

Emergency Management Board  
Meeting Minutes  
February 17, 2020  
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

The Grand Forks Emergency Management Board met on Monday, February 17, 2020 at 4:00 PM in the Emergency Operations Center, 122 S 5 St, Grand Forks. Board members present were Diane Knauf, Danny Weigel, Michelle Rakoczy and Heather Everson.

I. Call to Order

Michelle Rakoczy, EM Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from Emergency Management Board meeting held on December 5, 2019. Heather Everson made a motion to approve the minutes from January 20, 2020. Danny Weigel second. Motion passed.

III. New Business

A. Flood planning update

NWS the flood forecast on Jan 17 for the Red River to meet or exceeding 48.8 ft was a 50% probability. Flood forecast on Feb 17 at 50% probability was 48.9 ft. Next flood forecast from the NWS will be issued on Feb 27. The City is preparing dikes to 49 - 52 ft or 25% of the probability of reaching 51.1 ft. Frost depth is 2 ft under the snow and 3 ft under the roads. City has made the decision not to raise the levees. City will make a decision on issuing the Presidential Declaration at the city council meeting on Tuesday, Feb 18. Next city flood meeting will be held on Feb 28 at 9:00 am at the Public Works conference room.

Northern Plains UAS Test Site has offered to fly over the valley to scan the area early in the flooding season which will result in good historical data for future flood planning. The GFPD and GFFD will be assisting in dike patrol.

EOC planning committee met on Jan 31 at 1:00 pm. The decision among the committee was to keep the EOC as the primary POC and preparations to make the EOC operational is ongoing. 400,000 sandbags arrived at the county shop last week. 200,000 of those bags will be issued to the city.

B. Veoci update

Altru and UND is setting up a public facing form in Veoci that we can use to reach out to volunteers in any event including flood cleanup this spring. Kari will be attending Veoci Bootcamp in Orlando, Fl on March 17 – 19.

C. Applicant Briefing

DES will be holding an Applicant Briefing on Wed, Feb 19 at 2:00 pm via Skype. The Applicant Briefing for Public Assistance is a result of the Presidential Declaration for the 2019 fall flood event. Applicants are those jurisdictions that submitted damages from flooding and are applying for reimbursement.

Flood insurance meetings were held on Jan 23 and 30 and Feb 2. Flood meetings were well attended. A recording of the flood insurance meeting on Jan 30 is available on the city website.

D. Hazmat Plan Update

The Kick-Off Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Meeting was held on Wed, Feb 12 at 6:30 pm in the Public Safety Center. It was well attended for the first meeting. The second meeting for the HMP update will be held on Mon, March 2 at 6:30 pm.

IV Discussion

CERT training discussed for sandbagging efforts if needed. GFK Airport asked if their CERT could be included in the Grand Forks County CERT. GFAFB also reached out to the Grand Forks County CERT and asked if they would come out and do CERT training on the Base. A CERT Basic training class is planned for the fall of 2020.

Discussion on the BNSF railroad increasing the speeds from 20 to 35 mph in the City of Grand Forks on Feb 28 from Third Street to 55 St N.

Next Board Meeting is scheduled for **March 16 at 4:00 PM** in the EOC.

V. Adjournment.

Diane Knauf made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Heather Everson second the motion. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.