

# Montgomery County Board

## EMA/Ambulance Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> 2013

**Time:** 3:30 PM – EMA Office

Present: Chairman Glenn Savage, Chuck Graden, Sharon Kuchar, Mike Webb and County Board Chairman Roy Hertel.

Members Absent: Joe Gasparich

Others Present: Diana Holmes, Rick Robbins, Greg Nimmo, Simon Stepp from Patton Mining, Heather Hamton+Knodle, Bill and Ruth Schroeder, Mary Ellen McClure and Catherine Edmiston.

### **Ambulance Call Reports:**

Collections: August \$106,311.65, Sept. \$ 72,836.45 (Old system \$71.00 New system \$72,765.45)

**AMBULANCE REPORT:** August Calls Total 318, Total Billed \$178,637.40, Collected \$106,311.65.

EMA:

**Update/Approval Meeting with Deer Run Mine:** Director Holmes reported that she attended a meeting with Deer Run Mine on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 regarding the Refuse Facility Two which is a coal slurry impoundment facility. The following agencies attended the meeting: Stan Krushas IEMA, Jeremy Bishoff IDNR, Diana Holmes MC EMA, Patton Mining Simon Stepp, and Clayton Cross. Simon Stepp from Patton Mining addressed the committee and guests to explain Refuse Facility Two. There are procedures and protocol in the Emergency Plan that is in the EMA office that would take effect if there was an emergency with the Refuse Facility Two. Mr. Stepp explained that the facility is inspected weekly by himself or other agencies. The Federal Government goes out one to two times per quarter. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources inspectors are also there once a month to check everything. The standards for the impoundment facility far exceed the Litchfield or Hillsboro dams. The facility is designed for two 29 inches of rain in a 24 hour period back to back. It is also designed to withstand earthquakes. The walls of the impoundment facility are rock, clay, shale and limestone. The center is fine refuse. The clay is compacted and so tight that hardly any water passes through. Mr. Stepp also stated that compaction testing is done on the sides of the facility and out of a 1000 tests, not one has failed. These tests are done twice a month. The coal slurry which goes into the impoundment are small pieces of rock and the material is about 30% solid when it comes out. You can actually stand on the material that comes out as it dries out very quickly. If no other slurry is added to the pit it will dry out completely in about three to four years. When the impoundment facility gets full then you have to build another facility. The current impoundment will last about five years and is ½ mile wide by ½ mile long and is 67 feet tall. The only thing that goes into the donut shaped impoundment facility is the material that is pumped from the coal mine or rain water. No waterways empty into or leave the impoundment. There is an overflow pipe installed in case of a large amount of rain water being in the facility. This is placed there to insure that the water does not overflow the walls. There is also a drain system under the whole facility. Mr. Schroeder asked how the coal slurry gets to the impoundment facility and Stepp replied that it is pumped there. Mary Ellen McClure asked if they have a generator if there is a power failure and Stepp replied affirmatively. There should be no problems with the two impoundment facilities being close together. The concern is if one has a breach, what would happen to the other. The law requires the coal mine to have all emergency procedures in place. There is something in the emergency plan to address the problem if there was ever a failure. Employees are trained and certified each year to inspect the impoundment facility. There was concern addressed about the emergency evacuation plan if the walls would fail. Mr. Stepp stated that emergency plan included the steps that would be taken and how the notification would be done. Mr. Schroeder asked about a fire in the coal piles that could

happen at the facility. The coal mine has many systems in place for fire. Mr. Schroeder also wanted to know how notification will get out to the public about the fires. Mr. Stepp stated that the Coal mine has the means to put out the fires and if needed could notify the public. Director Holmes stated that according to the size of the event, emergency services will notify the public and would provide shelters if necessary. Hertel asked how many facilities will be built in 20 years of the life of the coal mine. Stepp replied that there would be three impoundment facilities.

1. Update/Approval – October 15<sup>th</sup> will be going to Springfield to get the StarCom 21 radio re-banded. Cost will be \$98.69 paid to Springfield Wireless USA. StarCom is a separate radio that works similar to a cell phone. It should only be used if there is a major disaster. It is tested once a month. This is not for day to day operations unless we want to pay a large monthly fee.
2. Update/Approval IEMA Conference: Attended September 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> As follows;
  - a) County needs to carry workmen's compensation insurance for all volunteers that may be doing work for the County in various areas not just EMA. Savage suggested that Holmes find out from Treasurer Jenkins and Assistant States Attorney to see what is covered. Chairman Hertel stated that we are covered for liability, but doesn't know about workmen's compensation.
  - b) County needs to do a County risk assessment once a year. Holmes stated that she does this every once in a while. Check and get reports on large business that keep large amount of chemicals on their premise. The fire departments should also get a copy of this info for emergency purposes.
  - c) Fire Alarms, smoke detectors, and sprinkler systems need to be tested on a regular basis. Sprinkler systems need tested by a licensed contractor two times per year trained and well versed in testing of sprinkler systems. Pull stations and smoke detectors need tested once a year. Holmes will check with Warehams and Mac Fire and Safety to get qualified contractors for these tests.
  - d) When doing communications exercises, include Local Fire, EMS, Law Enforcement, HAM operators, and StarCom21 users.
  - e.) County Awareness needs to address "Critical Infrastructure and Resources". We need to have a meeting and address some issues that may have an impact on the County. Holmes would like to have the ILEAS Representative setup a meeting or class to address issues that may come up. There is not a charge for this service, meetings and classes are at no cost. Savage stated that we need the strongest communication system that we can have.
  - f.) Moore Oklahoma Tornado on May 2013
    - 1) Search and Rescue Operations should include People and Pets.
    - 2) A place to store donated items (warehouse or large building)
    - 3.) Reunification area for victims and families.
    - 4.) Updated information (every hour if possible) from Public Information Officer, County spokesperson, Incident Command, Law Enforcement, Fire Service. One spokesperson only with confirmed information.
    - 5.) Designated reunification for Companion Animals; animal control, animal shelter, a designated building or area. (Encourage pet owners to have their animals "Micro Chipped" for easy identification)
    - 6.) Designated area for Media.
    - 7.) Control the perimeter of damaged area to keep out looters and "John Q Public" from just wanting to take pictures or look at the damage.
    - 8.) A system for allowing residents back into the area to claim their personal items.
    - 9.) Damage Assessment Team to help with identification of property.  
Suggested members for a damage assessment team; SOA, Insurance Agencies, Damage assessment team from area red cross. You can have your own county or city assessment team.

- 10.) County/City should have a Face Book or Twitter Account for information sharing. For emergencies and also other information that may need to be disseminated to reach a large number of readers.
3. Update/Approval Will the CodeRed call system have Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD or something similar?) A public safety issue like a water main break would be notified to Waggoner. Other general emergencies: Public safety issues such as Bank robberies, domestic person with weapon, missing child, hazardous materials, spills, gas tank leaks and the need to evacuate. Road closures will not work. This system will be operational in the next couple of weeks. A public press release will be sent out the public. Citizens will be educated on how they can enter their cell phones for notifications. Only 24 hour a day, 7 days a week telecommunication systems will have access to this system. Montgomery County, Litchfield and Hillsboro. Crime Stoppers has paid for the first year of the service in the amount of about \$7,300.
  4. Update/Approval FYI - IEMA School Safety Drill Act. Holmes gave information regarding Public Act 098-0048 regarding the School Safety Drill Act. Regional Office of Education Superintendent Marchelle Kassebaum has been notified of these changes
  5. Update/Approval FYI - Table Top Exercise is scheduled with the Health Department on Monday October 21<sup>st</sup> 6:30PM. A meal will be served at 6:30PM and the exercise starts at 7:00 PM at the Free Methodist Church Hillsboro.
  6. Update/Approval Ambulance reports not all turned in since today is just the first of the month.

Pay the Bills: Motion by Mike Webb and second by Sharon Kuchar to approve the bills. All in favor, motion carried.

Adjourn: Motion by Mike Webb and second by Sharon Kuchar. All in favor, motion carried.

Time: 4:50 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by acting Secretary Christine Daniels as deputized by the Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder, Sandy Leitheiser.