

## May 26, 2022 – Meeting Minutes Story County Emergency Operations Center

### **Attendees:**

Scot Wheeler- Lincolnway Energy	Brenda Duppong- Lincolnway Energy
Brad Azeltine – Iowa DOT	Jim Hanson-Iowa DOT
Amanda Bottorff-Ag Leader	Lan Kookier-Hy-Vee
Kyle Dagestad-Ames Lab	Sean Whalen-Ames Lab
Rich Higgins – Ames FD	Karen Tapper – Ames FD
Gary Backous – Story Co Sheriff’s Office	Kyle Thompson- Story County Sheriff’s Office
Clayton Oliver- Iowa State University	Kyle Vander Molen-Syngenta Seeds
Melissa Spencer- SCEMA	

### **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 1:30 PM by SCEMA Deputy Spencer with a welcome and introductions

### **Approval of Agenda & Minutes**

Approval of February 2022 minutes and May Tentative Agenda. Motion by Backous, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Azeltine. MCU

### **Guest Speaker: Chief Rich Higgins-Ames Fire- Ames Train Derailment**

Chief Rich Higgins presented information on the response with Union Pacific to the train derailment in Ames in June 2021. The train derailed behind the Public Works area west of the Dayton Road overpass. The derailment contained hazardous material train cars with liquid petroleum gas (LPG), hydrogen peroxide, and ethanol. A train car full of corn syrup was leaking that presented a potential environmental hazard if it reached the Skunk River that was nearby.

The Story County Sheriff’s Office deployed drones to assist Ames with viewing the location as it was not easy to see due to the remote area and train cars going off both sides of the tracks. The drones assisted with gathering car numbers and confirming there was no fire. The Sheriff’s Office is willing to respond 24/7 when needed.

Union Pacific responded quickly and was integrated into the Unified Command for the incident. Union Pacific quickly deployed equipment and started the clean up and restoration process. Due to the large number of personnel, at times it was difficult to determine who from Union Pacific was in charge and the decision maker. Command had to ensure Union Pacific was keeping them apprised of risky operations.

During the month-long recovery, Union Pacific rented the public works yard to stage equipment and damaged cars. Ames had to quickly assess the costs of renting the property for reimbursement. Union Pacific reimbursed the city for staff and equipment time and also for the trees outside of their right of way that had to be removed.

Other lessons learned were:

- Assume every car on the train contains hazardous materials
- Obtain weather information. Emergency Management was able to get spot weather forecasts for the incident area.

- Be ready for Union Pacific to take over the scene and bring a large amount of equipment that will need to be staged.
- Document expenses to include staff, equipment and any environmental damages.
- Work with SCEMA to obtain resources and spot weather reports.

**Old Business: None**

**New Business:**

**OSHA Letter to Amazon**

On December 10, 2021 a tornado struck an Amazon warehouse in Edwardsville, IL resulting in 6<sup>th</sup> deaths. While there were no straight forward violations there were recommendations made on how Amazon should improve their warning notification and sheltering processes for employees and contractors. Reviewing and testing your severe weather protocols is important not only for your staff but also to ensure all visitors or contractors are accounted for as well.

Link to OSHA report: <https://www.osha.gov/news/newsreleases/region5/04262022>

**Training: None**

**Exercises:**

The SCEMA and City of Ames is planning a full-scale exercise of the Story County Emergency Operations Center and Ames Incident Command Center in April 2023.

**IDNR reported spills:**

04/12/22- Kum And Go 2108 Isaac Newton Drive, Ames-Ames Fire soaked up a 5 gallon spill of gasoline

04/22/22- Duff Ave, Ames- CyRide spilled 6qts of motor oil between 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> streets. No remediation due to heavy rain.

05/02/22- Hwy 30 & University Off Ramp- Cyride bus spilled 9 gallons of anti-freeze

05-09-22- Almaco, 99 M Ave- 80 gallons of hydraulic fluid on premise. Some fluid reached a storm water intake. Company conducted remediation and checked Indian Creek for sheen.

**Other:**

**Hy-Vee Disaster Response-Lance Kookier**

Hy-Vee now has a disaster response semi-truck and a fleet of 10 pickup trucks that can be deployed to bring resources to a community or county struck by disaster. They have trucks and supplies staged around the state and can be requested at any time. They have deployed to Kentucky and Louisiana with mission to bring food and water and also Winterset Iowa after the tornado. If you need Hy-Vee's resources they can be requested through the SCEMA.

The Story County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) will be purchasing ground and water based robotic equipment that once the teams are trained will be available for response. The SCSO Drone Team received an international award from AUVSI for their work.

**Next meeting:** August 25, 2022

Motion to adjourn by Backous, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Whalen.