

ADAIR COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 20, 2015
8TH DAY JULY REGULAR

The Adair County Commission convened at 8:30 a.m. on July 20, 2015 in the Courthouse at Kirksville. Presiding Commissioner Pickens and Commissioner Adams were present. Commissioner Thompson was absent.

At 10:00 a.m., the Commission met with Kirksville Fire Chief, Ron Stewart, and Adair County Health Director, Jim LeBaron. Also present was Adair County Sheriff/ Emergency Management Director, Robert Hardwick. Discussion followed regarding disaster preparedness to establish a plan for a volunteer reception center (VRC). Actions had already been taken by the Health Department to establish a VRC in case of a health emergency. The Health Department had also established a Memorandum of Understanding with the Kirksville R-III School District and had added them as a rider to their insurance policy.

Mr. LeBaron wanted to know from the Commission if they thought the steering committee for the VRC project was headed in the right direction regarding the needs of the entire area in case of a disaster or emergency.

Commissioner Adams stated that the Commission had discussed the use of the County Annex as a staging area in the past. The drawback was the lack of availability to support multiple phone systems if needed. Commissioner Adams also stated that if there was any kind of an emergency, the support of the Adair County Road and Bridge Department along with the Mapping Department would be available.

Mr. LeBaron mentioned the efforts now taking place in Quincy, Illinois following extensive storm damage. Sheila McCartney, Steering Committee Member, was in Quincy this past weekend and observed how their VRC had been set up. It included an initial volunteer sign-in. The volunteers were then directed to their assigned working areas for further safety and procedure training before working. This made everything run more efficiently and effectively. Mr. LeBaron said the goal was to establish a plan in advance with organized standards and resources before a disaster or emergency occurred.

Sheriff Hardwick said that following the 2009 tornado, there were large amounts of donated food and supplies coming into the County and they had to search out places to store it. If there had been an organized plan for supplies, it would definitely have helped. There were also discussions to investigate the accessibility of large empty buildings to centralize the receiving and distribution of supplies. The former Collin's Rental building was mentioned as a possible location.

Mr. LeBaron said that they were going to be doing the first practice run of setting up a VRC during the October 1st drive-by flu clinic at the Northeast Missouri fair grounds. They will be coordinating with State health agencies to establish an emergency preparedness exercise.

Mr. Stewart said they would also be meeting with other organizations, cities, mayors, and groups to establish their own plans and to enter into their own Memorandums of Understanding place if such a need would arise. He invited everyone to attend the next steering committee meeting and will contact them with the date of the next meeting.

The Commission spent the rest of the day attending to County business.

The Adair County Commission adjourned at 4:00 p.m. on July 20, 2015.

ATTEST:


County Clerk


Presiding Commissioner