

Poweshiek County Emergency Management Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday March 25, 2026 6PM BASF Learning Center & Zoom

Meeting called to order at 1804.

Members present are BoS, Brooklyn, Deep River, Grinnell, Buernsey, Hartwick, Malcom, Sheriff, EMA.

Motion was entertained to approve the agenda. Motion made by Sheriff, seconded by BoS. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

Previous minutes from January were read. No changes or corrections necessary. Motion entertained to approve minutes as presented. Motion made by Sheriff, seconded by Guernsey. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Guest speaker-Melissa Strovers from Poweshiek Economic Development did a presentation to mayors and members present on brainstorming ways partnerships and ideas within the group could benefit the economic growth and vitality of our communities and the county. Eric Reif of Victor attended as a guest and presented ways Iowa County is strengthening their shared resources and partnerships among cities for growth and development.

OLD BUSINESS

EMA presented that he has had a few people complete some of the required FEMA trainings prior to the most recent government shutdown, but with the new shutdown in place that momentum has fallen off. Once the FEMA site is back up and running following the shutdown, EMA will send out reminders to complete training.

EMA presented that the new truck is in at Karl EV and scheduled to go into upfit sometime in May. EMA presented on whether the Commission wanted to wait until the new truck was in before requesting sealed bids for the current Tahoe, or do it sooner contingent on new vehicle delivery. Sheriff recommended keeping in touch with Karl EV and once the truck goes into upfit and they can provide a definitive timeline of delivery, post the sealed bid request for current Tahoe with enough overlap that the new truck will arrive and be in service prior to opening bids. Starting bid price is agreed upon of \$34,000 and to post for 30 days on the county website and share widely among agencies.

EMA stated he has not heard anymore from cell services about lake area coverage. EMA did note that a new tower site is being built near Brooklyn. Hopefully more to come as the merger takes affect.

EMA presented that the 5 county Disaster Task Force conducted our functional exercise on March 10. Feedback from the exercise so far has been good in terms of capabilities and

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understanding of roles and responsibilities as well as integrating different agencies together that normally don't get to work together to achieve a common goal. Some of the early areas for improvement focus on the general exercise design and carry out of the exercise that lead to some more confusion than anticipated. The full AAR is expected to be out in April and we will begin to gear up for the full scale in June.

EMA expressed to the Commission the need to get the surveys completed and turned in to Two Rivers EM for our HMP update. Some expressed some confusion o completing the mitigation projects survey. EMA will send out his survey response to aid in completion of city ones. EMA is also meeting with mayors that have questions or concerns over that survey at 530 on April 15 prior to the Commission meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

January claims and budget were discussed with line item expenses presented in detail with explanations where the descriptions were not correct. For January the budget remains at 34.66%. No questions or concerns raised from Commission over January claims and budget. Motion made to approve January claims and budget by Hartwick, seconded by BoS. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

February claims and budget we discussed with line item expenses presented in detail with explanations noted where descriptions were not correct or required elaboration. For February the budget remains at 29.67%. No questions or concerns raised from Commission over February claims and budget. Motion made to approve the February claims and budget by Sheriff, seconded by Hartwick. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

EMA presented the Commission with the ICAP policy analysis and recommendations from North Risk Partners. The recommendations were to increase deductible amounts and total liability coverage as well as increase coverages to some items that did not include contents or personal property. EMA presented these recommendations to ICAP who will be providing a quote for the premium reflecting these recommended changes.

EMA presented the Commission with the Broker of Record letter which would effectively change the ICAP policy agent from Ramsey Weeks to North Risk Partners. Discussion was had on whether to make this change effective immediately or wait until the policy renewal in August. It was determined to make the change effective immediately upon signing. Motion was made by Sheriff to change the broker of record from Ramsey Weeks to North Risk Partners effective immediately. Seconded by Guernsey. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed. Letter was signed by Chair, Vice Chair, and Coordinator. EMA will send letter to all affected parties.

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EMA presented the Commission with an MOU that was recommended by North Risk Partners between the EMC and Poweshiek County stating that while many of the vehicles are titled as “Poweshiek County” the EMC is who owns, operates, maintains, and insures all vehicles. The MOU included a list of vehicles and equipment that are titled Poweshiek County, but owned, operated by, maintained by, and insured by the Commission. As vehicles are replaced, titles of future vehicles will be titled as “Poweshiek County EMC” designating the Commission as the owner of said equipment and eventually over a period of time the MOU will become null and void. Motion to approve and sign the MOU was made by Hartwick, seconded by Brooklyn. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed. MOU signed by Chair and Coordinator. EMA will send signed MOU to all affected parties.

OTHER DISCUSSION

NONE

NEXT MEETING

April 15, 2026 6PM Malcom Auditorium and Zoom

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Sheriff and seconded by Guernsey to adjourn. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 1900.

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