

Emergency Management Commission

7-15-2026 Meeting

4:35 PM

Attending were Glen Hoyt, Paul Ver Meer, Kristie Nixon, Judy Hopkins, Dennis Brown, with Bridget Mitchell via ZOOM. Missing was representation from Sheriff's Department, Arispe, Lorimor and Creston.

- A. With the absence of Brian, Dennis called the meeting to order at 4:36 PM.*
- B. Glen made a motion to accept the Agenda as presented. Kristie seconded that motion. No discussion. All in favor (AIF), motion carried (MC).*
- C. Kristie made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Glen seconded that motion. No discussion. AIF-MC.*
- D. 1. Paul Ver Meer, Coordinator, reported writing a letter of support for a storm shelter building project in Thayer, Iowa. The council and Paul met with Jeremy Rounds from SICOG on the process and plan. More letters of support are being encouraged and welcomed. They can be addressed to the Thayer City Council. Presently, the church building is now too old to insure so the city meetings are held in Cory Miller's shop building there in town.*

E. The claims had been passed around the room and after all had a chance to review them, Kristie made a motion to approve the claims. Dennis asked about the signage repair done by Quality Glass. Basically, it was only labor as the storm in June blew the actual sign out of the framework. Judy seconded Kristie's motion. No further questions or discussion. AIF-MC.

F. Other Items for Discussion Purposes Only:

On Tuesday, the 14th, EMS officials across the county met and discussed better coordination between departments during an emergency such as the 6-11-2026 storm. Paul would like all Fire Departments in the County to be able to activate all storm sirens in the County. There is a difference with the Afton Fire Department activating the siren in the city limits of Afton. The Creston Fire Department is working on contacting other volunteer departments concerning usage of radio channels during an emergency when power at the LEC is lost.

There is a new SAM.gov account now with Paul as the Administrator and secondary will be Brian Bolton, County Sheriff.

Also, the purchase and donation of a UTV for the county's use by Alliant has been reversed and rejected by the Union County Board of Supervisors. There was a question of liability and impropriety. Paul has notified Alliant of the County's decision.

The storm siren project in Shannon City has been "put on hold". Glen was unsure of the status of the mayoral position and the siren application.

Kristie and Paul have discussed some issues with usage and availability of the federally financed storm shelter within the elementary building. A new, updated plan was presented to the Afton City Council and they rejected it. Paul will assist with mediation and understanding the FEMA guidelines.

Paul reported he is already working the budget proposal for 2027-2028. He questioned if the 3% increase across the county's budget would also apply to his department. Now is the time to find out and start planning.

Bridget made the motion to adjourn. Glen seconded that motion. Our next meeting will be August 19, 2026, at 4:35PM. No further discussion. AIF-MC.

Our meeting adjourned at 4:55PM.

Respectfully submitted and approved,

Judy Hopkins