in regards to the 1 year anniversary of the 2018 floods.
- Larson stated he is driving the red pick-ups more and taking them home at night, he wanted the committee to be aware and make sure they were okay with it in case they had any inquiries. All were okay with Larson taking them home at night in case of an after-hours emergency.
- Larson is working with Deputy Stuber on more emergency trainings for staff.
- The hazmat team may try and work with Grant Co hazmat for some joint trainings.

#### **#8. Responses Made:**

- Air trailer went to Genoa and Wheatland to refill their Cascade Air bottles.
- The Command Post was in Coon Valley for the canoe races.
- Drone callout to take pictures of an aircraft crash.

**#9. Presentation/ Approval of Invoices and Vouchers:** Larson discussed what bills would be paid this month and will be putting together vouchers for them. Larson will deliver them to the Clerk's office and Chairman Brault will sign them. Motion was made by Eggen and seconded by Sullivan to approve the bills. All voted Aye. 4-Yes, 0-No

**#10. Any other items for discussion for next meeting:** Eggen discussed the dams in Timber Coulee that are in Monroe County but directly affect residents in Vernon Co. He mentioned the watershed studies that may be done and wondering if reaching out to legislatures would help. Larson stated he could reach out to some and talk with Land and Water some and have an update in October.

**#11. NEXT MEETING DATE:** October 2nd 2019 at 09:30am in the Erlandson building basement conference room.

With no other business to discuss, Eggen made a motion to adjourn with a second by Brault. All voted aye. 4-Yes, 0-No Adjourned at 10:33a.m.

**The next Emergency Management Committee meeting will be held on October 2nd at 09:30a.m.**