

# SUMMIT COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

August 15, 2024

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The Summit County Emergency Management Executive Committee (EMEC) meeting was called to order on Thursday, August 15, 2024, at 10:02 am in the Summit Emergency EOC, 166 S. High St., Basement, Akron, OH 44308.

Apostellet, a resident of Summit County, was here to speak to the SC Emergency Management Committee. She stated she went to the Akron Assistance Oversight Board Meeting last night and discussed that victims don't feel safe through the emergency process. One of the topics on the agenda for this meeting was behavioral threat evaluation. She wanted to make it aware that victims do not feel safe when they are in crisis, and their behavior will not be normal. She asked this to be reviewed. Bruce Koellner stated this committee deals primarily with public health and safety through mitigation or other emergency management issues.

## I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lori Pesci motioned to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2024, meeting, with Donna Skoda as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.

## II. CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

### Correspondence Sent and Received

Tommy Smoot discussed the correspondence.

- FEMA Letter approving the 2024 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Communities are working on adopting these and getting them into us.
- Letter from the Health Care Alliance of Ohio asking for a letter of support for the regional grant
- OEMA Ohio Traveler Alert System
- Appointment of Tommy Smoot to the National Resilient Advisory Board

## III. OLD BUSINESS

- None

## IV. NEW BUSINESS

- DPSC Subcommittee – Shelter and Mass Care changes for the EOP (amendment to current plan). They wanted to be better represented in the plan; they are a resource for disseminating shelter information with specific annexes and changing certain acronyms to fit certain situations better. Copies of the changes were made available. Lori Pesci made a motion to approve the changes with Chief Funai as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.

## V. EMA AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT:

## Emergency Management Agency Report

Tommy Smoot reported:

### Members

- Congratulations to Chief Harding and Chief Henderson

### Operational

- ARES equipment upgraded at the SECC; Press release on the great partnership with ARES.

### Incidents

- Space Weather  
Per NASA -, on Thursday, May 9, 2024, the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center issued a Severe (G4) Geomagnetic Storm Watch. At least five earth-directed coronal mass ejections (CMEs) were observed and expected to arrive as early as midday Friday, May 10, 2024, and persist through Sunday, May 12, 2024. Several strong flares have been observed over the past few days and were associated with a large and magnetically complex sunspot cluster, which is 16 times the diameter of Earth.
  - Weather-related death, reported by the NWS on Sumner street
    - We have in our log that the tree fell on the home at approximately 10:25 AM EDT on May 22, 2024.
    - Thunderstorms were moving through the area and we issued a Special Weather Statement at 10:05 AM to warn of possible wind gusts to 50 mph and half inch diameter hail through 10:45 AM EDT.
    - At 10:26 AM EDT, Akron-Fulton International Airport recorded a west wind of 30 mph, gusting to 44 mph. The airport is located approximately 3.25 miles from the home at 478 Sumner St. Akron, OH.
    - Severe Thunderstorm Warnings are issued when winds of 58 mph or greater or hail of one inch diameter or larger are expected so a Severe Thunderstorm Warning was not in effect.
    - Tornado Outbreaks across Ohio
    - 8/6/24 - The NWS confirmed an EF-1, with 104 mph winds, in Summit County. The storm, which was on the ground for 3.32 miles, started in Richfield and ended in the Boston area (CVNP).  
<https://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=cle&issuedby=CLE&product=LSR>
    - Ohio Governor DeWine declared a state of emergency for 8 counties from the August 6th tornado incident. We are working on collecting preliminary damage assessments from the local communities.

### Planning

- 2024 Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR) and NIMS Surveys completed with Ohio EMA Summit County NIMS rollup will be due in September

## Meetings

- Board of Elections (Traffic/Security Meeting)
  - Board of Elections (EMA resources)
  - Board of Elections (SCSO)
  - B-Weekly calls with the Secretary of State
- Cuyahoga Falls and Silverlake police memorial
- New ARES equipment installed for the EOC at the SECC
- National Preparedness Month (September) legislation was introduced to Summit County Council August 5, 2024
- Meeting with the ADM Board
- DPSC/EMEC Workshop September 11-13 at Maumee Bay

### **Tim Gemind** reported on the following:

- All branches continue productive monthly training.
- Seven divers completed and passed the first phase of the Water Rescue Dive Trainer course. Congratulation letters were sent.
- Next month, the TROT Branch is hosting a four-day grant-funded HERS training for 32 people. Most are current TROT members, but some are from the Region. Feedback indicated a fantastic training.
- Captain Geiger from Green Fire will be stepping down as the Deputy Director of the Hazmat Branch. The SCSORT Board will work on a replacement.
- We are working on ongoing maintenance and repairs for minor and miscellaneous equipment.
- The 2022/2023 SCSORT Bi-Annual report was distributed.
- Activations
  - Hazmat SRA phone assessment to Bath Fire for a diesel spill
  - Hazmat response to Royal Chemical in Macedonia for an explosion and release of Sodium Hydroxide
  - Water rescue to Canton for possible drowning – false alarm
  - Swift Water Rescue Team EMAC request to SC. The team assembled but did not deploy.
  - 14-person Swift Water Rescue Team EMAC request/deployment to Pinebluff, NC for anticipated flooding from Tropical Storm Debby. Ten-day deployment. They arrived last Wednesday afternoon and returned Saturday night after completing three missions.
- October 4<sup>th</sup> is the LEPC Annual Conference at the American Red Cross

### **Angela Robinson** reported the following:

- FY23 SHSP- 4 Teams 13 Projects awarded totaling \$755,784.00- All projects are currently in progress of being procured.
- FY22 SHSP- 8 projects awarded totaling \$636,612.00. All projects that were originally awarded have been completed.
- FY21 SHSP- 9 projects 8 complete, award totaling \$550,780.00. The final project, Regional Triage Tags, is being completed this week. All the Regional Directors have come to pick up the tags for their respective county. A training will follow. It is being finalized and will be sent to all EMA Directors once scheduled. The grant has to be completed by August 31, 2024

- FY24 SAR Stipend (\$9,334) and FY24 SAR- Water (\$8,083.00) Regional- Both grants have been procured and are completed. The final reports were emailed to OEMA on 4.24.24.
- FY22 Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant: to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The grant has been completed, and the plan has been approved according to the letter Tommy circulated in today's meeting.
- FY22 Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO Grant)- Submitted for two specialized hazmat trainings. \$27,825.00. The grant is 100% reimbursable; the grant application closed on May 31. Grant awards should be announced in August. They provided a counteroffer due to an overabundance of grant applicants still waiting for a grant award, likely sometime in August.
- FY22 HMEP Year 3- Grant for specialized hazmat teams that respond to chemical incidents while being transported, for instance, a train derailment, tanker explosion, or chemical spill in a waterway or on a highway, all of which the hazmat team has responded to within the last year. Grant was submitted for three training courses totaling \$53,550.00. Given a verbal grant award but is waiting to receive the official award and paperwork.
- FY24 SHSP- No announcement yet; sometime soon, Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) said it would be released on 8/12/24; however, we still have not received anything yet.
- FY22-24 HMEP Year 2- Grant 4 specialized Hazmat Trainings for SC Hazmat Team, total grant award \$52,950.00, 80% reimbursable, and 20% cost share. The final training will be held next week, August 21-23. The grant performance period ends Sept 29, 2024
- Completed and submitted all quarterly reporting for all grants through OEMA for the performance period ending 6.30.24
- Completed and submitted the Quarterly EMPG Cash Request for the performance period ending 6.30.24. This grant will reimburse a portion of EMA's quarterly expenses.
- Completed and submitted the County Inventory Audit- this is an inventory audit to account for all EMA equipment
- Working with OEMA to reconcile old balances so accounts can be closed out.
- Completed various trainings offered though SC Public Safety and the Summit County Public Library
- Completed various training on the the Ohio Department of Public Safety Website.
- Completed the State Fraud Training
- Completed the annually required County Office of Information Technology Trainings

**Faylin Thurn** reported the following:

- BTERC (Behavioral Threat Evaluation and Reporting Course) DHS 9/30/24
- EMA 101 for Elected Officials, SECC, 10/3 & 10/10/24
- PER-374 Tactical OPS 10/22-24/24 Central Hower
- LEPC Conference 10/4/24 at the Red Cross (The Fire Chief from East Palestine has agreed to be a presenter)
- DART – Drone Awareness and Response Tactics, 143 First St., SE Massillon 11/4/24
- ICS 300 Green Fire Station 1, 11/6-8/24
- ICS 400 Green Fire Station 1, 12/9-10-24

**Joseph St. John** reported the following:

#### Mitigation

- 2023/2024 Plan update
  - Received FEMA approval letter on April 19. Good for 5 years, expiring April 19, 2029
  - Working with communities to adopt a plan.
    - Have received 24/31
  - Other organizations involved in the plan are in the works to adopt as well

#### Summit Ready

- 10 communities/organizations have begun the process and submitted initial applications
- 3 communities/organizations are Summit Ready through 2028
- Reached out to outstanding applicants to help move the process along in July

#### DPSC

- EMS Subcommittee
  - Angela has been working to get the tags distributed to the 12 counties
  - We received 10,453 total tags (printer did not do rounded amounts) and will work on a distribution plan
  - Plan to provide training to county EMS educators on September 17 at SECC
  - Will also work to put together a quick 30-minute training for regional partners on tag use and design

#### Exercise

- Akron Canton Airport Exercise on 5/14; SCEMA with SC PIO group tested JIC capabilities
- New tags were tried here for the first time and good feedback on design/ease of use

#### EOP

- Plan up for review by the state in 2025; DPSC subcommittees have discussed for upcoming goals

#### EMA App

- Download numbers: OCV is having issues displaying count; last reported back in June was 2,974
- New feature for summer "HeatRisk" to identify the risk of heat exposure and potential health effects, as well as air quality
- Has been a good resource to share with the damage reporting feature embedded in the app

#### Other

- Tommy and I have been working with the board of elections on election security, building security plans, and communication methods for the upcoming November election
- 2024 DOT Emergency Response Guidebooks (ERG) were distributed in July. Extras are still available, including for departments that have already received an allocation

- Assisted with weather reporting for the Akron Marathon 8k in June

### **Summit County Public Health**

Donna Skoda updated on the Avian flu. There is no human-to-human transmission. Typically, it is direct exposure from milk splashed into someone's eye by a milking machine. Right now, they are focusing on human surveys. Right now, everyone has been mildly ill.

Covid numbers are up. There are increased hospitalizations. There is a new vaccine coming out in September. Previous vaccines are no longer valid. Only 20% of Summit County residents took the last vaccine.

A new flu shot will be coming out and tailored to what is circulating now.

SCPH is under construction, and the parking lot has been renovated.

There was a bat exposure at a camp in Richland County. This was contained and only 1 Summit County resident was involved.

### **800 MHz Radio System Report**

No updates

### **VI. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Congratulations to Chris Barker as the new Summit County Health Commissioner when Donna Skoda retires.

### **VII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn with Chief Harding as the second. The motion was carried by voice vote.

The next meeting will be on October 17, 2024, at 10:00 am.