

**Cedar County Joint Emergency Management Commission**  
**1410 Cedar Street**  
**Tipton, IA 52772**  
**(563)886-3355**

The regular quarterly meeting of the Cedar County Joint Emergency Management Commission was held on April 11, 2024, both in-person and by online forum with the call originating from the Cedar County EMA Administrative Offices at 1410 Cedar Street, Tipton, IA 52772. Those attending in-person included: Jon Bell, Cedar County Supervisor; Warren Wethington, Cedar County Sheriff; Joe Sparks, Mayor of Bennett; Andrew Oberbreckling, Mayor of Mechanicsville; Tammi Goerdts, Mayor of Tipton; Todd Sawyer, Mayor of Stanwood; Roger Laughlin, Mayor of West Branch; Kevin Stoolman, West Branch Fire Chief; Adam Paidar, Mechanicsville Fire Chief; Jared Semsch, Durant Fire Chief; Dan Sterner, Durant City Council Member; Dan Baker, Mechanicsville Fire Department; Jodi Freet, Director Cedar County EMA/911; Mindy Beekman, Office Coordinator Cedar County EMA; Sue Hall, Press.

Chair Bell called the meeting to order at 7:24 pm.

Sterner made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Laughlin. Motion carried.

Sparks made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2024 regular meeting; seconded by Sterner. Motion carried.

Goerdts made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2024 public budget hearing; seconded by Laughlin. Motion carried.

Chair Bell yielded the floor to Freet to discuss expenditures and revenues from the previous quarter. There were no atypical expenses for January. February expenses brought several atypical expenditures. January snow removal billed in February \$4,725.58, D&R Pest Control for ant problem \$133.75, X-treme Pest Eliminators \$150.00, Cedar County Fair Association \$160.00 for fair passes and booth space, and Thomas Heating and Air for Boiler Service \$85.60. March atypical expenses county newspapers for public hearing publication \$289.70, APCO Conference \$100.00, and Quad Cities Disaster Conference \$40.00. Sterner made a motion to approve the expenditures; seconded by Goerdts. Motion carried.

Freet provided updates on old business:

a. Building updates:

Freet advised that she is addressing items as they come up.

- i. Water fountain – does not work. Keeping on list.
- ii. Battery backup on the sump pump – Keeping on list.
- iii. Faucets in restrooms were leaking and replaced.
- iv. Freet advised that Mowing and Snow Removal RFP are included in the packet. These will be available for public to pick up in the office and also online.

b. Grants:

- i. Freet advised she will be applying for the Community Action Foundation Grant again. The scope of this grant (if awarded) would include restarting the weather radio distribution to Cedar County families that have completed a family emergency plan.
- ii. Freet advised Cedar County EMPG for 2024, is in process at a 9-10% decrease.

- iii. Freet advised that she will be applying for the Theisen's Grant again with a focus on weather with a request for funding for an automatic weather station or animal focus if possible.
  - iv. Walmart Foundation Grant to be applied for animal rescue to help county resources as kennels are available in the state but take some time to get to the county.
  - c. Special needs registry is still being developed in conjunction with Public Health. Goal is to have this established by the end of the fiscal year. A meeting has been set up for May 16, 2024.
  - d. NVOAD Conference May 5-10, 2024, Director Freet will be attending as representative for the IDHRC. Funds will be reimbursed but there may be less than \$500 for incidentals.
  - e. Freet will also be attending the IEMA Conference November 15-21, 2024. IEMA will be reimbursing \$2,000 towards total conference, flight and hotel reservations. Hotel begins booking in June for room.
  - f. Freet explained the FEMA National Qualifications Standards (NQS) and advised that the FEMA NQS Policy needs to be adopted in order to receive EMPG. Planning for full adoption in July.
  - g. Cedar County EMS – meetings are being scheduled, job descriptions in process
- Chair Bell yielded the floor to Director Freet to discuss planning, training, exercises and outreach.

a. Planning -

- i. ESF 10 (HAZMAT) is in process with a plan for July adoption.
- ii. ESF Basic, ESF 5, and RSF Basic are presented for adoption. Sparks made a motion to approve both emergency support functions and recovery support function; Seconded by Laughlin. Motion carried.
- iii. Supplemental plans are still in process. Debris management, sheltering, mass casualty plans are being developed. There is now a list of supplemental plans to be written.
- iv. Hazard Mitigation Plan Annual Update meeting was held and report sent March 2, 2024

b. Training -

- i. Freet advised has completed the application for her CEM and has submitted it, test to be scheduled in May.
- ii. Training Schedule was presented in the packet.
- iii. ICS Training – The active shooter tabletop at Durant addressed some additional need for more ICS training in the county.
  - 1. Freet advised that First Thursday ICS trainings to the Second Thursday of every month. All that would benefit from ICS would be welcome to come including businesses and community members.
- iv. Freet announced that there are some cyber security trainings available now online. Freet advised that she would be able to arrange if members of the community or businesses would need this.

c. Exercises

Freet advised that there have been several active shooter table tops and school tours scheduled since the swatting incident at West Branch. These tours enable law enforcement to tour the schools to become familiar with the layout of the schools

- i. Completed
  - 1. February 21, 2024 Bennett School Active Shooter Tabletop.
  - 2. March 28, 2024 Durant School Active Shooter Tabletop.
- ii. Scheduled – there are no more school tours scheduled at this time but more training for Durant next week.

New Business

- a. Freet advised that 29C is still being proposed at the State House. Updates to the change in this legislation include the ability to impose a county-wide levy and changes to the membership of the Emergency Management Commission.
- b. Contact information update sheets will be going out to the municipalities. Any changes to Police Chief, Fire Chief or City officials must be in writing signed by the mayor.
- c. Hazard mitigation plan
  - i. Five Year Update – will need to start in fall as it is unable to be updated until BRIC grant is awarded.
- d. Outreach
  - i. Director Freet advised that she participated in the Kirkwood Job Fair.
- e. Freet advised that there is currently a threat of Bird Flu – H5N1 being transmitted to dairy cattle herds. Milk that is pasteurized is not a danger. Concern for the raw milk products now sold in Iowa was raised by Chair Bell.
- f. Freet advised that the paperwork for the snow disaster in January is still pending presidential approval.
- g. Freet advised that there is currently a drought but the weather predictions indicate there should be some measured relief this spring.

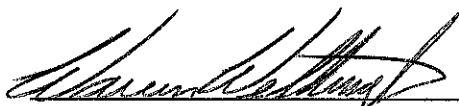
Personnel/Office Updates – Freet advised that there were none.

Issues from Public or Emergency Responders – none mentioned

The next regular meeting will be July 18, 2024 at 7pm at 1410 Cedar Street, Tipton

Sparks made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Sterner. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Minutes approved July 18, 2024

  
Warren Wethington, Vice Chair

  
Jodi Freet, EMA Director