

GOSPER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

LOCAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

**Dated: January 11, 2012**

This Plan complies with Title VI  
of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 (P. L. 88-352)  
in that it was developed and actions described  
will be carried out without discrimination against anyone  
due to color, race, national origin, religion, sex, age, or handicap.

This Plan meets the requirements of the  
Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA),  
also known as the  
Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA)

Prepared by the  
GOSPER County Emergency Management Agency  
with the assistance of the  
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, Lincoln, Nebraska



## GOSPER COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

### PREFACE

This Gosper County Emergency Operations Plan establishes the policies, plans, guidelines and procedures that will allow all our emergency resources to function effectively, as a team, when disaster strikes. In content and in format, the Plan is consistent with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) with the current nationwide concept embodied in the Integrated Emergency Management System (IEMS), in that this Plan provides for performing specific functions across the full spectrum of hazards. Most tasks and capabilities apply across a broad range of hazards. By treating them in this manner we show an integrated approach to disaster management. Unique aspects of certain hazards are addressed separately, where necessary. Therefore, this is truly a multi-hazard functional plan.

The Plan is organized in a manner that enhances this functional approach by incorporating the following components:

1. Basic Plan: serves as an overview of Gosper County's approach to emergency management, assigns responsibilities, and defines broad policies, plans, and procedures.
2. Annexes: twelve functional Annexes that address the task areas deemed critical to emergency response and recovery.
3. Appendices: these sections support various Annexes and generally address unique hazard specific requirements or actions.
4. Tabs: where necessary, procedures or guidelines for carrying out specific tasks defined in Annexes or Appendices are contained in Tabs.
5. Attachments: Other supporting information is attached where needed (maps, lists, checklists, etc.).

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Gosper County, Nebraska, pursuant to Nebraska Statute, is vested with the authority of administering the affairs of Gosper County, Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that a Gosper County Local Emergency Operations Plan has been developed in order to provide for a coordinated response to a disaster or emergency in Gosper County, the Village of Elwood and other cities and villages in Gosper County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Gosper County, deems it advisable and in the best interest of Gosper County to approve said Local Emergency Operations Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Gosper County, Nebraska, that the Gosper County Local Emergency Operations Plan be, and hereby is, approved.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 11<sup>th</sup> DAY OF January, 2012.

Board of County Commissioners,  
Gosper County, Nebraska

ATTEST:

Cynthia Gross

County Clerk

Gary J. Lerdahl

Steve A. Mosher

Donna M. Rubin



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**and**  
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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ACRONYMS

APHIS - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service: A part of U. S. Dept. of Agriculture responsible for protecting animal and plant resources from pests and diseases, promoting agricultural health, administering the Animal Welfare Act, wildlife damage management activities.

ART - Animal Response Team

AVIC - Area Veterinarian in Charge: A U.S.D.A. veterinarian trained in animal disease control.

Biosecurity: A system designed to protect a group of organisms (plants, animals, humans) from infectious agents (i.e. viruses, bacteria, fungi, or parasites) or hazardous chemicals.

BSE - Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy: A slowly progressive, degenerative, fatal disease affecting the central nervous system of adult cattle; also know as "Mad Cow" disease.

Business Band Radio: Any commercial radio communications not otherwise specifically stated.

CAD - Contagious Animal Diseases: Diseases that spread from one animal to other animals.

CEC - Community Emergency Coordinator: The single point of contact under SARA Title III for the community who makes determinations necessary to implement the plan. This is generally the jurisdiction's Fire Chief.

CERCLA: Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (PL 96-510)

CHEMTREC - (1-800-424-9300) Chemical Transportation Emergency Center: Located in Washington, D.C., this facility, sponsored by the chemical industry, provides 24-hour assistance in dealing with chemical transportation emergencies.

Civil Defense Emergency: An emergency declared by the President of the United States or Congress pursuant to applicable federal law finding that an attack upon the United States has occurred or is anticipated and that national safety requires the invocation of the emergency authority provided for by federal law.

County Emergency Board (CEB): A group comprised of representatives from three USDA agencies, Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Cooperative Extension Service (CES).

Decontamination: The reduction or removal of contaminating radioactive, biological or chemical material from a structure, area, object, or person.

DEQ: Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, also NDEQ

DHS: Department of Homeland Security

DOR: Nebraska Department of Roads, also NDOR

Disaster - (Reference 81-829.39[3]): Occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or man-made cause, including, but not limited to fire, flood, earthquake, wind, storm, chemical spill, or other water contamination requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage, epidemic, air contamination, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, riot, civil disturbance, or hostile military or para-military action.

DRC - Disaster Recovery Center: A location established in a disaster area which houses all federal, state, and local agencies that deal directly with the needs of the individual survivor. DRCs are established only after a Presidential Declaration. Teleregistration will be available.

EAS - Emergency Alert System: The Emergency Alert System is composed of AM, FM and TV broadcast stations and non-government industry entities operating on a voluntary, organized basis during emergencies at the national, state, or operational levels.

Emergency: Any unplanned event that interrupts the daily function of the jurisdiction and requires an emergency response.

Emergency Worker: A person or persons who are primarily responsible for carrying out emergency functions. Emergency functions include radiological monitoring, firefighting services, law enforcement, medical and health services, rescue activities, area security, communications, evacuation measures, social services, and other related functions assigned by competent authority to protect the health, safety, and property of the general populace. Reference: RRS 81-829.55

EMAC – Emergency Management Assistance Compact: An agreement between *all* states for mutual aid so that needed resources are obtained, transported and utilized during a disaster.

EMS - Emergency Medical Services

EMT - Emergency Medical Technician: An individual who has completed the required training and is licensed by the State of Nebraska to perform emergency basic life support functions.

Emergency Protective Actions: Measures taken prior to or after a release of hazardous materials to prevent or minimize exposures to persons in the threatened area. Examples of emergency protective actions as discussed in this plan are area access control, evacuation, in-house shelter, decontamination, and respiratory protection.

EOC - Emergency Operation Center: A facility from which local government officials exercise direction and control in an emergency or disaster.

EOC Staff: Members of the emergency management organization tasked to operate the Emergency Operation Center during disasters.

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency (Federal Agency)

EPI - Emergency Public Information: Information concerning individual actions that will be made available to affected residents, transients, and evacuees in an emergency to ensure their safety and well-being.

ESF – Emergency Support Functions: Various state agencies may be requested or mandated to participate in disaster related activities, responses or support.

Executive Group: Consists of the Chief Executives (Mayor, County Board Chairman, etc.) of the affected jurisdictions and/or their deputies.

Exercise: An activity designed to promote emergency preparedness; test or evaluate emergency operations plans, procedures, or facilities; train personnel in emergency response duties; and demonstrate operational capability.

FAD – Foreign Animal Disease: Any animal disease not naturally found in the United States. These diseases must be brought into the country by some vector, a diseased animal, food, soil, transportation. Examples of FADs include Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Newcastle Disease, Avian Influenza and African Swine Fever.

FADDs – Foreign Animal Disease Diagnosticians: Specially trained veterinarians and laboratory technicians specializing in identifying foreign animal diseases.

FCO - Federal Coordinating Officer: The person appointed by the Associate Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency, who operates under the Regional Director, FEMA, to coordinate federal assistance in a major disaster.

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

FEC - Facilities Emergency Coordinator: The single point of contact under SARA Title III for a facility that reports extremely hazardous substances. This person will coordinate all activities of the facility in the event of a spill or release.

Federal Agency Disaster Designation: Certain federal agencies have programs under their own authorities that allow them to provide assistance without a Presidential Declaration.

Federal Response Plan (FRP): The Federal plan developed under Public Law 93-288 (Stafford Act) in order to facilitate the delivery of all types of Federal Response Assistance to States to help them deal with the consequence of significant disasters. Any response provided will supplement state and local response efforts. Requests for Federal assistance will be made by the State after an assessment of state and local ability to respond to the specific disaster.

FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency: The federal agency charged with development of an Integrated Emergency Management System and with supporting Emergency Management and Disaster Assistance efforts at all levels of government.

FMD: Foot and Mouth disease

FSA: Farm Services Agency

Governor's Emergency Fund: A fund established by state law that may be expended, upon direction of the Governor, for any State of Emergency to supplement local efforts to maintain and/or promptly restore essential public facilities or services when threatened or damaged as a result of a natural disaster.

Governor's Proclamation - State of Emergency: The Governor has found that a disaster has occurred or that the occurrence or threat thereof is imminent within the state or any part thereof, and he has activated the disaster response and recovery aspects of state, local, and interjurisdictional plans for the purpose of aiding the affected individuals and local governments.

HAN.-.Health Alert Network: A statewide communications system used to alert all medical doctors, hospitals, veterinarians and animal clinics of a medical or animal disease emergency.

HHS: Health and Human Services, HHSS, Health and Human Services System

Hazard Analysis: The process of identifying the potential hazards that could affect the jurisdiction and determine the probable impact each of these hazards could have on people and property.

Hazard Area: A specified area directly affected by a disaster, or with high probability of being affected by specific hazards.

Hazard Mitigation: Measures which will eliminate or reduce the potential for damage to an area or facility from the effects of an emergency or disaster.

HazMat - Hazardous Materials: Substances which, if released in an uncontrolled manner (i.e., spilled), can be harmful to people, animals, property, and/or the environment.

HSEEP – Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program: The method used to measure the success of all local, state and national emergency/disaster training sessions and programs; to include standards, record keeping and is the basis for the LEOP and local SOP improvement process.

ICS/IMS - Incident Command System/Incident Management System: The combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications necessary to manage resources at the scene of an incident. See NIMS.

ICU: Intensive Care Unit

In-Place Shelter: Protective shelter action directed in the event of a short-term or low-level radioactive or toxic material release where evacuation actions could not be rapid enough to protect the affected population from an approaching hazard. Taking in-place shelter means staying indoors, closing all windows and openings to the outside air, and turning off all air conditioners or fans vented to the outside.

Infected zone: The area around a specific location of a suspected or confirmed animal/wildlife disease; also known as the quarantine or control zone.

Ingestion Exposure Pathway EPZ (Nuclear Power Plants Incidents): An Emergency Planning Zone which refers to exposure primarily from eating or drinking water or foods such as milk and fresh vegetables that have been contaminated with radiation. The duration of primary exposure could range from hours to months.

Key Personnel: Those officials of local government and other agencies and organizations who have primary functional responsibilities under this plan.

LEDRS: Nebraska Livestock Emergency Disease Response System

Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) A county wide, all-hazards plan, required by Nebraska R. R. S. Section 81-829.31, 81-829.36 to 81-829.75, 1996, that establishes the policies, responsibilities, plans, guidelines and procedures for all elected and appointed officials, Emergency Managers, and First Responders to function effectively during an emergency or disaster.

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC): A local committee appointed by the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) responsible for emergency planning and community right to know under SARA Title III.

MCI - Mass Casualty Incident: An incident, emergency, or disaster which generates sufficient casualties where:

- A. The number of patients and the nature of their injuries make the normal level of stabilization and care unachievable, or
- B. The number of Emergency Medical Technicians and ambulances that can be brought to the field within the time allowed is not enough, or
- C. The stabilization capabilities of the hospital are insufficient to handle all the patients.

MIL - Nebraska Military Department: A state agency consisting of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, the Nebraska Air National Guard and the Nebraska Army National Guard.

MOU – Memoranda of Understanding: The MOU agreement NEMA has with Cities is based upon State Statute 81-829.52 that allows the Adjutant General, upon orders of the Governor, to establish “such number of state emergency response teams as may be necessary”. The

Statute allows for payment to the jurisdictions, workman's compensation and liability coverage for members of an established team.

(MRC/JIC)Media Release Center/Joint Information Center: Locally designated location for release of information to the general media for dissemination to the public.

MSDS: Material Safety Data Sheet

Mutual-Aid Agreements: Arrangements between organizations, either public or private, for reciprocal aid and assistance in case of emergency or disaster too great to be dealt with unassisted or when local resources are inadequate or exhausted.

NAWAS - National Warning System: A system of special telephone lines linking Nebraska with federal authorities in other states. A sub-network portion of the system, the State NAWAS Circuit, ties together state and local warning points as well as the National Weather Service, Nebraska State Patrol Stations, and nuclear power plants.

NCP - National Contingency Plan: Prepared by EPA to put into effect the response powers and responsibilities created by CERCLA.

NDA Nebraska Department of Agriculture

NEMA – Nebraska Emergency Management Agency: A state agency mandated to administer the Emergency Management Act, R. R. S. Section 81-829.31, .36 to .75 and Homeland Security directives for the State.

NGPC: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

NIMS – National Incident Management System: A comprehensive, national approach to incident management includes the Incident Command System, multi-agency Coordination systems, Public Information systems and must be adopted by all jurisdictions to be compliant for DHS grants and awards.

NRT: National Response Team: Consists of representatives of government agencies as the principal organization for implementing the NCP.

NSP: Nebraska State Patrol

Nuclear Incident: An event where nuclear materials with consequent radiation are uncontrollably released. Synonymous with the terms "radiation spill" and "nuclear accident".

OSC - On Scene Coordinator: Federal official who directs Federal response under NCP.

OSHA: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Federal Agency).

Pathogen: An organism (bacteria, virus, fungus, parasite) that is capable of causing disease or death.

PDA: Preliminary Damage Assessment

Presidential Emergency Declaration: Under PL 93-288, as amended by PL 100-707 this is issued when the President has decided that a catastrophe, in any part of the United States, requires federal emergency assistance to supplement state and local efforts to save lives and protect property, public health, and safety, or to avert or lessen the threat of a natural disaster which because of the pressure of time or because of the unique capabilities of a federal agency, assistance can be more readily provided by the federal government.

Presidential Major Disaster Declaration: Is issued when in the determination of the President, a catastrophe causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant federal assistance under PL 93-288, as amended by PL 100-707, or subsequent legislation, above and beyond emergency services provided by the federal government to supplement the efforts and available resources of states, local governments, and other relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering as a result of the catastrophe.

Protective Shelter: Any shelter with the capability to protect individuals, animals, or equipment from the effects of hazards such as tornadoes, blast, fire, initial radiation, and fallout.

Quarantine zone: Area where livestock, vehicle or human movement, in/out of, is prohibited.

Radiological Emergency: A radiological incident/accident that requires immediate action to save lives, to protect public health, to preserve property, or to reduce or avoid an increase in the threat resulting from the incident/accident.

Radiological Monitoring: The use of detection equipment to measure the presence or levels of radiation and concentration of radioactive contamination to include the planning and data collection necessary to the task.

Radiological Protection: The organized effort, through warning, detection, and preventive or remedial measures, to minimize the effect of nuclear radiation on people and resources.

REM - Radiation Equivalent in Man: A measure of the overall effectiveness of a radiation dose at causing a risk of cancer.

Restricted Zone: The area around a suspected or confirmed animal disease location where the movement of livestock or people is controlled or stopped. The size of the zone is dependent on weather, terrain, animal concentrations, etc.

RRT - Regional Response Team: representatives of Federal agencies and a representative from each state in the Federal Region. During a response to a major hazardous materials incident involving transportation or a fixed facility, the OSC may request that the RRT be convened to provide advice or recommendations.

Rumor Control: A location where information requests from the public can be handled. Special Disaster Information telephone numbers may be published.

SARA: Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986. Contains Title III provisions for Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know.

Secondary spread: The spread of a disease by carriers (vectors) such as people, other animals, vehicles or by contaminated materials such as soil, food, bedding, wastes, etc.

SEOP: State Emergency Operations Plan

SERC - State Emergency Response Commission: A commission, appointed by the governor to oversee LEPCs.

SERT - State Emergency Response Teams Specially trained Hazmat team, technician level.

SFM: State Fire Marshal

SOP: Standard Operating Procedures, a list of specific or detailed actions, methods or skills used to accomplish a specific task or job; also known as SOGs, Standard Operating Guides.

State Coordinating Officer (SCO): The person named by the Governor in the Federal-State Agreement to execute on behalf of the State all necessary documents for disaster assistance following the declaration of an emergency or major disaster, including certification of applications for public assistance.

State Radiation Team/Radiological Monitoring Team: Response team sent to a radiological incident/accident by the Nebraska Health and Human Services System. This team(s) may be augmented by emergency management radiological monitoring resources, including aerial monitoring. On scene, all radiation control activities are coordinated by the HHSS which also furnishes technical guidance and other services to local governments.

Superfund: The trust fund established under CERCLA to provide money the OSC can use during a cleanup.

Surveillance zone: In an animal disease situation this could initially include the entire state and those near to the infected area where livestock would be closely monitored. This zone would be adjusted based on the findings about the disease and its ability to spread.

Title III: The "Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know" portion of SARA. Specifies requirements for minimum plan content, for fixed facility owners to inform officials about extremely hazardous substances present at the facilities and for making information about extremely hazardous substances available to citizens.

Traffic Control Points: Places along evacuation routes that are either manned by law enforcement personnel or volunteers, or marked with barricades to direct and control movement to and from the area being evacuated.

GOSPER COUNTY LEOP

Triage: A system of assigning priorities of medical treatment to the injured and/or ill on the basis of urgency, chance of survival, etc.

UNS: University of Nebraska System

USDA: United States Department of Agriculture

VOAD – Volunteer Organizations Assisting in Disasters, see the “Emergency Manager’s Handbook: ch. 19, 2001.

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## **BASIC EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

### I. PURPOSE

This Plan predetermines, to the extent possible, actions to be taken by responsible elements of the governments within Gosper County including its cities, villages, and cooperating private organizations to:

- A. Detect against, threats or incidents of terrorism, natural disasters, major emergencies, and incidents of national significance,
- B. Prevent against avoidable disasters by reducing the vulnerability of Gosper County residents to any disasters that may strike,
- C. Establish capabilities for protecting citizens from the effects of disasters,
- D. Respond effectively to the actual occurrence of disasters,
- E. Provide for the recovery in the aftermath of any emergency involving extensive damage or other detrimental effect on normal life within the community.

### II. AUTHORITY

Authority for this Plan is contained in:

- A. Public Law 81-920 (Federal Emergency Management Act of 1950) as amended;
- B. Public Law 93-288 (Disaster Relief Act of 1974) as amended by PL 100-707;
- C. Public Law 99-499 (Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986) as amended;
- D. 44 CFR, Part 302, Emergency Management: State and Local Emergency Management Assistance (EMA), June 1985, as amended;
- E. RRS Sections 81-829.36 to 81-829.75, Nebraska Emergency Management Act of 1996, as amended, Cum. Supp. 2002;
- F. Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 7; Nebraska Emergency Management Agency Title 67, July 21, 2001.

- G. Nebraska Revised Statutes 81-201 (Reissue 1996), 54-701 (reissue 1998 and Cum. Supp. 2002, and 54-1180 to 54-1182 (Reissue 1998 and Cum. Supp. 2002), (Nebraska Department of Agriculture's general response procedures); 2-1072 to 2-10, 117, the Plant Protection and Pest Act; and 54-847 to 54-863, (Reissue 1998) the Commercial Feed Act; 81-2,257 to 81-2,261 (Reissue 1996 and Cum. Supp. 2002), the Nebraska Pure Food Act; S2-3901 to 2-3911 (Reissue 1997 and Cum. Supp. 2002), the Nebraska Pasteurized Milk Law; 2-3913 to 2-3946 (Reissue 1997 and Cum. Supp. 2002), Manufacturing Milk Act;
- H. USC Title 21, section 134(a), (USDA response procedures for animal disease events);
- I. USC Title 7, sections 7701-7772, (USDA Plant Protection Act);
- J. 21 CFR, Parts 500-599 (Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act);
- K. Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD-5) "Management of Domestic Incidents," 28 February, 2003;
- L. Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD-8) "National Preparedness" December 17, 2003;
- M. Joint Resolution and Agreement, dated 31 January, 2005, establishing the Region 15 Common Emergency Management Organization;
- N. Gosper County Resolution dated January 11, 2012, establishing the 2006 Gosper County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP);

### III. SITUATION

- A. Gosper County, with a residential population of approximately 2,413 persons is vulnerable to many hazards, all of which have the potential to disrupt the community, create damage, and cause injury or death to its citizens. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director has identified hazards which could have an effect on the population or public and private property. The most severe of these hazards are severe weather events, fire and hazardous materials.
- B. Gosper County and its various incorporated jurisdictions have significant emergency response resources and capabilities. Two law enforcement agencies, one fire department, one rescue squads, Tri-County Hospital and the Phelps Memorial Health Center provide emergency services on a day-to-day basis. During and after a disaster, the effective use of these emergency resources and other governmental and private response and recovery capabilities will minimize the effects of a disaster on people and property.

#### IV. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

- A. Outside assistance would be available in most major disaster situations affecting Gosper County. However, even though this Plan will define procedures for coordinating such assistance, it is essential for Gosper County to be prepared to carry out disaster response and short-term recovery actions on an independent basis.
- B. It is possible for a major disaster to occur at any time, and at any place, in the county. In some cases, dissemination of warning and increased preparedness measures may be possible. However, many disaster events can, and will, occur with little or no warning.
- C. Proper implementation of this Plan will reduce or prevent the loss of life and damage to property. Officials within Gosper County are aware of the possible occurrence of an emergency or major disaster and their responsibilities in the execution of this Plan and will fulfill those responsibilities as needed.
- D. All responding departments, agencies and jurisdictions will follow the National Incident Management System (NIMS) protocols when conducting either individual or joint disaster response and recovery activities. This includes but is not limited to establishing unified or area incident command systems, the use of staging areas as needed, implementing multi-agency coordination systems and resource management including the identification and listing of all department, agency and jurisdiction disaster response resources (equipment, trained personnel, supplies, facilities) using the NIMS resource identification process.

#### V. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The primary responsibility for the safety and welfare of the residents of Gosper County and its communities rests with the respective governments. To fulfill this responsibility, the chief elected officials of the various local governments must individually, and where possible, jointly implement plans to ensure proper emergency actions are taken in a timely manner and provide care and support for those citizens affected.
- B. Local Government Structure
  - 1. A three member Board of Commissioners manages the governmental activities of Gosper County. Their authority extends to all unincorporated areas of the county.
  - 2. Elwood (population 761) and Smithfield (population 68) are villages under the direction of Village Boards with a Board Chairperson and four Board Members.

## C. Emergency Management

### 1. Region 15 Common Emergency Management Organization

Recognizing the need for the most effective possible emergency management structure for dealing with disaster, Gosper County has joined with Phelps and Frontier Counties as signatories of an agreement establishing the Region 15 Common Emergency Management Organization. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director employed by Phelps County has established a Joint Emergency Management Emergency Operating Center (EOC) at Holdrege that supports emergency preparedness activities in the three county region. During emergency operations, the Region 15 Emergency Management Director will advise and support the elected officials and responders of Gosper County.

### 2. Region 15 Emergency Management Agency

The Region 15 Emergency Management Director, appointed by the Gosper County Board of Commissioners, will act as a disaster operations advisor to the Board. In that capacity, and as directed by the County Board, the Emergency Management Director will assist and support other cities and villages in the county in emergency response activities within those communities. Local forces, supplemented as necessary by trained auxiliaries and manpower and resources available from neighboring jurisdictions or the State, will conduct emergency operations. In general, the Emergency Management Director:

- a. Serves as the emergency preparedness and response advisor to the Gosper County Board of Commissioners.
- b. Directs and controls the Region 15 Emergency Management Agency. In that capacity, supports disaster preparedness and response activities in all other jurisdictions in the county.
- c. Develops plans, prepares guidance, and coordinates actions to accomplish an effective emergency operating capability.
- d. Promulgates a program promoting a general public awareness of Emergency Management.
- e. Implements procedures to obtain state/federal government programs of financial and resource assistance to include the local administration and fiscal responsibility for grants, equipment obtained through grants and the training for the equipment so obtained.
- f. Establishes programs to protect lives, protect property, and sustain survivors in the event of disaster.

### 3. City and Village Emergency Management

Currently, Elwood, and Smithfield do not have appointed Emergency Management Directors to serve and advise executives on emergency management matters. This function, in relation to their communities, will be the same as listed above for the Region 15 Emergency Management Director.

#### D. State Agencies

This Plan primarily addresses local authority in emergency situations. There are also times when state agencies may be requested, or are required, to be involved. References throughout this Plan to state agency utilization are not meant to be an exhaustive list of circumstances or situations when the state should be involved. State statutes mandate certain state agencies to play an active role in emergency response or support and those agencies will be expected to perform their duties when necessary.

#### E. Responsibilities

Most departments within local government have emergency functions in addition to their normal duties. Each department is responsible for developing and maintaining procedures for meeting its emergency responsibilities. This Plan has twelve primary functional areas of responsibility (detailed in Annexes) that define the tasks that must be accomplished to ensure public safety and welfare. Additional functions, such as Mitigation, Continuity of Government, Reporting, and Administration and Logistics, which do not warrant a full Annex, are also addressed at the appropriate places in this Plan. Primary and supporting responsibility has been assigned as shown in the Functional Responsibility Chart, included in this section. See Attachment 1. Specific activities are covered in the Annexes. Responsibilities for certain organizations that are not part of local government are also presented. In general, the functional areas cover:

##### 1. Direction and Control (Annex A)

By statute, the conduct of all emergency operations and protective actions in Gosper County is the responsibility of the County Board; and, in their respective political subdivisions, the responsibility Village Boards of Elwood and Smithfield. These executives constitute the Emergency Executive Group. During an emergency, they will re-locate to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Elwood, along with the Emergency Operations Staff. The Emergency Executive Group will use the expertise of the EOC staff to assist them in the Direction and Control functions. In general, executive direction and control responsibilities will be to assign missions and tasks, direct planning, monitor the Gosper County environment, inform the public and control emergency operations. The Region 15 Common

Emergency Management Coordinator will also be a part of the Executive Group in an advisory and support role.

2. Communications and Warning (Annex B)

Primary responsibility for establishing, maintaining, augmenting, and providing backup for all channels of communications needed for emergency response and recovery rests with the respective emergency service organization. The Communications and Warning Officer is responsible for coordinating EOC communications and maintaining this Annex of the LEOP. Warning could be received through the Lexington Warning Point. In the remainder of the county, warning of the public is a primary responsibility of the Gosper County Sheriff.

3. Damage Assessment (Annex C)

The Gosper County Assessor will serve as Damage Assessment Coordinator and will be responsible for ensuring that personnel and procedures are available to provide preliminary estimates and descriptions of the extent of damage resulting from large scale disasters. That responsibility includes provisions for completing the process of requesting a State disaster proclamation through emergency management channels. The Damage Assessment Coordinator is a member of the EOC Staff.

4. Emergency Public Information (Annex D)

The Gosper County Attorney will serve as the Public Information Officer. The Public Information Officer is responsible for keeping the public advised as to the emergency situation. The PIO plays an important role through coordination with the news media in advising the public of proper actions to take. The establishment of rumor control procedures and Disaster Recovery Centers are also important functions as is the on-going requirement for emergency preparedness education efforts. All public information activity will be coordinated through the Emergency Operating Center where the Public Information Officer will function as a member of the EOC Staff.

5. Evacuation (Annex E)

The goal of this function is to relocate people to safe areas when emergencies or threats necessitate such action. The decision to evacuate would normally be made by the Executive Group on the advice of the Emergency Management Director but due to the severity of the situation may be made by the Incident Commander (fire or law enforcement). The Region 15 Emergency Management Director is responsible for establishing clear and detailed procedures for carrying out complete and partial evacuation of citizens.

6. Fire Services (Annex F)

All Fire District Chiefs are responsible for fire control and rescue activities in their respective fire districts. The Fire Chief of the affected jurisdiction serves as Fire Services Coordinator and as a member of the EOC staff. If more than one jurisdiction is affected, the South Central or Tri-Valley Mutual Aid Association's may provide a Fire Services Representative to the EOC. General responsibilities are to limit loss of life and property from fires and other damage, provide leadership and training in fire prevention and suppression, respond to HazMat incidents, lead search and rescue, assist in mobile medical aid and ambulance transport, and provide light rescue of trapped or injured persons.

7. Health and Medical (Annex G)

Emergency medical responsibilities and coordinating rescue operations include providing emergency medical care and treatment for the ill and injured, coordinating evacuation of health care patients, and managing medical resources, both personnel and equipment/supplies. This may be assigned to a Medical Coordinator. Public health responsibility has been assigned to the Two Rivers Public Health District. These responsibilities include the safeguarding of public health, minimizing the incidence of communicable disease, coordinating mental health care/crisis counseling, establishing environmental controls, and coordinating burial.

8. Law Enforcement (Annex H)

The Gosper County Sheriff, and the Nebraska State Patrol are responsible for law enforcement, traffic control and security functions within their respective jurisdictions. Their responsibilities include maintaining law and order through traffic and crowd control, preventing crimes against people and property, securing the scene of a HazMat incident, coordinating evacuation, managing search operations, and providing security.

9. Mass Care (Annex I)

The American Red Cross has the responsibility for coordinating mass care of citizens of Gosper County in case of an evacuation or disaster within the county. Reception and care responsibilities include providing temporary lodging, food, clothing, and other essentials to large numbers of evacuees displaced due to disasters or crisis.

10. Protective Shelter (Annex J)

This function involves providing citizens of Gosper County with protective shelter from the direct effects of those hazards where exposure could cause injury or death and evacuation is not a viable option. Examples range from

tornadoes to hazardous materials spills to radioactive fallout as a result of nuclear attack. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director, with the assistance of Deputy Directors will serve as Shelter Coordinator and be responsible for identifying appropriate shelters, establishing protective shelter procedures and coordinating shelter operations.

11. Public Works/Utilities (Annex K)

The Public Works/Utilities functional area involves providing a flexible emergency response capability in the area of engineering, construction, and the repair and restoration of public facilities and services. Additional responsibilities include developing and directing debris clearance operations, post-disaster safety inspections, heavy rescue, and for providing traffic control equipment in support of an evacuation. Responsibility for the Public Works/Utilities area has been assigned to the Gosper County Highway Superintendent with the assistance of the Village Public Works/ Utility Supervisors.

12. Resource Management (Annex L)

The coordination and effective procurement, storage, distribution and utilization of personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and services during disaster response and recovery is an important function. Responsibility for this area has been assigned to the Emergency Management Director and the USDA County Emergency Board (CEB).

- F. Under the Region 15 Common Emergency Management Agreement, Gosper County has a mutual aid support responsibility to assist, as possible, Phelps and Frontier Counties should they experience a major emergency or disaster.

VI. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

It is the responsibility of the governments of Gosper County and its communities to protect life and property from the effects of hazardous events. This Plan is based on the concept that emergency functions for various agencies/organizations involved in emergency management will generally parallel their normal functions. To the extent possible, the same personnel and material resources will be employed in both cases. Day-to-day functions that do not contribute directly to the emergency operation may be suspended for the duration of any emergency. Efforts that would normally be required of those functions will be redirected to accomplish the emergency tasks assigned. In keeping with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the concepts embodied in the Integrated Emergency Management System (IEMS), this Plan is concerned with all types of emergency situations.

## B. Continuity of Government

### 1. Succession of Command (Ref: RRS 84-1101 to 84-1117 - Nebraska Emergency Succession Act):

- a. The lines of succession for executive heads of government and Emergency Management officials in Gosper County are defined in Annex A, Direction and Control.
- b. The line of succession of each department head is according to the operating procedures established by each department or as defined in the appropriate Annex to this Plan.
- c. In a civil defense emergency due to threat or occurrence of a nuclear attack, succession to elected and appointed city or county officials will be as provided in the Nebraska General Emergency Succession Act (RRS 84-1101 to 84-1117) by invoking the Act and appointing alternates.

### 2. Preservation of Records

The preservation of important records and the taking of measures to ensure continued operation and reconstitution, if necessary, of local government during and after catastrophic disasters or national security emergencies is the responsibility of the executives of each jurisdiction. Normally, the development and maintenance of procedures for ensuring continuity of government will be carried out for Gosper County by the County Clerk and for other local jurisdictions by the respective city and village clerks. Records to be preserved will include as a minimum:

- a. Records required to protect the rights and interests of individuals (vital statistics, land and tax, papers of incorporation, etc.).
- b. Records required by health, fire, law enforcement and public works to conduct emergency operations (utility maps, emergency plans and procedures, personnel lists, etc.).
- c. Records required to reestablish normal government functions and to protect the rights and interests of government (constitutions, charters, statutes and ordinances, court records, financial records, etc.).

### 3. Alternate Operating Locations

Those government departments having emergency response functions have, where necessary, identified alternate operating locations. Refer to Annex A for specific information.

#### 4. Protection of Government Resources

Procedures and guidelines have been established in this Plan, and separately, to provide for the physical safety of government personnel, records, and equipment.

- a. Personnel: All government buildings should have tornado and fire escape and evacuation plans which designate appropriate actions, assembly areas and protective shelter locations including accommodations and provisions for handicapped persons.
- b. Records: Essential county government records are stored in Gosper County Courthouse. Village of Elwood & Smithfield records have are stored in their respective offices.
- c. Equipment: No specific high probability hazard has been identified that could cause damage to equipment. Tornadoes could strike anywhere precluding specific equipment protection procedures. The communications capability of various emergency response departments has been duplicated in the EOC providing a backup capability.

#### C. Direction and Control Relationships

1. During disaster operations, the Executive Group of the affected jurisdiction will establish coordination and control of the community emergency response. The Chair of the Gosper County Board will operate from the EOC providing overall direction and control of the many emergency functions. The chief executives of other communities will function from their local Emergency Operating Centers.
2. Each office, agency or organization assigned primary or supporting responsibilities under this emergency plan must be prepared to assign a representative to the EOC staff. The EOC, working with field operations, thus becomes the central point for coordination of all disaster operations. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director is responsible for maintaining and managing the EOC as outlined in Annex A.
3. Primary communications will be through normal systems. Supporting emergency communications facilities will be controlled from the EOC or the Gosper County Communications Center. Communications available to the Executive Group and the EOC Staff are outlined in Annex B.

#### D. Phases of Emergency Management

There are four phases of emergency management. The first of these, mitigation, is a continuing effort throughout the management process. The other three phases are action periods where emergency operations defined under this Plan

are carried out. Each of the functional Annexes to this Plan defines specific actions essential to each of the three operational phases. These Annexes should be thoroughly reviewed and understood by all agencies, organizations, and emergency personnel prior to implementation of the Plan. The four emergency management phases are:

1. Mitigation

Mitigation activities are those that eliminate or reduce the probability of a disaster occurrence. Also included are long-term activities designed to minimize the potentially adverse effects of unavoidable hazards. These activities are ongoing throughout the emergency management process and can involve legislative and/or physical actions. Examples are flood plain management, construction of dikes or dams, development of building codes and ordinances requiring protective measures such as mobile home tiedowns. Most mitigation tasks or responsibilities are not considered appropriate for an Emergency Operations Plan and therefore are addressed only briefly in this Plan. Some mitigation activities, however, will be addressed, if appropriate, in the various Annexes.

2. Preparedness Phase

This includes normal day-to-day readiness activities such as planning, training, and developing and testing emergency response capabilities. It would include increased readiness activities under an attack threat. Tornado, winter storm, and flood watch actions carried out when conditions are present for hazardous events to occur are also considered part of the preparedness phase. Limited staffing of the EOC may be required.

3. Response Phase

Response is the actual provision of emergency services during a crisis. These activities help to reduce casualties and damage and to speed recovery. Response activities include activation of the EOC, direction and control, warning, evacuation, rescue, and other similar operations. Severe weather warnings (tornado, flash flood, winter storm, etc.) would be included in the response phase. Damage assessment actions would be initiated.

4. Recovery Phase

Recovery is both a short-term and a long-term process. Short-term operations provide vital services to the community and provide for basic needs of the public. Damage assessment actions and emergency response services (medical, search and rescue, public utility restoration, sanitation, etc.) would continue. Long-term recovery focuses on restoring the community to its normal or to an improved state of affairs. Examples of long-term recovery actions are provision of temporary housing and food,

restoration of non-vital government services, and reconstruction of damaged areas.

#### E. Notification

Initial notification of an emergency or disaster event occurring within Gosper County would normally come via citizen report to law enforcement or fire services in the affected area. A hazardous materials incident notification will come from a facility with Title III reporting requirements, or from the carrier, in the event of a transportation incident. Notification of events occurring outside of Gosper County which could affect the county could come from several sources:

##### 1. National Weather Service (NWS)

Weather phenomena threatening Gosper County would normally be received from the Hastings National Weather Service Station via the NAWAS, 39.9 radio net distribution system followed by Weather Alert Radio.

##### 2. Nebraska State Patrol (NSP)

Notification of hazardous events occurring near or in Gosper County could come from the Nebraska State Patrol via direct radio communications or telephone. See Annex B for communications details.

##### 3. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

Back-up notification of all severe events and long-range forecasts of potential disaster situations, such as flood stage predictions could come from the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency in Lincoln. The normal mode would be by telephone through NAWAS to the Lexington Warning Point with subsequent notice to Gosper County could be used.

##### 4. Adjacent Counties

Notification of emergency or disaster events occurring in nearby or adjacent counties would normally be relayed by the affected county using direct radio communications.

#### F. Alerting of Key People

In accordance with local procedures, the communicator/dispatcher on duty will notify the appropriate city/village and county officials when there is a notification of a possible or actual emergency or disaster event. If the EOC is activated, officials will, as required by the situation, assemble at the EOC and be prepared to evaluate information, effect coordination, and make emergency action decisions.

### G. Plan Implementation

The Chief Elected Official of the affected jurisdiction, on the advice of emergency response personnel, will decide to implement all or part of this plan. A Presidential Declaration of a Civil Defense Emergency shall mean automatic implementation of this Plan. On implementation, local executives will assume such emergency powers as are authorized by local ordinances or contained in the Nebraska Emergency Management Statutes and delegated by the Governor. The Chair of the County Board of Commissioners and/or the Chairs of the Village Boards of the affected communities will take charge of all operations directed by this Plan.

1. All county and city/village officials will immediately activate their portions of the Plan and discontinue all non-essential actions. If a portion of the Plan cannot be activated, the appropriate Chief Executive will be immediately notified so alternate arrangements can be made.
2. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will coordinate disaster operations support for emergency response services and make contact with the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and other appropriate state and local organizations.
3. Depending on the situation, disaster declarations in accordance with RRS 81-829.50 will be made by the chief executives of Gosper County and the affected communities. The effect of a local disaster declaration shall activate the response and recovery aspects of this Plan, any other interjurisdictional disaster plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance from these plans. A local disaster declaration is a prerequisite for obtaining a state disaster proclamation from the Governor authorizing state assistance and response support.

### H. Mutual Aid

When existing local resources are exceeded, mutual aid will be requested from neighboring communities having mutual aid agreements. On request, Gosper County resources may be sent to assist other jurisdictions under existing mutual aid agreements.

### I. Requests for State Support

State support may be requested under disaster conditions.

1. If it appears that required disaster response actions are, or will be, beyond the capability of the local government and available mutual aid, the chief executive will prepare a local disaster declaration and request assistance from the State. See Annex A, Attachment 4. This request shall be made

through the Region 15 Emergency Management Director to the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and will contain the following information:

- a. Type of disaster,
  - b. Extent of damage or loss (include fiscal estimate),
  - c. Actions taken by local government, including funds expended,
  - d. Type and extent of assistance required.
2. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will review the request, evaluate the overall disaster situation, and recommend action to the Governor. If the Governor finds the disaster so severe that response is beyond local resources, he/she will proclaim a disaster in accordance with RRS 81-829.40 and state assets will be employed to support local efforts. State support will be coordinated through the State EOC. This does not preclude direct requests for early assistance to first responder state agencies.
  3. Under disaster conditions, support by state military forces may be requested through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency at the State EOC. The Region 15 Emergency Manager will coordinate such requests. National Guard or military assistance will complement and not be a substitute for local participation in emergency operations. The National Guard will remain at all times under military command but will support and assist local government. Requests will include the county's objectives, priorities, and other information necessary for the National Guard to determine how best to assist the county.

#### J. Protection of the Public

One of the primary responsibilities of government is to ensure that all possible measures are taken to protect its citizens in the event of potential or actual disaster. This Plan outlines these actions necessary in Gosper County. In addition to normal emergency services, there are four major areas for government action.

1. Warning and Emergency Public Information: Warning of the public is accomplished through a combination of methods depending on the specific situation. These methods include sirens (outdoor warning), emergency vehicles, radio, television, and the cable television system. Advising the public of proper actions to take utilizes the media and is dependent on their full cooperation. Details of warning and information dissemination capabilities and procedures, including the Emergency Alert System (EAS), are in Annex B, Communications and Warning and in Annex D, Emergency Public Information.

2. Protective Shelter: Providing shelter from the direct effects of hazards in Gosper County focuses on two major hazards, tornadoes and hazardous materials.
  - a. Tornado Shelters: An ongoing program of advising the public of proper sheltering actions is carried out by the various Emergency Management organizations. The protective shelter policy for tornadoes is for citizens to use the best place in their homes or the facility where they are located at the time of warning. Most public facilities have been surveyed to identify best protective locations. All schools, health care facilities, and major industries have tornado plans. See Annex J.
  - b. Indoor Protection: For some hazardous materials incidents it is safer to keep citizens inside with doors and windows closed rather than evacuate. Frequently a chemical plume will quickly move past homes. Because air circulation systems can easily transport airborne toxic substances, instructions will be given to shut off all circulation systems for private homes and institutional facilities.
3. Evacuation: When time permits or when staying in the vicinity of a hazard effect poses a threat to the life and safety of the citizens affected, an evacuation may be ordered. A small percent of the population of Gosper County resides within the boundaries of the 100-year flood plain. Toxic clouds resulting from a fire or hazardous material spill could affect any area within the county. Evacuation decisions will be made by the Incident Commander or, if time permits, the Chief Elected Official, based on the recommendation of the Emergency Management Director. Evacuation procedures are outlined in Annex E, and in Annex H. Reception and care of evacuees are detailed in Annex I.

#### K. Recovery Actions

Once the emergency or disaster is under control, search and rescue operations completed, and the immediate needs of the affected citizens have been met, the Executive Group will initiate all recovery actions necessary to return the affected area to normal. If disaster assistance is provided, the chief executive will coordinate with the State and/or Federal coordinating officers. Recovery responsibilities of each agency and organization are clearly defined in the various Annexes. Primary recovery efforts will focus on the following areas:

##### 1. Debris Removal (Annexes C and K)

Plans and procedures for the removal of debris are contained in Annexes C and K. Debris removal will be coordinated in the county by the Gosper County Highway Superintendent and in the cities and villages by the respective Street Departments. Snow and ice emergencies will be declared by the chief executive and enforced by the Gosper County Sheriff and local

law enforcement. Snow removal will follow the existing procedures of the County Highway Department and City/Village Public Works Departments.

2. Habitability Inspections (Annex K)

After tornado strikes, high winds, floods or any other disaster effect which could cause structural damage, the appropriate local government will ensure that all affected structures, public and private, are inspected for safety. Emergency Management personnel will perform these inspections. Assistance may be requested from the State Fire Marshal's office or the Disaster Assistance Task Force of Nebraska (DATNE) team(s).

3. Repair and Restoration of Essential Utilities (Annex K)

The recovery of utilities to normal service will be coordinated in the county by the Gosper County Highway Superintendent and in the cities and villages by the Public Works Officials in cooperation with the various public and private utility companies.

4. Repair and Restoration of Public Facilities (Annex K)

Repair and reconstruction of public facilities, including bridges and culverts, will be the responsibility of local government and will generally be funded from locally available contingency funds. If the Governor proclaims a state disaster, some costs may be reimbursable under the Governor's Emergency Fund on a matching basis. If a Presidential Disaster Declaration is obtained, matching federal assistance may be available. Because of this, all public recovery actions will comply with pertinent state and federal laws and regulations.

5. Decontamination of HazMat Spill Site (Annex F)

It is the spiller's legal and financial responsibility to clean up and minimize the risk to the health of the general public and workers involved. The Emergency Manager will be available to assist in possible evacuations or maintaining resources in the incident. The Department of Environmental Quality who is responsible for making decisions regarding Hazardous Waste disposal will be called by the Emergency Manager or Incident Commander. Federal law regulates on-site disposal, transportation, and off-site disposal.

6. Assistance to Individuals and Businesses (Annex G)

While their recovery from a disaster is primarily the responsibility of the affected citizens and businesses, every effort will be made to assist them, particularly those whose needs cannot be met through insurance or their own resources. The American Red Cross and the State Department of

Health and Human Services will coordinate such relief efforts. Emphasis will be placed on assisting and supporting the aged, handicapped and infirm.

L. Mitigation

1. The County Board and the various City Councils and Village Boards should be aware of their responsibilities for maintaining an on-going program to eliminate hazards or minimize their effects. Gosper County and its communities in flood hazard areas have complied with all requirements and are participants in the Regular Federal Flood Plain Management Program. These jurisdictions qualify for Federal Flood Insurance and other forms of flood related disaster assistance. The remaining jurisdictions in Gosper County are not considered to be in a flood hazard area.
2. To ensure continuity of mitigation efforts, Gosper County executives will hold post-disaster discussions to determine what mitigation actions would be appropriate.

VII. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Procedures

Some administrative procedures may be suspended, relaxed, or made optional under threat of disaster. Such action should be carefully considered, and the consequences should be projected realistically. Procedures to achieve this goal will be detailed in this Plan, and any necessary departures from business-as-usual methods will be noted.

B. Documentation

All disaster related expenditures will be documented using generally accepted accounting procedures. The documentation will be used following a Governor's Proclamation or Presidential Disaster Declaration to qualify for reimbursement of eligible expenditures and to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.

C. Resources

Following initial lifesaving activities, the Chair of the County Board of Commissioners and the Chief Executives of the cities and villages will ensure that all necessary supplies and resources are procured for the various operating departments. After a Disaster Declaration has been issued, the Chief Executive may, without prior approval of the governing body, rent, lease, procure or contract for such resources or services as are essential for maintaining the safety and well being of the population and effecting immediate restoration of vital services. Refer to Annex L for resource management procedures.

## VIII. TRAINING AND EXERCISING

### A. Training

1. Specialized training requirements are defined in the functional Annexes. Each department, agency or organization with responsibilities under this Plan is also responsible for ensuring that its personnel are adequately trained and capable of carrying out their required tasks.
2. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will assess training needs, ensure that formal emergency management training programs are made available to city and county executives and personnel, and, in general, coordinate the overall training program.
3. The training program will be consistent with the five-year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

### B. Exercises

An ongoing program of exercises and drills of elements of this Plan is essential to the maintenance of the County's emergency response capability and for ensuring the adequacy of this County Plan. It is the Region 15 Emergency Management Director responsibility for training an Exercise Planning Team which will coordinate the overall exercise program. An exercise of the direction and control aspects of this Plan should be conducted on an annual basis. All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).

## IX. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

### A. Responsibility

This Plan is the principal source of documentation of Gosper County's emergency management activities. Almost every agency of government has responsibility for developing and maintaining some part of this Plan. Overall, the Region 15 Emergency Management Director will coordinate this process. The planning process is dynamic and always changing and as situations change, new hazards are identified, or capabilities improve, the Plan should also change. The Chief Executives will approve all major changes involving emergency management. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director may approve routine changes such as corrections, staffing rosters, maps, annotations, and reporting requirements.

B. Procedures

Each agency, department or organization with responsibilities under this Plan will develop and maintain written procedures for carrying out their assigned tasks.

C. Review

This Plan and all Annexes and procedures will be updated as the need for a change becomes apparent. Additionally, all portions of the Plan, including operating procedures will be thoroughly reviewed annually and appropriate changes made. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will ensure that this review process is carried out on a timely basis.

D. Recertification

Provisions will be made for periodic recertification of this Plan by the governing bodies of Gosper County and villages of Elwood and Smithfield. This would normally occur after any significant change in elected officials. The Emergency Management Director will ensure that this is accomplished.

E. Distribution

The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will ensure that this Plan and all formal changes are distributed on the local level in accordance with the Plan Distribution List on pages xii and xiii. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will be responsible for distribution to other counties, organizations, state agencies, and the federal government. Plans and changes will be distributed with a control copy number and a distribution log will be maintained by the Region 15 Emergency Management Agency and by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency to ensure that all individuals, agencies, and organizations have received current copies of the Plan.

X. REFERENCES

- A. Nebraska State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP), dated 29 April, 2009
- B. Nebraska State Emergency Alert System Operational Plan, February 2001, as revised
- C. 2004 North American Emergency Response Guidebook
- D. Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guide, NRT-1, March 1987
- E. Nebraska Radiological Emergencies Response Handbook, April 1989

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

<u>Attachments #</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Functional Responsibility Charts	21

# FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY CHART

P = primary responsibility, S = secondary responsibility

## EXECUTIVE GROUP

ANNEXES →	FUNCTIONS	POSITIONS or AGENCIES, Others	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	
			Continuity of Government	Direction and Control	Communications and Warning	Damage Assessment	Emergency Public Information	Evacuation	Fire-Hazmat Services	Health and Medical	Law Enforcement	Mass Care	Protective Shelters	Public Works	Resource Management
		Chair, County Board	<b>S</b>	<b>P</b>		<b>S</b>								<b>S</b>	
		Chair, Village Board	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		<b>S</b>								<b>S</b>	
		Village Board	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>											

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION**

**FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY CHART**

P = primary responsibility, S = secondary responsibility

	ANNEXES →		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L		
		FUNCTIONS →														
		POSITIONS or AGENCIES, Others ↓	Continuity of Government	Direction and Control	Communications and Warning	Damage Assessment	Emergency Public Information	Evacuation	Fire-Hazmat Services	Health and Medical	Law Enforcement	Mass Care	Protective Shelters	Public Works	Resource Management	Plan Update, Maintenance
		Region 15 Emergency Mgt. Director	S	S	S	S	S	P	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	P
		Region 15 Deputy Emergency Managers	S	S	S	S	S	P	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	P
		Public Information Officer		S			P									S
22		Communications and Warning Officer		S	P	S	S									S
		Radiological Officer		S		S			S	S						S
		Medical Coordinator								P		S	S			S
		Public Health Coordinator				S				P		S	S			S
		Damage Assessment Coordinator				P								S	S	

# FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY CHART

P = primary responsibility, S = secondary responsibility

## COUNTY OFFICIALS

ANNEXES →		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L		
	FUNCTIONS →	Continuity of Government	Direction and Control	Communications and Warning	Damage Assessment	Emergency Public Information	Evacuation	Fire-Hazmat Services	Health and Medical	Law Enforcement	Mass Care	Protective Shelters	Public Works	Resource Management	Plan Update, Maintenance
	POSITIONS or AGENCIES, Others ↓														
	Gosper County Sheriff		S	S		S				P					S
	County Attorney - Coroner	S	S						S						
	County Assessor	S		S									S	S	
	County Clerk	P											S	S	
	County Treasurer	S											S		
	Superintendent of Schools					S		S		S	S				
	County Highway Superintendent		S	S		S					S	P	S	S	
	Extension Educator			P	S								S		
	County Emergency Board (CEB)			P						S			S		
	Building Inspector			P								S			
	County Engineer			S								P	S		

# FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY CHART

P = primary responsibility, S = secondary responsibility

**CITY OFFICIALS**

	ANNEXES →		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	
FUNCTIONS		Continuity of Government	Direction and Control	Communications and Warning	Damage Assessment	Emergency Public Information	Evacuation	Fire-Hazmat Services	Health and Medical	Law Enforcement	Mass Care	Protective Shelters	Public Works	Resource Management	Plan Update, Maintenance
POSITIONS or AGENCIES, Others	→														
Police Chief			S	S	S		S			P					S
Fire Chief			S	S	S			P	S	S					S
City Attorney		S	S			S									
City Clerk		S													
Director of Public Works			S		S		S						P	S	S
Utilities Commissioner			S		S								P	S	S
City Engineering Dept.					S							S	S	S	
Parks and Recreation Director					S								S	S	
Street Commissioner					S		S						S	S	
Superintendent of Schools							S				S	S		S	
Central Plains Chapter, Red Cross					S				S		P				S

## FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY CHART

P = primary responsibility, S = secondary responsibility

### OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AGENCIES

ANNEXES		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	Plan Update, Maintenance
FUNCTIONS	Continuity of Government	Direction and Control	Communications and Warning	Damage Assessment	Emergency Public Information	Evacuation	Fire-Hazmat Services	Health and Medical	Law Enforcement	Mass Care	Protective Shelters	Public Works	Resource Management	
POSITIONS or AGENCIES, Others														
State Fire Marshall				S			P				S	S	S	
Nebraska State Patrol						S			P					
Dawson County Office, NE Health and Human Services System								P		S				S
So. Central/Tri-Valley Mutual Aid Association				S			P	S						
Amateur Radio Club			S	S						S	S			
Quest Telephone Company			S	S								S		
Arapahoe Telephone Company			S	S								S		
Alltel Communications Company			S	S								S		
Kinder Morgan Natural Gas				S								S		
Nebraska Power District				S								S		
Dawson Public Power District				S								S		

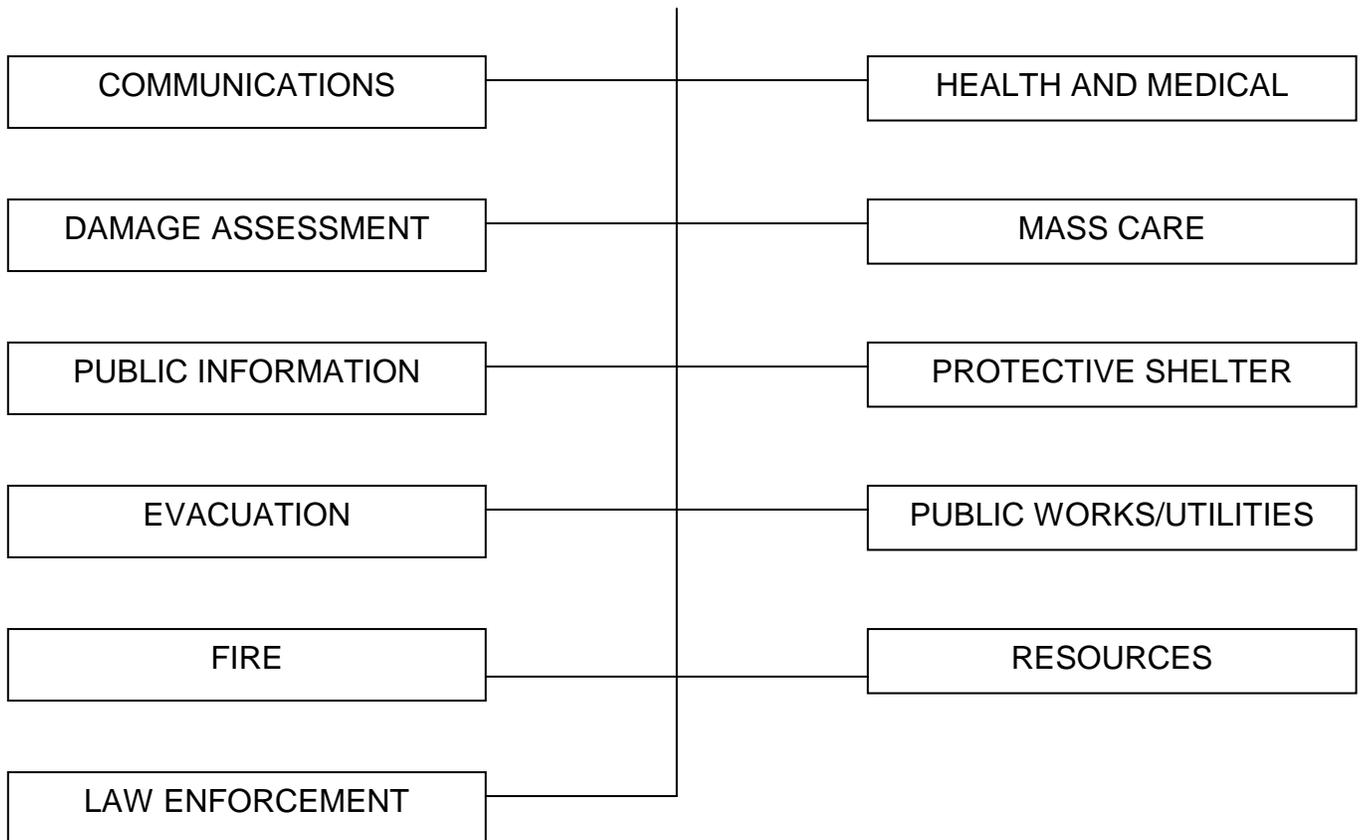
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# DIRECTION AND CONTROL

## ORGANIZATION CHART



----- FUNCTIONAL AREAS -----



## DIRECTION AND CONTROL

### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Annex is to provide procedures for centralized and coordinated management of emergency response activities in order to best protect the residents and property in Gosper County.

### II. SITUATION

A. The Region 15 Emergency Operating Center (EOC) is located in an Emergency Response Vehicle. Upon determination that an incident may become prolonged, a fixed site will be determined by the Executive Group.

1. The EOC is not considered to be an adequate tornado shelter. Maximum staffing for this facility is two persons.
2. The EOC can be notified by the Lexington Law Enforcement Center NAWAS (National Warning System) activity and relayed to emergency management, law enforcement, fire/EMS departments, and amateur and CB radio.

B. Alternate Emergency Operating Center

In the event the primary EOC is damaged or otherwise unavailable, an alternate site will be selected by the Executive Group and will be used as the alternate EOC. In the event both the EOC and alternate cannot be used, a law enforcement or fire department vehicle will serve as a field communications command post and will function as the alternate EOC until a facility has been readied for this function. The location selected will be determined at the time, dependent on the situation.

C. Emergency Operating Centers for other jurisdictions are:

1. Elwood Fire Department
2. Smithfield will designate one at the time of the incident.

D. The Nebraska State Patrol, Nebraska Emergency Management, and Buffalo County Mobile Command Post's could support the above EOCs.

E. First Responders will use an Incident Command System which is in accordance with HSPD-5, the National Incident Management System. The nature or kind of disaster will determine which of the first responding emergency units will provide the initial Incident Commander. The Incident Command may be handed off to

another agency as disaster priorities change. When the EOC is activated, field operations and the EOC must coordinate disaster operations for effective response and recovery.

### III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

- A. The Emergency Operations Centers would be available and prepared for emergency operations in a minimal amount of time.
- B. Local Chief Executives will normally function from their EOC or be on call during EOC operations.

### IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The Emergency Operation Center Staff, comprised of the Chief Executives of government and key officials, administer the Direction and Control function.
- B. The Chief Executives of government are responsible for their respective village, city, or county emergency operations including coordination of mutual aid and assuring the effective use of resources. The Chairman of the Gosper County Board of Commissioners is responsible for all county emergency operations outside of corporate city or village limits. The Executive Group is comprised of these Chief Executives within Gosper County. They are:
  - 1. County - Chairperson, Board of Commissioners,
  - 2. Villages - Chairperson of Village Boards.
- C. Staff, as designated in each functional Annex, is appointed or approved by the Chief Executives and become responsible for carrying out emergency operations and advising the Executive Group on matters pertaining to their areas of responsibilities. See Attachments 1 and 2.
- D. EOC supporting staff are those offices, both governmental and private, which do not have a primary operational responsibility but have the knowledge and professional expertise to assess a situation and provide advice and/or make recommendations to the Executive Group. The involvement of an office (or offices) will be dependent upon a number of variables, such as:
  - 1. Geographical location of disaster,
  - 2. Magnitude of disaster,

3. Type of advice/recommendation needed upon which to base executive decisions,
  4. Capability of affected community to provide "expert" assessments and evaluations.
- E. The Emergency Management Director's Direction and Control responsibilities may include, but are not limited to:
1. Serving as the disaster operations advisor to the Executive Group,
  2. Acting as the liaison to neighboring and higher levels of government, as required,
  3. Developing the EOC operating procedures,
  4. Assisting in staffing the EOC by organizing, recruiting, and training an Emergency Management EOC Staff which would support all jurisdictions in areas not normally a function of day-to-day government,
  5. Managing the operations of the EOC,
  6. Coordinating the implementation of mitigation efforts.
- F. Lines of Succession
1. County Board of Commissioners:
    - a. Chairperson,
    - b. Vice Chairperson,
    - c. Most senior member through members of the Board in order of their seniority on the Board.
  2. Village Government:
    - a. Chairperson of Village Board,
    - b. Most senior member through members of the Board in order of seniority on the Board.
  3. EOC Staff: as defined in each Annex to this Plan:
  4. Region 15 Emergency Management:

- a. Region 15 Emergency Management Director,
- b. Deputy Emergency Management Director,

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Activation of the Emergency Operating Center (EOC)

1. The Chairman of the County Board, Board Chairman of Elwood or Smithfield and the Region 15 Emergency Management Director has the authority to activate the Region 15 Emergency Operating Center (EOC). First responders may request that the EOC be activated, as a situation warrants.
2. Immediate requests for assistance from Emergency Management will be channeled through the Gosper County Dispatch to the appropriate agency/organization.
3. The decision to activate the Emergency Operating Center will be based upon the severity of the emergency situation. The Executive Group will determine the level of staffing required, based upon the situation, and will alert appropriate personnel, agencies, and organizations.
  - a. Increased operations activity and staffing will not normally be required when the emergency can be effectively handled by on-duty emergency response forces and there is no immediate threat to people or property.
  - b. Activation and staffing should be a major consideration when there is a significant threat to the population that would require increased coordination between response agencies. All emergency support services will maintain a current notification roster to ensure a timely response.
  - c. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director may activate the EOC on a limited staffing basis during severe weather watches and warnings.
4. The Incident Commander may establish a field command post. The field command post will maintain close contact and coordination with the EOC.
5. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director (EM) will notify the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, (1-877-297-2368), when there is an emergency or disaster that includes multi-agency response and is beyond the normal day-to-day response activities. The Incident Status Report (Attachment 3) is used to report as much information as is known at the time. The information in bold letters is of immediate importance. The Emergency Management Director will report more information as it becomes available and at least once a day for the remainder of the incident.

6. The EOC may operate on a 24-hour basis during the emergency; shifts will be determined in eight or 12-hour increments. A member of the Executive Group will be present or on call during EOC operating hours.

B. EOC Operations

1. During disaster operations, the following may operate from the EOC; other officials may operate from their daily locations as defined in the functional Annexes:
  - a. Executive Group (at the EOC or on call),
  - b. Emergency Management Director,
  - c. Communications Officer,
  - d. Damage Assessment Coordinator,
  - e. Public Information Officer,
  - f. Medical Coordinator and/or Public Health Coordinator,
  - g. Mass Care Coordinator,
  - h. Resources Coordinator (may include Volunteer Coordinator),
  - i. Social Services Coordinator,
  - j. Radiological Officer (radiological emergency),
  - k. LEPC Chair or representative,
  - l. Veterinarian representative,
  - m. Rumor control
2. Record keeping procedures in the EOC need to include:
  - a. All radio communications at the EOC logged by the agency/organization receiving/transmitting the message,
  - b. A detailed activity log of EOC operations maintained by the Emergency Management Director using local government administrative support,
  - c. The Emergency Management Director or Communications Officer overseeing all logs and the message/information flow system.

3. Periodic briefings at the EOC to update all personnel will be held, as the situation dictates.
4. The EOC contains updated maps of Gosper County and its cities and villages as well as status boards required for tracking significant events/actions.
5. EOC security is provided by the Gosper County Sheriff.

C. EOC Coordination

1. Specific operations are detailed in the Annexes to this Plan. These disaster operations shall be performed in accordance with federal and state law and Gosper County Resolutions which cover mutual aid, emergency expenditures, emergency worker's liability, Worker's Compensation, etc. The Executive Group will make necessary policy decisions in accordance with state and local laws.
2. To provide for the most efficient management of resources, coordination of emergency operations will be through the appropriate Staff.
3. Primary communications will be through normal systems. Additional communications capabilities are outlined in Annex B.
4. Incident Command in the field and officials at the EOC must maintain contact with each other to effectively coordinate disaster operations.
5. Emergency workers without standard identification cards and volunteers will be issued an identification card by the Emergency Manager which will allow them access to areas necessary to perform their assigned tasks.
6. The EOC needs to be informed when staging areas are established in the field for the purpose of coordinating the use of outside support for disaster response.

D. Local Emergency Declaration

In situations where response and recovery are within the capabilities of the local government, the Chief Executive of the jurisdiction may declare an emergency and issue directives to activate local resources required to respond. (Example: A "Declaration of a Snow Emergency" could implement a parking ban on designated streets and activate the snow removal plan.)

### E. Local Disaster Declaration

1. The Chief Executive may sign a Disaster Declaration when it appears that the response and recovery efforts will exceed the normal local capabilities. See Attachment 4.
2. Within the limitations stated in RRS 81-829.50, any order or declaration declaring, continuing, or terminating a disaster will be given prompt and general publicity through the Public Information Officer (Annex D).
3. A Disaster Declaration on official letterhead will be filed promptly with the Clerk of the affected jurisdiction and with the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. The Emergency Management Director will e-mail or fax (if possible) the local Declaration, then mail the hard copy original to the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. See Sample Disaster Declaration, Attachment 4 to this Annex.
4. The effect of a local Disaster Declaration will be to:
  - a. Activate response and recovery aspects of all applicable local and/or interjurisdictional Emergency Management plans, and to
  - b. Authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance from these plans.
5. A local Disaster Declaration is not an automatic request for state assistance.

### F. Request for Assistance

1. Gosper County will first implement mutual aid agreements within the County and with neighboring communities.
2. If mutual aid resources are not sufficient, the Chief Executive may request assistance from the state through Region 15 Emergency Management.
  - a. A local Disaster Declaration must precede a request for State assistance (Attachment 4).
  - b. The County Board of Commissioners will make this request through the Region 15 Emergency Management Director to the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. See Attachment 5 for guidelines.
  - c. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will review the request, evaluate the overall disaster situation, and recommend action to the Governor.

3. Local response agencies may request technical assistance and resource support directly from state agencies, such as the Nebraska State Patrol, the Department of Roads, the State Fire Marshal, the Department of Environmental Quality, and the Nebraska Health and Human Services System. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will advise the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency of these requests.

## VI. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICS

### A. Fiscal

1. Gosper County and its affected jurisdictions shall fund disaster related costs from local contingency funds to the fullest extent possible.
2. All disaster related expenditures must be documented using generally accepted accounting procedures. The State and Federal governments will conduct audits prior to providing reimbursements for eligible expenditures.

### B. Call-Down Rosters and Review of Annex A

1. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will ensure that call-down rosters for EOC Staff and County/City/Village Officials (Attachments 1 and 2) are current.
2. The Emergency Management Director will review this Annex annually.

## VII. TRAINING AND EXERCISING

### A. Training

1. The training program will be consistent with the five-year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.
2. All personnel with responsibilities in this Plan should make every effort to attend training programs designed for city/village and county officials offered by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency.

### B. Exercising

1. All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).

2. An exercise of Direction and Control aspects of this Plan involving both the Executive Group and EOC Staff should be held at least annually.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

<u>Attachment #</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	County Officials and EOC Staff	A-11
2	City/Village Officials and EOC Staff	A-13
3	Incident Status Report (OMS-1)	A-17
4	Declaration	A-19
5	Emergency Disaster Checklist for Obtaining State/Federal Assistance	A-20
TAB A	Village of Elwood Operations Plan	A-21
TAB B	Village of Smithfield Operations Plan	A-23

THIS ATTACHMENT IS ON FILE WITH  
LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
AND THE  
NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

# INCIDENT STATUS REPORT

Incident: \_\_\_\_\_ Incident Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Report date/time \_\_\_\_\_

Jurisdiction: \_\_\_\_\_ Caller Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Call back number: \_\_\_\_\_ Incident Commander: \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** As soon as possible fill in as much information as you currently know. The information in **bold** is of immediate importance. Other information can be gathered as it becomes available. Please fill all of the information areas, put **unknown** in areas where you have no information and **none** where there is no damage or impact. Please fax or call the information into the State EOC as soon as *any* information is known, then fax or call in updates as new information becomes available or as it is requested by NEMA. Thank you. Fax 402-471-7433 or Call 877-297-2368

**1. GENERAL INFORMATION:**

**1.1 General Location of Affected Area:**

**1.2 EOC Activated? Y N**

**1.3 Disaster Declaration? Y N**

**2. LOCAL ACTIONS:**

**2.1 Evacuation Ordered? Y N** Size of Area: \_\_\_\_\_

**2.2 Resources Deployed:**

2.2.1 Law Enforcement: Y N 2.2.2 Fire: Y N 2.2.3 Rescue: Y N 2.2.4 Public Works: Y N

2.2.5 Mutual Aid Departments on scene: \_\_\_\_\_

2.2.6 Private Utilities: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. DISASTER IMPACTS:**

**3.1 Number of: Fatalities \_\_\_\_\_ Injuries \_\_\_\_\_ Missing Persons \_\_\_\_\_**

**3.2 Estimated number of families/individuals displaced: Actual \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated \_\_\_\_\_**

**3.3 Number of Shelters Open: \_\_\_\_\_**

**3.4 Number of People Sheltered: \_\_\_\_\_**

**3.5 Anticipated Total Number of Persons: \_\_\_\_\_**

**3.6 Special Needs Citizens Identified and Cared For: Y N**

**3.7 Comfort locations for Emergency Workers established? Y N**

**3.8 Number of structures damaged:**

3.8.1 Homes: Minor \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_ Destroyed \_\_\_\_\_ % Insured \_\_\_\_\_

3.8.2 Public Buildings: Minor \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_ Destroyed \_\_\_\_\_ % Insured \_\_\_\_\_

3.8.3 Business/Industry: Minor \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_ Destroyed \_\_\_\_\_ % Insured \_\_\_\_\_

Minor - Building is damaged and may be used under limited conditions with minor repairs.  
Major - Building is damaged to the extent that it is no longer usable and may be returned to service only with extensive repairs.  
Destroyed- Building is a total loss or damaged to the extent that it is no longer usable and is not economically feasible to repair

**3.9 Immediate Needs: (health & safety for individuals & property):**

4. STATUS OF SERVICES:

**4.1 Status of Electric Utility Service:**

**4.2 Status of Telephone Service:**

**4.3 Status of Schools:**

**4.4 Status of Government Offices:**

**4.5 Impacted Critical Facilities**

**4.5.1 Hospitals:** \_\_\_\_\_

**4.5.2 Water Treatment Plants:** \_\_\_\_\_

**4.5.3 Wastewater Plants:** \_\_\_\_\_

**4.5.6 Lift Stations:** \_\_\_\_\_

**4.5.7 Natural Gas:** \_\_\_\_\_

**4.5.8 Correctional:** \_\_\_\_\_

**4.5.9 Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

5. TRANSPORTATION:

**5.1 Streets:**                      Extent of Damage

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**5.2 Roads:**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**5.3 Bridges:**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**5.4 Airport:**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**6. ANTICIPATED FUTURE NEEDS: (Including personnel, equipment, mass care etc)**

_____	_____
_____	_____

SAMPLE LOCAL DISASTER DECLARATION

**A Disaster Declaration must be issued prior to requesting state or federal assistance.**

**A Disaster Declaration for a city or village should be transmitted  
through the County Emergency Management Director.  
The County Board should also declare a disaster using this same form.**

**The following is a sample of the language that should be retyped onto the jurisdiction's  
official letterhead before submitting it to the State EOC.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Gosper County (or affected village) has suffered from a \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e., disastrous tornado strike) that occurred on \_\_\_\_\_ (include date(s) and time) causing severe damage to public and private property, disruption of utility service, and endangerment of health and safety of the citizens of Gosper County (or village) within the disaster area

Therefore, the Chair of the Gosper County Board of Commissioners (or the Board Chair of \_\_\_\_\_) has declared a state of emergency authorized under Nebraska State Statute R.R.S. 81-829.50 on behalf of County (or city/village), and will execute for and on behalf of Gosper County (or city/village), the expenditure of emergency funds from all available sources, the invoking of mutual aid agreements, and the applying to the State of Nebraska for assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund and any other resources he/she deems necessary in the fulfillment of his/her duties.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Gosper County  
Board of Commissioners  
(or Mayor/Board Chair of affected jurisdiction  
or by appointed authorized representative)

WITNESS my hand and the seal of my office  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
County (or City/Village) Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**EMERGENCY/DISASTER CHECKLIST  
FOR OBTAINING STATE/FEDERAL ASSISTANCE**

1. Has an initial assessment of damages and resources needed been made? YES NO  

If NO, Damage Assessment instructions are in Annex C.
2. Are the emergency/disaster response and/or recovery requirements beyond your jurisdiction's capabilities? YES NO
3. Have you requested mutual aid? YES NO  

If NO, mutual aid resources are listed in the Annexes appropriate to the functional area. i.e. for fire, refer to Fire Services - Annex F; medical - Annex G; law enforcement - Annex H.
4. Has a Local Disaster Declaration been signed by the Chief Executive? YES NO  

If NO, see Sample Local Disaster Declaration on preceding page.
5. Do you need assistance in obtaining some resources? YES NO
6. Do you anticipate needing financial assistance from the State or Federal Government? YES NO
7. Are you maintaining financial records on the expenditures of local resources during the disaster? See Annex L. Financial expenditures must be documented under the Governor's Emergency Fund Procedures or to prove local share under a Presidential Disaster Declaration. YES NO
8. Have you determined what assistance you need and how that assistance will be utilized? YES NO  

If NO, go to #9.
9. Do you need State or Federal assistance to complete the damage assessment process? YES NO
10. Have you notified the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency? YES NO

**If NO, notify as follows:**

**Call NEMA at: 1-877-297-2368 (toll free)**

**or the Hastings NAWAS Warning Point**

**VILLAGE  
OF  
ELWOOD**

**OPERATIONS  
PLAN**

**FOR  
DISASTER  
RESPONSE  
AND  
RECOVERY**

**2011**

**VILLAGE OF ELWOOD**  
**OPERATIONS PLAN**

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## **VILLAGE OF ELWOOD OPERATIONS PLAN**

This plan is provided to the elected and appointed officials in the Village of Elwood as well as to the first responders and any support groups for their guidance in disaster response and recovery.

This plan is meant to support each Annex in the Gosper County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). For example: general procedures for disaster response for fires and hazardous materials are defined in Annex F; the additional information in this plan under Field Operations for the Elwood Fire Department, gives further specific guidelines for the Village.

It is in the best interest of the Village of Elwood, that the named key officials meet once a year to review these guidelines to determine that they are current.

### **RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISASTER OPERATIONS**

The primary responsibility for the welfare of Elwood residents during a disaster rests with the Village Board Chairperson and the Village Board. The Village Board Chairperson will be responsible for the coordination of disaster operations as well as the executive decisions necessary to provide an effective response and recovery to the disaster.

### **OVERVIEW OF DISASTER OPERATIONS**

Warnings: Warnings will be given to alert the public of any potential disaster (Annexes B, D).

Field Operations: If there is an actual disaster, the first priority of First Responders in the affected area will be lifesaving activities and preservation of property in Elwood.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC): An EOC will likely be opened to provide a site for officials to provide coordination of disaster operations. All support groups will work out of the EOC located at the Elwood Village Hall.

#### **I. WARNINGS (Annex B)**

- A. Severe Weather Spotting Program: the Hastings National Weather Service will usually ask the County Communications Center to activate spotters when severe weather is a possibility. The County Communications Center will page out the request to weather spotters in each individual town. Spotters are primarily from Fire/EMS Departments and are equipped with radios. There are no designated spotting locations in and around Gosper County. Spotters radio their reports to the fire station or to the County Communications Center. The Communications Center will, in turn, advise the Emergency Management Officials as well as the National Weather Service when conditions persist.

- B. Citizens may also be alerted of danger by outdoor warning systems, NOAA All Hazards radio, and/or public address systems on emergency vehicles. If necessary, warnings may be given door-to-door if time allows. CodeRed High Speed Notification is also available.
- C. Emergency information can be broadcast over radio station KRVN-AM 880 and/or television station KHGI Channel 13

## II. **FIELD OPERATIONS**

- A. The first emergency responder to arrive at the scene will become the Incident Commander.
- B. Emergency Communications: communications and warnings for Elwood and Gosper County are handled through the County Communications Center in the Sheriff's Office located in Elwood. The Communications Center will give emergency information via pagers and radios to the first responder agencies in Gosper County, including Law Enforcement, the individual Fire Departments, EMS and the Region 15 Emergency Management personnel. A detailed listing of frequencies used in Gosper County is given in Attachment 2, Annex B.
- C. The Field IC needs to let the EOC know what they need for disaster operations!
- D. The Incident Commander will request mutual aid through the Communications Center.

## III. **LAW ENFORCEMENT (Annex H)**

- A. Law Enforcement personnel can communicate by radio with the Communications Center and the Fire & Rescue Departments.
- B. Evacuation
  - 1. People will be notified in the event that evacuation is necessary. The Village Board Chairperson can order an evacuation in Elwood. The Incident Commander at the scene will, if time allows, consult with the Village Board Chairperson in situations requiring immediate evacuation. If the immediate safety of the population is the consideration, the Incident Commander may order an evacuation on-scene.
  - 2. If residents need transportation during the evacuation, they may call the Communications Center who will relay the request to the Region 15 Emergency Manager or the Emergency Operations Center. If the EOC has not yet been opened, the Communications Center will call the Incident Commander. Transportation resources are listed in Annex L of the County

LEOP. In the Field, if the Incident Commander sees the need for transportation during evacuation, he will notify the EOC.

- C. Law enforcement will work with other First Responders in search and rescue.
- D. Security of the Disaster Area.
  - 1. Security may be needed at all the highway points leading into Elwood. The Nebraska State Patrol can help with security.
  - 2. Roadblocks: Village/county/state roads departments can help with barricades. The Incident Commander or Law Enforcement will contact the Communications Center to request these resources from the County Roads Department and/or the State Road Department.
  - 3. Identification cards for access to the disaster area will be issued in Elwood and Gosper County. ID cards are needed not only for local officials, but also for volunteers, the media and even the residents when the disaster area has been secured. The Two Rivers Public Health District will distribute identification cards from the EOC or at the disaster access points.

#### IV. **FIRE DEPARTMENT (Annex F)**

- A. Fire Department personnel can communicate by radio with the Communications Center, the Sheriff's Department and EMS as well as with each other.
- B. The first emergency responder on scene assumes the Incident Command, which is handed off to officers as they arrive.
- C. The Fire Department will coordinate with other First Responders in search and rescue.
- D. Hazardous Materials Response (Annex F, Appendix 1)
  - 1. If assistance is needed in responding to a hazardous materials incident, the Incident Commander will notify the Gosper County Communications Center to contact the Region 15 Emergency Management Director who will call for assistance from the appropriate response agency to include NDEQ.
  - 2. In the event of a hazardous materials accident, the Incident Commander with assistance of the Region 15 Emergency Management Director will determine if such incident poses a threat to people and/or property and will determine if an evacuation is necessary.
  - 3. Hazardous materials, including radiological, in Elwood are listed in Annex F, Appendix 1, and Attachment 1 in the County LEOP.

V. **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) (Annex G)**

- A. Available personnel for disasters
  - 1. Ambulance Service for the Village of Elwood is provided by the Elwood Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department.
  - 2. Personnel from the South Central and/or Tri-Valley Mutual Aid Association
- B. EMS personnel can communicate by radio with the Communications Center, Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, and with each other.
- C. The Incident Commander is the first emergency responder at the scene.
- D. EMS will work with other First Responders in search and rescue.
- E. One person will be dedicated to radio communications; another may be needed to set up triage.
- F. After triage, victims can be transported to the nearest receiving hospital(s).
- G. Local Transportation resources include:
  - 1. Elwood: Two Ambulances
  - 2. Lexington: Two Ambulances
  - 3. Bertrand: Two Ambulances
  - 4. Eustis: Two Ambulances
  - 5. Buses and vans for evacuation could be provided by the Elwood, Eustis, and/or Bertrand School Districts.
  - 6. Medical Helicopters:
    - a. Air Care-Kearney
    - b. Star Care V-Lincoln

VI. **PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES (Annex K)**

- A. Utilities will provide personnel for emergency repairs.

- B. Village street maintenance crews will clear emergency routes for the initial disaster response and will begin debris removal. The County Road Department will be contacted for additional help.
- C. The Village Board Chairperson will authorize a tree dump; arrangements can be made to discard debris at a later time.
- D. The primary list of heavy equipment for disaster operations is in Annex L, Attachment 2.

VII. **EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC) (Annex A)**

- A. THE EOC NEEDS TO BE THE ONE POINT OF CONTACT IN COORDINATING DISASTER OPERATIONS. Not only will the field Incident Commander work with the EOC, but also regular briefings will be held at the EOC for Field and EOC Staff. The Chief Elected Official will schedule these meetings.
- B. Direction and coordination of the disaster operations will be exercised from the EOC; the Village Board Chairperson has the primary responsibility and authority, by law, for disaster operations. The Village Board Chairperson line of succession is to the President of the Village Board.
- C. The Emergency Operating Center (EOC) will be set up in the Elwood Fire Hall, if not damaged and is available at the time of the disaster. There is no auxiliary power at the EOC. A generator is available for use from the Elwood Fire Department or Bertrand Fire Department.
- D. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will work under the Village Board Chairperson direction in carrying out disaster duties. Other staff that may be called upon to work in the EOC are the:
  - 1. Communications dispatch (2-3 people),
  - 2. Public Information Officer,
  - 3. Representatives from Law Enforcement, Fire Department, EMS, and Utilities,
  - 4. Village Clerk,
  - 5. Village Board Member(s).
- E. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director and/or the Village Board Chair can open the Emergency Operating Center. The Director will inform the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) in Lincoln that the EOC has been opened.

- F. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will call in personnel to work the disaster. The Emergency Management Director will coordinate and work with all responding agencies.
- G. A telephone list of officials and personnel is found in Annex A, Attachments 1 and 2 of the county LEOP.
- H. The Village Board Chairperson will declare a Disaster when assistance is needed beyond the capability of Elwood to respond (Annex A, Attachment 3). Additional assistance will be requested from surrounding towns, from the County and from mutual aid groups. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will ensure that NEMA in Lincoln receives a copy of the Disaster Declaration.

#### VIII. **COMMUNICATIONS AT THE EOC (Annex B)**

Coordination between the EOC and the Field is very important. The communications capability at the EOC includes mobile and fixed radios, landline and wireless telephone, Internet, and messengers. Additional communications assistance may be available from the Buffalo County, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and/or the Nebraska State Patrol Mobile Command Posts.

#### IX. **EMERGENCY PUBLIC INFORMATION (Annex D)**

- A. The Village Board Chairperson, Public Information Officer or the Region 15 Emergency Management Director serving as an alternate, will release official public information. This Public Information Officer will work at the EOC, coordinating with the Village Board Chairperson, Emergency Management, and the Field Incident Commander.
- B. The Chief Elected Official must approve the information being released to the public.
- C. Official information or instructions to the public will be broadcast over radio station KRVN-AM 880 and television station KHGI Channel 13.
- D. If needed, the Public Information Officer will conduct briefings with the media to update them on the latest disaster events.
- E. A telephone line may be set up to receive calls from the public concerning the disaster. The Public Information Officer will be responsible for this "rumor control" line.
- F. Emergency information could also be released through the Nebraska Emergency Alert System (EAS). Gosper County is in Area 2 of the EAS network (Annex B).

**X. SHELTERING (Annex I)**

- A. The Central Plains Chapter of the American Red Cross (ARC) from Grand Island will open shelters under the direction of the Region 15 Emergency Management Director.
- B. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will call the ARC when sheltering is needed.
- C. Emergency Management will alert the Field Incident Commander and the Public Information Officer that shelters have been opened and which streets are cleared to the shelter.
- D. A list of shelters in Elwood is in Attachment 1 to Annex I.

**XI. RESOURCES (Annex L)**

- A. The Chief Elected Official will be responsible for obtaining additional resources needed to respond to the disaster. The First Responders in the field may make resource requests to the EOC.
- B. The County Road Department maintains a list of heavy equipment, transportation resources, and generators that can be used in disaster operations. A list of these resources for all of Gosper County is in Attachments 1 and 2 to Annex L.
- C. The Village Clerk will be the Volunteer Coordinator in Elwood. Procedures are outlined in Attachment 3 to Annex L.

**XII. DAMAGE ASSESSMENT (Annex C)**

- A. The Gosper County Assessor will serve as the Damage Assessment Coordinator who will compile and report all of the damage information gathered in Elwood. The Incident Status Report (OMS-1) form can be found in the county LEOP in Annex A, Attachment 3.
- B. Damage assessment will start as soon as lifesaving efforts have been completed.
- C. Damage Assessment for the following areas will be accomplished by:
  - 1. Public Facilities: Public Works,
  - 2. Residences: Insurance Adjusters, Insurance Agents,
  - 3. Businesses: Insurance Adjusters, Insurance Agents.

**XIII. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (Annex G)**

The coordination of all public welfare and human needs after a disaster will be provided from such organizations as the Dawson County Office of Health and Human Services, West Central Nebraska Area Agency on Aging, the Central Plains Chapter of the American Red Cross and other social service and community organizations.

**XIV. PUBLIC HEALTH (Annex G)**

Emergency Management along with the EMS Chief will be responsible for addressing public health issues, including counseling services.

**XV. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY**

The Elwood Village Clerk will be responsible for tracking all disaster expenses including overtime for paid personnel, supplies used, emergency purchases/rentals/contracts.

**XVI. WHEN THE DISASTER IS BEYOND LOCAL CAPABILITIES**

- A. When local resources in Elwood are clearly not sufficient to cope with the disaster response needs, the chief executive may then request assistance from Gosper County and from the Region 15 Emergency Management Agency. If, in the determination of county officials, county resources and mutual aid are not adequate to cope with the situation, assistance may be requested from the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency by calling toll free 1-877-297-2368.
- B. A telephone list for officials, first responders, and support groups is found in Annex A, Attachments 1 and 2.

**VILLAGE  
OF  
SMITHFIELD**

**OPERATIONS  
PLAN**

**FOR  
DISASTER  
RESPONSE  
AND  
RECOVERY**

**2011**

**VILLAGE OF SMITHFIELD**  
**OPERATIONS PLAN**

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## **VILLAGE OF SMITHFIELD OPERATIONS PLAN**

This plan is provided to the elected and appointed officials in the Village of Smithfield as well as to the first responders and any support groups for their guidance in disaster response and recovery.

This plan is meant to support each Annex in the Gosper County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). For example: general procedures for disaster response for fires and hazardous materials are defined in Annex F; the additional information in this plan under Field Operations for the Elwood Fire Department, gives further specific guidelines for the Village.

It is in the best interest of the Village of Smithfield, that the named key officials meet once a year to review these guidelines to determine that they are current.

### **RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISASTER OPERATIONS**

The primary responsibility for the welfare of Smithfield residents during a disaster rests with the Village Board Chairperson and the Village Board. The Village Board Chairperson will be responsible for the coordination of disaster operations as well as the executive decisions necessary to provide an effective response and recovery to the disaster.

### **OVERVIEW OF DISASTER OPERATIONS**

Warnings: Warnings will be given to alert the public of any potential disaster (Annexes B, D).

Field Operations: If there is an actual disaster, the first priority of First Responders in the affected area will be lifesaving activities and preservation of property in Smithfield.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC): An EOC will likely be opened to provide a site for officials to provide coordination of disaster operations. All support groups will work out of the EOC located at the Smithfield Village Hall.

#### **I. WARNINGS (Annex B)**

- A. Severe Weather Spotting Program: the Hastings National Weather Service will usually ask the Gosper County Communications Center to activate spotters when severe weather is a possibility. The Gosper County Communications Center will page out the request to weather spotters in each individual town. Spotters are primarily from Fire/EMS Departments and are equipped with radios. There are no designated spotting locations in and around Gosper County. Spotters radio their reports to the fire station, or to the Gosper County Communications Center. The Communications Center will, in turn, advise the Emergency Management Officials as well as the National Weather Service when conditions persist.

- B. Citizens may also be alerted of danger by public address systems on emergency vehicles. If necessary, warnings may be given door-to-door if time allows. CodeRed High Speed Notification system is also available for use.
- C. Emergency information can be broadcast over radio station(s) KRVN, KMTY and television station(s) KHGI or KOLN.

## II. **FIELD OPERATIONS**

- A. The first emergency responder to arrive at the scene will become the Incident Commander.
- B. Emergency Communications: communications and warnings for Smithfield and Gosper County are handled through the Gosper County Communications Center in the Sheriff's Office located in Elwood. The Communications Center will give emergency information via pagers and radios to the first responder agencies in Gosper County, including Law Enforcement, the individual Fire Departments, EMS and the Region 15 Emergency Management personnel. A detailed listing of frequencies used in Gosper County is given in Attachment 2, Annex B.
- C. The Field IC needs to let the EOC know what they need for disaster operations!
- D. The Incident Commander will request mutual aid through the Communications Center.

## III. **LAW ENFORCEMENT (Annex H)**

- A. Law Enforcement personnel can communicate by radio with the Communications Center and the Fire & Rescue Departments.
- B. Evacuation
  - 1. People will be notified in the event that evacuation is necessary. The Village Board Chairperson can order an evacuation in Smithfield. The Incident Commander at the scene will, if time allows, consult with the Village Board Chairperson in situations requiring immediate evacuation. If the immediate safety of the population is the consideration, the Incident Commander may order an evacuation on-scene.
  - 2. If residents need transportation during the evacuation, they may call the Communications Center who will relay the request to the Region 15 Emergency Manager or the Emergency Operations Center. If the EOC has not yet been opened, the Communications Center will call the Incident Commander. Transportation resources are listed in Annex L of the County LEOP. In the Field, if the Incident Commander sees the need for transportation during evacuation, he will notify the EOC.

- C. Law enforcement will work with other First Responders in search and rescue.
- D. Security of the Disaster Area.
  - 1. Security may be needed at all the highway points leading into Smithfield. The Nebraska State Patrol can help with security.
  - 2. Roadblocks: Village/county/state roads departments can help with barricades. The Incident Commander or Law Enforcement will contact the Communications Center to request these resources from the County Roads Department and/or the State Road Department.
  - 3. Identification cards for access to the disaster area will be issued in Smithfield and Gosper County. ID cards are needed not only for local officials, but also for volunteers, the media and even the residents when the disaster area has been secured. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director with assistance of Two Rivers Public Health will distribute identification cards from the EOC or at the disaster access points.

#### IV. **FIRE DEPARTMENT (Annex F)**

- A. Available personnel for disaster:
  - 1. Fire Protection for the Village of Smithfield is provided by the Elwood Fire and Rescue Department
  - 2. Personnel from South Central and Tri-Valley Mutual Aid Associations.
- B. Fire Department personnel can communicate by radio with the Communications Center, the Sheriff's Department and EMS as well as with each other.
- C. The first emergency responder on scene assumes the Incident Command, which is handed off to officers as they arrive.
- D. The Fire Department will coordinate with other First Responders in search and rescue.
- E. Hazardous Materials Response (Annex F, Appendix 1)
  - 1. If assistance is needed in responding to a hazardous materials incident, the Incident Commander will notify the Gosper County Communications Center to contact the Region 15 Emergency Management Director who will call for assistance from the appropriate response agency to include NDEQ.
  - 2. In the event of a hazardous materials accident, the Incident Commander with assistance of the Region 15 Emergency Management Director will determine

if such incident poses a threat to people and/or property and will determine if an evacuation is necessary.

3. Hazardous materials, including radiological, in Smithfield are listed in Annex F, Appendix 1, Attachment 1 in the County LEOP.

V. **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) (Annex G)**

- A. Available personnel for disasters
  1. Ambulance Service for the Village of Smithfield is provided by the Elwood Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department.
  2. Personnel from the South Central and/or Tri-Valley Mutual Aid Association
- B. EMS personnel can communicate by radio with the Communications Center, Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, and with each other.
- C. The Incident Commander is the first emergency responder at the scene.
- D. EMS will work with other First Responders in search and rescue.
- E. One person will be dedicated to radio communications; another may be needed to set up triage.
- F. After triage, victims can be transported to the nearest receiving hospital(s).
- G. Transportation resources include:
  1. Elwood: Two Ambulances
  2. Lexington: Two Ambulances
  3. Bertrand: Two Ambulances
  4. There are no vans with Tommy Lift capabilities available in Smithfield
  5. Buses and vans for evacuation could be provided by the Elwood and/or Bertrand School Districts.
  6. Medical Helicopters:
    - a. Air Care-Kearney
    - b. Star Care V-Lincoln

**VI. PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES (Annex K)**

- A. Providers (Telephone numbers are at the end of this plan):
  - 1. Electricity: Village of Smithfield is supplied by Dawson Public Power District
  - 2. Telephone: Quest Communications
- B. The County Road Department will be contacted for clearing of emergency routes during the initial disaster response and will begin debris removal.
- C. The Village Board Chairperson will authorize a tree dump; arrangements can be made to discard debris at a later time.
- D. The primary list of heavy equipment for disaster operations is in Annex L, Attachment 2.

**VII. EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC) (Annex A)**

- A. THE EOC NEEDS TO BE THE ONE POINT OF CONTACT IN COORDINATING DISASTER OPERATIONS. Not only will the field Incident Commander work with the EOC, but also regular briefings will be held at the EOC for Field and EOC Staff. The Chief Elected Official will schedule these meetings.
- B. Direction and coordination of the disaster operations will be exercised from the EOC; the Village Board Chairperson has the primary responsibility and authority, by law, for disaster operations. The Village Board Chairperson line of succession is to the President of the Village Board.
- C. The Emergency Operating Center (EOC) will be set up in the Smithfield Village Hall, if not damaged and is available at the time of the disaster. There is no auxiliary power at the EOC. A generator is available for use from the Elwood and/or Bertrand Fire Department's.
- D. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will work under the Village Board Chairperson direction in carrying out disaster duties. Other staff that may be called upon to work in the EOC are the:
  - 1. Communications dispatch (2-3 people),
  - 2. Deputy Emergency Managers
  - 3. Public Information Officer,
  - 4. Representatives from Law Enforcement, Fire Department, EMS, and Utilities,
  - 5. Village Clerk,

6. Village Board Member(s).
- E. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director and/or the Village Board Chair can open the Emergency Operating Center. The Director will inform the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) in Lincoln that the EOC has been opened.
- F. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will call in personnel to work the disaster. The Emergency Management Director will coordinate and work with all responding agencies.
- G. A telephone list of officials and personnel is found in Annex A, Attachments 1 and 2 of the county LEOP.
- H. The Village Board Chairperson will declare a Disaster when assistance is needed beyond the capability of Smithfield to respond (Annex A, Attachment 3). Additional assistance will be requested from surrounding towns, from the County and from mutual aid groups. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will ensure that NEMA in Lincoln receives a copy of the Disaster Declaration.

#### VIII. **COMMUNICATIONS AT THE EOC (Annex B)**

Coordination between the EOC and the Field is very important. The communications capability at the EOC includes mobile and fixed radios, landline and wireless telephone, Internet, and messengers. Additional communications assistance may be available from the Buffalo County, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and/or the Nebraska State Patrol Mobile Command Post.

#### IX. **EMERGENCY PUBLIC INFORMATION (Annex D)**

- A. The Village Board Chairperson, Public Information Officer or the Region 15 Emergency Management Director serving as an alternate, will release official public information. This Public Information Officer will work at the EOC, coordinating with the Village Board Chairperson, Emergency Management, and the Field Incident Commander.
- B. The Chief Elected Official must approve the information being released to the public.
- C. Official information or instructions to the public will be broadcast over radio station(s) KRVN, KMTY and television station(s) KHGI, KOLN.
- D. If needed, the Public Information Officer will conduct briefings with the media to update them on the latest disaster events.

- E. A telephone line may be set up to receive calls from the public concerning the disaster. The Public Information Officer will be responsible for this "rumor control" line.
- F. Emergency information could also be released through the Nebraska Emergency Alert System (EAS). Gosper County is in Area 2 of the EAS network (Annex B).

X. **SHELTERING (Annex I)**

- A. The Central Plains Chapter of the American Red Cross (ARC) from Grand Island will open shelters under the direction of the Region 15 Emergency Management Director.
- B. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will call the ARC when sheltering is needed.
- C. Emergency Management will alert the Field Incident Commander and the Public Information Officer that shelters have been opened and which streets are cleared to the shelter.
- D. A list of shelters in Smithfield is in Attachment 1 to Annex I.

XI. **RESOURCES (Annex L)**

- A. The Chief Elected Official will be responsible for obtaining additional resources needed to respond to the disaster. The First Responders in the field may make resource requests to the EOC.
- B. The County Road Department maintains a list of heavy equipment, transportation resources, and generators that can be used in disaster operations. A list of these resources for all of Gosper County is in Attachments 1 and 2 to Annex L.
- C. The Village Clerk will be the Volunteer Coordinator in Smithfield. Procedures are outlined in Attachment 3 to Annex L.

XII. **DAMAGE ASSESSMENT (Annex C)**

- A. The Gosper County Assessor will serve as the Damage Assessment Coordinator who will compile and report all of the damage information gathered in Smithfield. The Incident Status Report (OMS-1) form can be found in the county LEOP in Annex A, Attachment 3.
- B. Damage assessment will start as soon as lifesaving efforts have been completed.

C. Damage Assessment for the following areas will be accomplished by:

1. Public Facilities: Public Works,
2. Residences: Insurance Adjusters, Insurance Agents,
3. Businesses: Insurance Adjusters, Insurance Agents.

XIII. **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (Annex G)**

The coordination of all public welfare and human needs after a disaster will be provided from such organizations as the Dawson County Office of Health & Human Services, West Central Nebraska Area Agency on Aging, the Central Plains Chapter of the American Red Cross and other social service and community organizations.

XIV. **PUBLIC HEALTH (Annex G)**

Emergency Management along with the EMS Chief will be responsible for addressing public health issues, including counseling services.

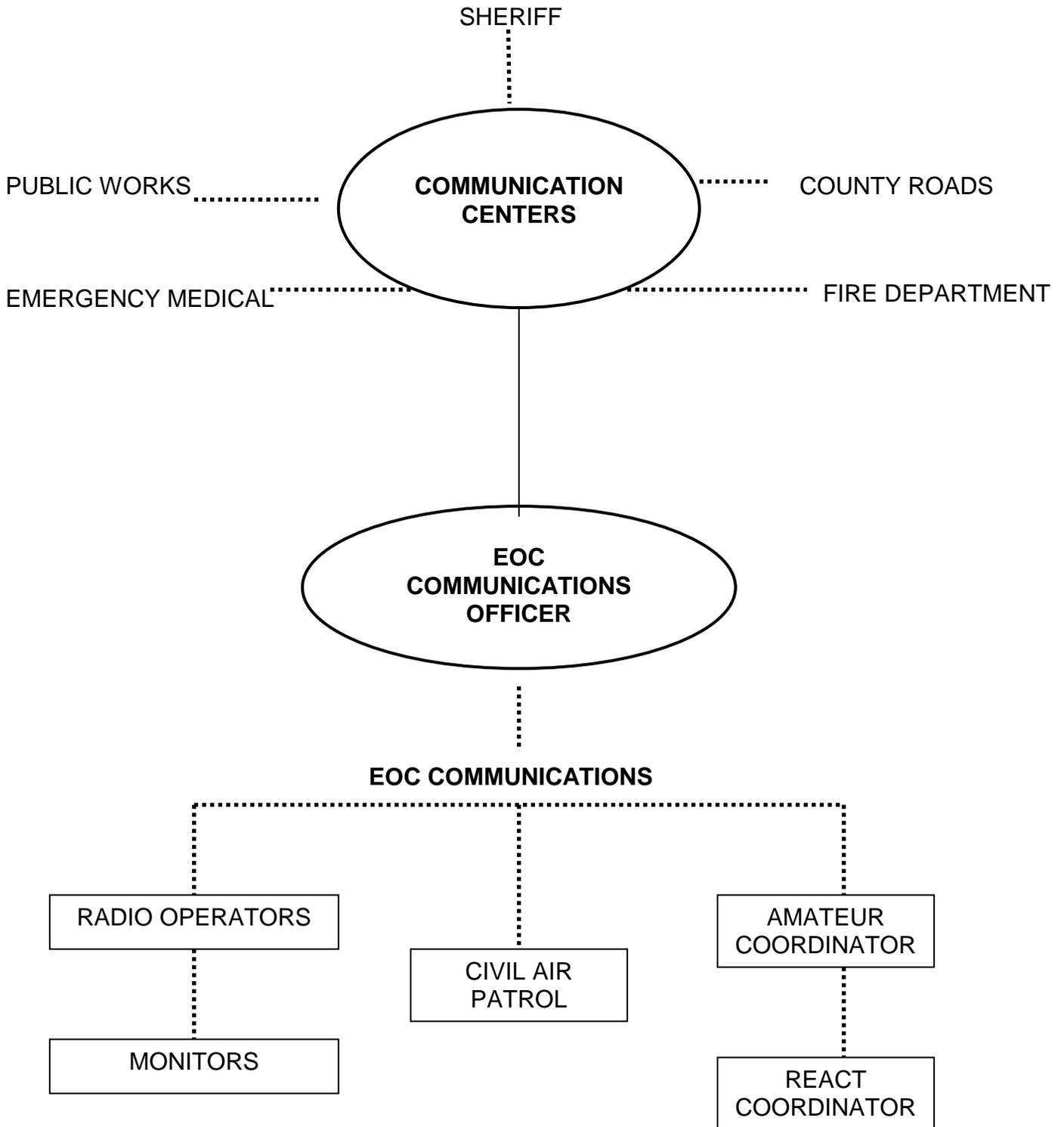
XV. **FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY**

The Smithfield Village Clerk will be responsible for tracking all disaster expenses including overtime for paid personnel, supplies used, emergency purchases/rentals/contracts.

XVI. **WHEN THE DISASTER IS BEYOND LOCAL CAPABILITIES**

- A. When local resources in Smithfield are clearly not sufficient to cope with the disaster response needs, the chief executive may then request assistance from Gosper County and from the Region 15 Emergency Management Agency. If, in the determination of county officials, county resources and mutual aid are not adequate to cope with the situation, assistance may be requested from the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency by calling toll free 1-877-297-2368.
- B. A telephone list for officials, first responders, and support groups is found in Annex A, Attachments 1 and 2.

# COMMUNICATIONS AND WARNING



## **COMMUNICATIONS AND WARNING**

### **I. PURPOSE**

This Annex provides information and guidance concerning available communications and warning systems within Gosper County. The total communications and warning system is discussed, and procedures for its use during emergency operations are outlined.

### **II. SITUATION**

A countywide communications center is located in the Gosper County Sheriff's Office at the Courthouse in Elwood. The Gosper County Sheriff's office is staffed on an 8-hour basis. After hours calls are transferred to the Lexington Communication Center who will process all calls for Gosper County. Sufficient communications and warning equipment is available to provide communications necessary for most emergency situations. In disasters, augmentation may be required.

- A. Hazards vary in predictability and speed of onset; therefore, time available for warning may vary from ample to none.
- B. Gosper County has several facilities; i.e. Elwood Lake, Johnson Lake, Elwood Schools, etc. requiring specific warning that a hazard exists. Emergency response vehicles may be needed to help warn these facilities.
- C. Agreements exist between the United States, Russia, and other countries to reduce the risk of nuclear war because of an accidental, unauthorized, or other unexplained incident involving a nuclear weapon. The National Warning System (NAWAS) would broadcast any warnings if such an unlikely incident threatened the United States.

### **III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS**

- A. Communications and warning are vital to the effective and efficient preparedness, response and recovery activities during emergency operations.
- B. Some people that are directly threatened by a hazard may ignore, not hear, or not understand the warnings issued.
- C. Volunteer radio groups such as REACT, Civil Air Patrol, and local/regional amateur radio clubs may respond to the Gosper County EOC upon notification of a disaster.

#### IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

The communications and warning function is directed and coordinated by the Communications Officer of each emergency service, i.e., the Gosper County Sheriff, and the Elwood Fire Department because they operate from separate facilities.

- A. The Communications Officer is responsible for the supervision of all activities within their respective communications center. They will also maintain a current roster of personnel for recall on short notice.
- B. Emergency Management Communications: assists jurisdictions by recruiting and coordinating amateur, REACT/CB, Civil Air Patrol, and Business Band radio operators and their equipment.

#### V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

##### A. Communications

##### 1. The Emergency Operation Center (EOC)

- a. The Gosper County EOC will be in a response unit as there are no fixed EOC sights in Gosper County
- b. The EOC is equipped with adequate communications equipment to transmit and receive pertinent information. See Attachment 3 for communications capabilities.
- c. Telephone service during emergency operations is accommodated through two cell phone lines.
  - 1) Cellular phones will quickly fail due to system overload or loss of one or more cellular towers in or near the county. Prior arrangements with the cellular provider(s) may enable use of selected cellular phones.
  - 2) The Executive Group and/or the Communications Coordinator shall establish the priority of service restoration, both cellular and non-cellular.

##### 2. Gosper County Communications Center (911)

- a. The Gosper County Communication Center is located at the Sheriff's Office in the Gosper County Courthouse in Elwood and provides services to various public safety agencies, including the Gosper County Sheriff. The Lexington Law Enforcement Center will dispatch all calls

after normal working hours in Gosper County. Radio frequencies used on a daily basis are listed in Attachment 3.

- b. The Gosper County Communications Center is a warning point in the National Warning System (NAWAS). Warnings will be received via the NAWAS distribution system to include the National Weather Service's severe weather warnings.
- c. The Gosper County Communications Center has interoperable communication links with the surrounding counties of Dawson, Buffalo, Phelps, Kearney, Hall, Hamilton, Adams, Harlan, and Frontier.

### 3. Gosper County Sheriff's Office

- a. The Gosper County Sheriff's Office is located at the Courthouse in Elwood. The frequencies used on a daily basis are listed in Attachment 3.
- b. Antennas are located at the Courthouse in Elwood
- b. The Sheriff's Office is equipped with auxiliary power to continue operations should a power outage occur.

### 4. Nebraska State Patrol

- a. The Nebraska State Patrol Troop headquarters is located in North Platte and provides service to Gosper County.
- b.
- b. The Nebraska State Mobile Command Post can provide communications resources with an emphasis on law enforcement operations. By using programmable equipment it will be capable of transmitting and receiving on any frequency within the following ranges:

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1) VHF Low Band  | 29.7 to 50.0 MHz.   |
| 2) VHF High Band | 148.0 to 174.0 MHz. |
| 3) UHF           | 450.0 to 470.0 MHz. |

### 5. Other Jurisdictions

Communication capabilities exist in other jurisdictions within Gosper County as well as the Regional Interoperable system and are listed in Attachment 3.

6. Amateur Radio

The Heartland Amateur Radio Club in Lexington may support Gosper County by providing additional communications to support the Emergency Management response and recovery operations. Amateur radio operators will relocate with their equipment to the designated operating location.

7. REACT (or CB Club)

During a disaster, a REACT team may provide emergency communication support to Gosper County.

8. Civil Air Patrol

During a disaster, members of the Nebraska Wing of the Civil Air Patrol can support Gosper County disaster relief operations with VHF and UHF frequency radio, as well as assist with damage assessment, disaster welfare inquiries and aerial reconnaissance/damage assessment.

9. Communication, Maintenance, Testing and Protection

- a. Local provisions are in place to provide professional maintenance and repair and that periodic operational tests of the warning system are made with immediate corrective actions for any problems identified.
- b. Standard lightning protection techniques are used during severe weather.
- c. Wind can damage antennas, but with sufficient planning, alternate or temporary antennas can be utilized.

B. Warning

1. The National Warning System (NAWAS) is a Federal system of high priority, dedicated communications.
  - a. The Nebraska NAWAS System is part of the National Warning System within the State.
  - b. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency Communications Officer is responsible for the operation of the Nebraska system. The telephone company performs maintenance.
  - c. The State Warning Point is at the Nebraska State Patrol Headquarters, and the State Emergency Operating Center (NEMA) is designated as the Alternate State Warning Point.

- d. Although warning information can originate from several sources, all relevant warning information is passed via the NAWAS system to all warning points within the State. This system is outlined on Attachment 5, the Nebraska Emergency Management Warning Network.

## 2. Notification of Officials

- a. The Gosper County Dispatcher will alert city/county officials, the Region 15 Emergency Management Director and others on the Gosper County EOC staff immediately after initiating public warning (Attachment 1). Refer to the tornado watch/warning procedures (Annex J).
- b. Pagers are utilized to provide warning to various governmental and non-governmental agencies (Attachment 2). Pagers are activated by the Gosper County Communications Dispatcher.

## 3. Warning the Public

- a. The Lexington Communications Center will provide warning to the public by activating all fixed sirens in Gosper County, either simultaneously or individually.
- b. The authority to activate the sirens in Gosper County and the Villages rests with the individual Fire Chief, Emergency Management Director, or Sheriff's Office.
- c. Warning to the public may also be provided by loudspeakers or sirens on emergency vehicles or by immediate broadcast via radio station KRVN-AM 880, television station KHGI Channel 13, and the NOAA All Hazards Radio system. The CodeRed High Speed Notification system may also be utilized.

## 4. Tornado Watch:

Gosper County has an established tornado-spotting program with assistance from trained rural spotters, local amateurs, emergency management and law enforcement personnel. Reports from REACT and amateur spotters are made to the local dispatch who in turn contacts the local responders via radio. Reports from the public, rural spotters and law enforcement personnel are made directly to their respective agency. In the event phone lines to the Gosper County Dispatch are busy, the alternate agency to notify is the Lexington Communications Center.

## 5. Flood Watch/Warning

- a. Emergency Preparedness Plans for the Johnson Lake Dam have been developed by the Tri Basin Natural Resources District. These plans include Notification Lists whereby the Gosper County Sheriff will contact residents in the area and agencies involved should a hazardous situation occur (reference Annex E, Appendix 1 for operational procedures).
- b. The National Weather Service (NWS) monitors conditions that may lead to flooding, i.e., ice dams, rainfall, and snow melt. NWS may also contact Gosper County observers such as the Sheriff's Dept. or the Emergency Manager to make local assessments of river or stream conditions or to report data from the non-automated river gauges. Based on the data received, the Valley Office of the NWS will issue warnings and watches as warranted.
- c. The public is notified by the use of Radio Station KRVN-AM 880, Television Station KHGI Channel 13, and NOAA All Hazards Radio.

## 6. Hazardous Materials Incidents

- a. The owner of a facility is required to notify the State Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) upon discovery of a release of a hazardous substance of reportable quantity (RQ) or greater, according to DEQ Regulation Title 126. A fixed facility that has a release of an extremely hazardous chemical above the 302(a) reportable quantity (RQ) of SARA Title III requires notification under section 102(a) of CERCLA. They shall notify, immediately after the release, the Community Emergency Coordinator (CEC) identified in Annex F, IV, B, of any area likely to be affected by the release and the State Emergency Response Commission of any state likely to be affected by the release. This notification will be by the most expedient means possible (see Annex F, Appendix 1, Attachment 3, "Hazardous Materials Incident Notification").
- b. A transportation incident of a substance subject to 302(a) requirements shall satisfy notification requirements by dialing 911 or, in the absence of a 911 system, calling the operator.
- c. The notification requirements under section 304(b) will be met by using the "Hazardous Materials Incident Report" Annex F Appendix 1 Attachment 2. This information should be given to the extent known at the time of notification.
- d. The public is notified by use of the Radio Station KRVN-AM 880, Television Station KHGI Channel 13, and NOAA All Hazards radio.

7. The Nebraska Emergency Alert System (EAS) provides disaster information and instruction to the public through radio and television. Local officials have the authority to request activation of the Nebraska EAS web/network by contacting their Local Station (LP-1 or LP as listed in the Nebraska Plan EAS) to provide information to the people in that operational area (Attachment 4).
8. Warnings and emergency information can be broadcast by overriding cable TV in Elwood. The Gosper County Communications Dispatcher has override access to the system(s) and can initiate messages from the Communications Center.
9. By law, the Nebraska Education Television Network will provide text decoded emergency information that includes severe weather warnings and reports from the National Weather Service. Many commercial television stations will also broadcast emergency public information text.

## VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

### A. Records

Gosper County law enforcement agencies will maintain records of all expenses incurred by their communications activities. The Executive Group will ensure that adequate records of local government expenses are maintained.

### B. Plan Maintenance

The Communications Officer(s) will be responsible for assisting the Emergency Management Director in the maintenance and improvement of this Annex. The Annex will be reviewed, updated, and modified as necessary, but not less than annually.

## VII. TRAINING AND EXERCISING

### A. Training

1. Each agency or organization assigning personnel to the EOC for communications and warning purposes is responsible for ensuring that those individuals are adequately trained to use the equipment, are familiar with the procedures of the EOC, and understand the unique operating procedures.
2. The training program will be consistent with the five year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

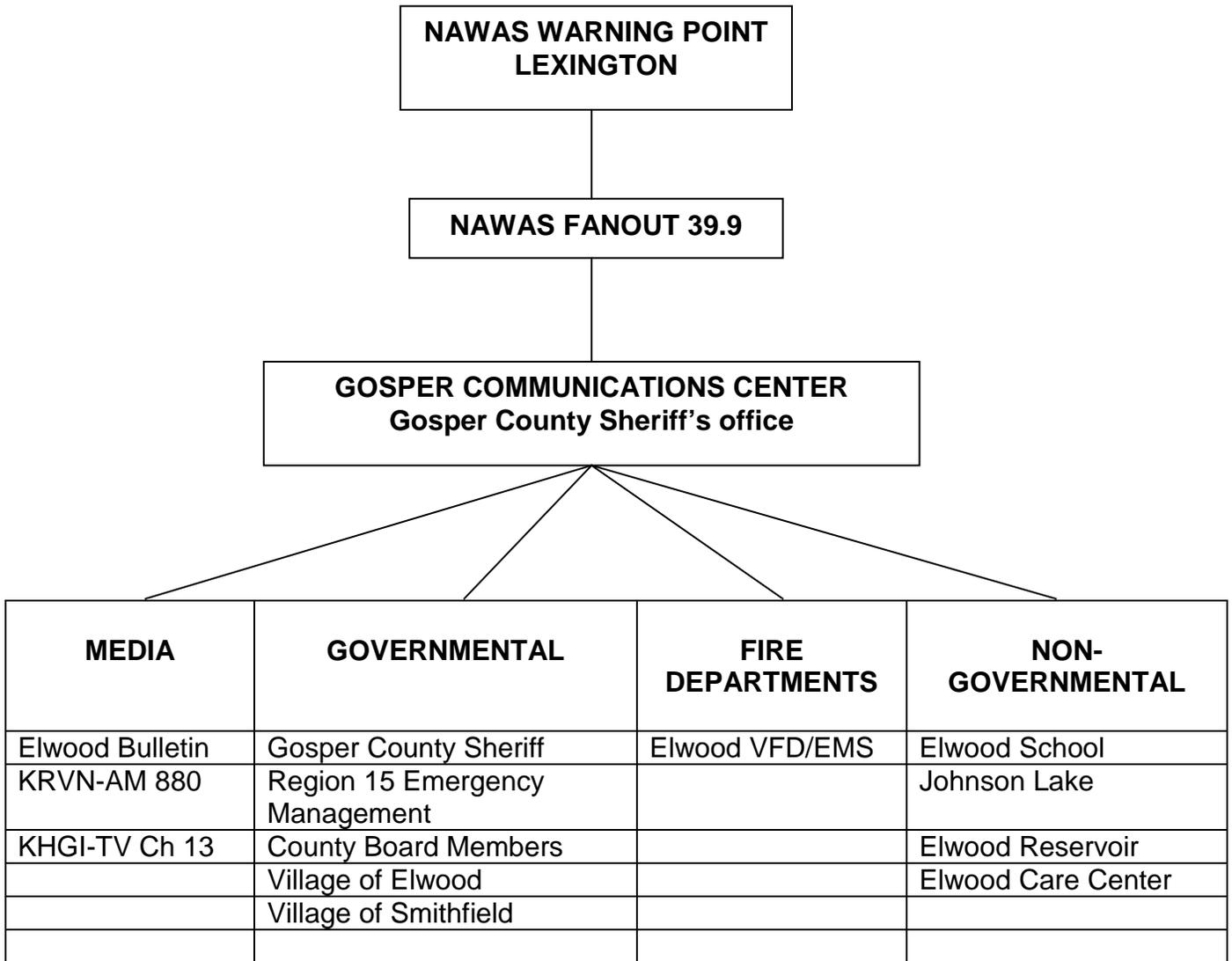
B. Exercising

All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

<u>Attachment #</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Notification Chart	B-10
2	Pager Distribution List	B-11
3	County Communication Capabilities	B-12
4	Nebraska EAS Operational Areas	B-13
5	NAWAS Network (Directions and Map)	B-15

# NOTIFICATION CHART



PAGER DISTRIBUTION LIST

NAME or TITLE or POSITION	R	HOW ACTIVATED?
Elwood Fire	R	Lexington Law Enforcement Center
Johnson Lake QRT	R	Lexington Law Enforcement Center

GOSPER COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS

AGENCY/ADDRESS	FREQUENCY/ CAPABILITY	FUNCTION
EOC Gosper County Sheriff's Office 505 Smith Avenue Elwood, NE	158.860 T 158.760 R 39.90 T/R 39.98 T/R 39.82 T/R 39.70 T/R 42.460 R	Law Enforcement  Fire Medical Private Nebraska State Patrol
Elwood Fire and Rescue 509 Ripley Street Elwood, NE	158.860 T 158.760 R 39.90 T/R 39.98 T/R 39.82 T/R 39.70 T/R	Law Enforcement  Fire Medical Private

The communication facilities are not staffed on a 24-hour basis. The Gosper County Sheriff's office dispatch is staffed only during the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm during the weekdays. In the evenings and weekends the Dawson County Law Enforcement Center will handle calls for Gosper County. At all times, the 911 calls will go to the Dawson County Law Enforcement Center dispatcher.



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## National Warning System (NAWAS) Emergency Management Warning Procedures

### Tests:

The State Warning Point for NAWAS is at the Nebraska State Patrol Headquarters, Lincoln. Each Nebraska Warning Point is tested daily using a dedicated telephone line, (see map).

The Alternate State Warning Point is at the NEMA State Emergency Operating Center, Lincoln. A weekly roll call or Fan-out test, designated as: "**TEST, TEN-ONE-ZERO-ONE (10-1-0-1)**" is accomplished. The test message is relayed by radio from the Warning Points areas to the counties.

Each Warning Point will report to the Alternate State Warning Point either a:

Positive report from all counties in the area by an, "**ALL CONFIRMED**" message, or a

Negative report when fan out stations do not respond such as:

<b>Grand Island:</b>	<b>"Grand Island to Nebraska Alternate"</b>
Alternate State Warning Point:	"This is Nebraska Alternate, OVER"
<b>Grand Island:</b>	<b>"Negative copy, Howard and Merrick Counties, OVER"</b>
Alternate State Warning Point	"ROGER, Nebraska Alternate, OUT".

### Warning:

#### State actions:

When a warning is received, the operator at the State Warning Point will clear the NAWAS network of all traffic, transmit the warning and then receive acknowledgement of the warning from each Warning Point. The Alternate State Warning Point provides a backup means of disseminating tactical warnings. The area Warning Points will immediately send any warnings to assigned locations using a secondary warning network, 39.9 MHz or telephone (see map on opposite side).

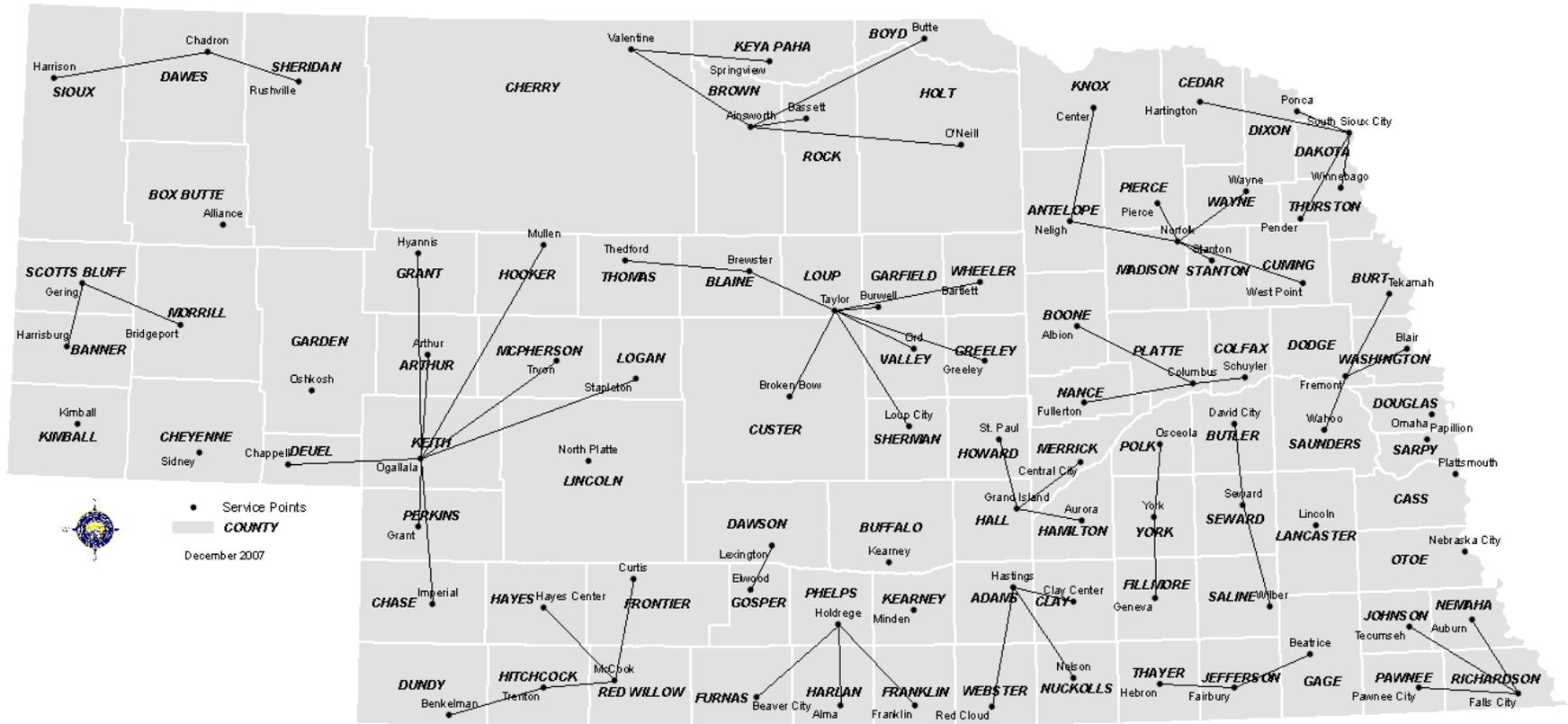
#### Locations:

Because 93 counties are involved, counties will acknowledge receiving the warning message to their respective Warning Points (NAWAS). Acknowledgement from the Warning Points will then be transmitted to the State Warning Point or to the Alternate.

Within the counties and municipalities, warnings are given as described in the Basic Plan section & Annexes A & D of the Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). The goal is to provide warning in time for people to take adequate protective action.

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# NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WARNING NETWORK



B-17

December 2007 (Supersedes previous Warning Maps)

STATE WARNING POINT: Nebraska State Patrol Headquarters – Lincoln, Nebraska

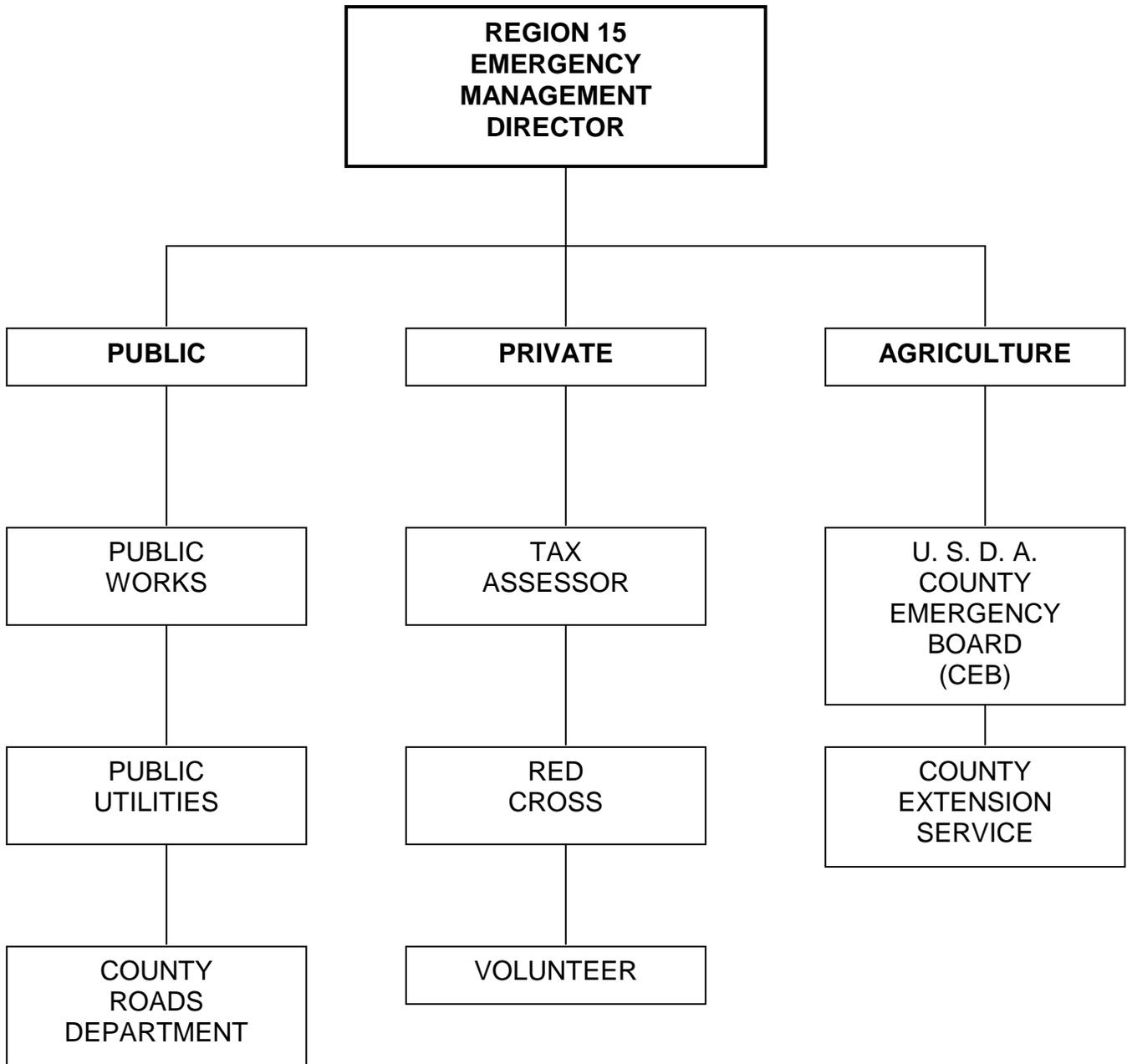
ALTERNATE STATE WARNING POINT: State Emergency Operating Center (EOC) – Lincoln, Nebraska

NAWAS: (National Warning System) Special Telephone Lines, RADIO: 39.9 MHz

Service Points will relay the warning or test to its respective county service point(s)

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# DAMAGE ASSESSMENT



## DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

### I. PURPOSE

This Annex describes damage assessment procedures necessary to gather data and evaluate information to determine the extent of damage and the impact on the community resulting from a disaster.

### II. SITUATION

Gosper County is situated in an area considered highly susceptible to numerous disasters that have the potential to cause extensive damage to both public and private property. In the event of a disaster, planned damage assessment procedures are essential for effective response and recovery operations.

### III. ASSUMPTIONS

- A. The prompt and accurate assessment of damage to public and private property following a disaster is of vital concern to local officials.
- B. A rapid response has a direct bearing on the manner in which recovery is accomplished in Gosper County.
- C. For any emergency involving radiological materials, the Nebraska Health and Human Services System has sole responsibility for making technical assessments. However, it is conceivable that the Department could request some assistance from local radiological staff during an emergency.
- D. The State Department of Environmental Quality is responsible for decisions on the scope of clean up operations from a hazardous materials incident.

### IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

#### A. Incident Assessment

The Region 15 Emergency Manager will coordinate the gathering of damage assessment information necessary to complete the Incident Status Report, Annex A, Attachment 3, and for keeping the information updated during the course of the incident. Other responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Establishing a point of contact with officials of the affected jurisdictions and determine the approximate area affected.

2. Gathering information about the extent of damage, as quickly as it is available, from both public and private sources.
3. Providing updated information gathered from both public and private entities to the Executive Group and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency using the Incident Status Report from Annex A, Attachment 3.
4. Coordinate with the Public Information Officer to keep the public informed of hazardous conditions.

B. Record Keeping

Each public and private agency will keep complete records of resources and personnel involved in the response to the emergency or disaster for use in determining the extent of impact of the incident on the jurisdiction.

C. Agricultural Damage Assessment

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) will assess the agricultural damages with assistance, as needed, from other USDA agencies. All information will be forwarded to the USDA State Emergency Board and may be available to the Gosper County Emergency Management Director.

D. Radiological/HazMat Damage Assessment - Industrial/Transportation Incident/Accident

1. In the event of a radiological incident, local damage assessment response will be limited to obtaining radiological readings to detect the actual hazard. The Health and Human Services System will accomplish detailed hazard assessment to determine any possible threat to people and livestock, see Annex F, Appendix 1.
2. In case of a hazardous materials incident, local response will be limited to the level of training as defined by standards set by their employer in compliance with OSHA and EPA regulations.

E. Inspections

The Emergency Manager, assisted by Fire and Utility personnel, will accomplish the initial safety and habitability inspections of both residents and businesses. The assistance of the State Fire Marshal may be requested. Data obtained during safety inspections will be included in damage assessment reports. Subsequent and more complete inspections may be accomplished at a later date.

## V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

### A. Initial Assessment

1. Conduct the initial assessment of the facilities considered critical for emergency operations, the health, welfare and safety of the people and for the timely dissemination of public information. Early identification of problems affecting the population will enable the Executive Group to make prompt and efficient decisions concerning resources available and needed.
2. Initial information should include a rough idea of the area involved. Later information would indicate the number of homes, businesses and public buildings involved.
3. After rescue operations have been concluded, more detailed information should be gathered to complete the Incident Status Report updates. This information will be gathered from the organizations and agencies involved and provided to the Executive Group and NEMA.

### B. Detailed Damage Assessment

Using the information from the completed Incident Status Report (Annex A, Attachment 3), and at the request of local government, the decision will be made to gather the information necessary to declare a State or Federal Disaster. If there is a possibility of a Federal declaration, a joint Federal/State team will complete a Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA).

1. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency will send teams of damage assessment officials who will work with local officials to gather the necessary information and complete the proper forms.
  - a. The teams will conduct assessment training and hold briefings to local officials on how the assessment will be done.
  - b. The teams will provide forms and personnel to complete the assessment.
2. Local officials will provide assistance to aid the State and Federal team members in the gathering of information and records of resources and personnel needed to complete the assessment.

### C. Debris Management guidance is in Annex C, Appendix 1 and in Annex K.

VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

The Emergency Management Director will review and update this annex annually.

VII. TRAINING AND EXERCISING

A. Training

The training program will be consistent with the five year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

B. Exercising

All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

<u>Attachment #</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>
Appendix #		
1	Debris Management Plan	C-7

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## **DEBRIS MANAGEMENT PLAN**

### **I. PURPOSE**

- A. To facilitate and coordinate the removal, collection, and disposal of debris. The overall goal is to use existing solid waste best practice strategies and methods to reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, and landfill where feasible.
- B. Debris Management is one piece of the overall disaster response and recovery efforts for a jurisdiction. This Plan addresses the specific Debris Management elements to be considered and addressed in the recovery phase of a disaster.

### **II. SITUATION**

- A. There are events that could happen that would require this plan to be activated. The most likely events are earthquakes, tornados, floods, windstorms, debris flow (landslide), transportation incidents or accidents, or severe winter storms.
- B. Numerous policy decisions regarding debris management issues can be made in advance by elected officials. Once identified, specific issues and concerns can be addressed through city and county ordinances, such as:
  - 1. Establishing a price gouging ordinance which can only be invoked during a declared emergency;
  - 2. Issuing a disaster declaration in order to relax and streamline the permitting process;
  - 3. Allowing temporary changes to zoning codes to facilitate the location of temporary disposal/reduction site;
  - 4. Emergency purchasing authority.
- C. Consider establishing a county-wide or region-wide Debris Management Committee to identify and address policy concerns and issues in advance of an event.

### **III. ASSUMPTIONS**

If an emergency or disaster occurs which is of sufficient size that the EOC is opened, this Debris Management Plan will automatically be implemented. The following assumptions should be considered.

- A. Roads will be damaged and alternate routing will be implemented.

- B. Buildings will be damaged and possibly not accessible.
- C. Communications may be impaired.
- D. A local disaster will be declared.
- E. A state or federal disaster may be declared.
- F. Emergency powers may be enacted during a declared disaster for price gouging, temporary suspension of codes, temporary debris sites, etc.
- G. If the damage is beyond jurisdictional boundaries cities and villages may not have the capability to deal with debris and could turn responsibility over to Gosper County.
- H. All debris may be contaminated and should be evaluated for possible hazardous waste.
- I. Debris may include human victims.
- J. Debris may include dead animals.
- K. Salvageable materials and properties will be saved.

#### IV. RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The Public Works/County Highway agencies within Gosper County are responsible for the development, monitoring, and implementation of either the county's or jurisdiction's Debris Management Plan. Implementation of the Plan must be done in conjunction with other activities coordinated through the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- B. The Public Works/County Highway agencies are responsible for establishing mutual aid agreements with other government agencies and utility companies and for writing contracts with private contractors. The normal approval process for emergency contracts may be suspended under the provisions of the Nebraska Emergency Management Act. All emergency contracts in force must be tracked using standard, accepted practices.

#### V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. Initial Damage Assessment (IDA)
  - 1. Public Works agencies have the primary responsibility for collecting the initial damage assessment information on damage which has occurred to the infrastructure of the jurisdiction. This includes damage to bridges, roads, and

right of ways, culverts, and other lifeline systems which are the responsibility of the local government. Part of the IDA must also include estimating the amount and type of debris which will need to be removed/cleaned up.

2. For reporting, tracking, billing, and other documentation purposes, Debris Removal Activities will be listed as "Category A" on our reporting forms. This will facilitate the transfer of information to the appropriate reporting categories for the State or FEMA.
  3. The Emergency Manager will coordinate the IDA information on governmental owned buildings, to include estimating the amount and type of debris which will need to be removed/cleaned up.
  4. All IDA information will be forwarded to the EOC to determine the overall scope of damage to the public infrastructure, estimated financial impact, and estimated amount of debris which will need to be dealt with.
  5. Individual citizen and business/industry damage information from the IDA will be coordinated by the Emergency Manager and reported to NEMA using the Incident Status Report found in Annex A, Attachment 3, of this LEOP. Information from the American Red Cross and other VOAD organizations does include limited information on damages to homes and businesses, which could be utilized to determine an extremely rough damage estimate to be included in this report.
  6. Information and figures generated as part of the IDA are a rough estimate only to be utilized by NEMA to determine the need to request a PDA from FEMA. All IDA information will be forwarded to NEMA through the local Emergency Manager.
- B. Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA)

1. In the event there is the potential for state or federal assistance, NEMA and/or FEMA will send in a team to conduct a joint Preliminary Damage Assessment. The local jurisdiction is responsible for providing staff to be a part of the joint Preliminary Damage Assessment Team representing local government. The PDA is a quick visit to the disaster area, and is normally conducted in a 24-48 hour period. Not all damages to the infrastructure will be seen, only the larger areas of damage.
2. During the PDA FEMA will look for and document damages done to the public infrastructure, which also includes estimating the amount and types of debris which will need to be removed/dealt with by the jurisdiction and potential mitigation activities. Figures generated from the PDA are used as part of the documentation provided by the State in their formal request for federal assistance.

### C. Temporary Debris Storage Site Evaluation

1. These sites will be identified by the site selection teams from the local jurisdiction with technical assistance from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ).
2. The site selection size and area should comply with all applicable county, state, and federal rules and regulations, including Fish and Wildlife, Forestry and Fire Conservation, Historical Preservation, NDEQ permitting, and the Endangered Species Act. Temporary storage/reduction site size should be an appropriate sized acreage for the estimated amount of debris.
3. The sites used in this Plan may be temporary or permanent. Sites may be restricted to one type of material, or may be a multi-use site.
4. Sites may be selected and identified as potential disposal areas prior to a disaster. Prior to using a site, the following activities will be completed:
  - a. Site survey
  - b. Documentation
  - c. Photos/video of area
  - d. Condition of roads
  - e. Soil samples
  - f. Water samples
  - g. Land stability samples

### D. Contract Development And Monitoring

1. Contracts should be developed with:
  - a. Temporary site owners/operators
  - b. Towing Companies
  - c. Rental yards
  - d. Haulers
  - e. Collectors
  - f. Trainers

- g. Develop and deliver training for damage assessment, site monitoring, and debris estimation.
  - h. Phone Company
  - i. Activate lines and additional hotline information.
  - j. Computer Company
  - k. Provide facility and equipment for hotline operators
  - l. Print Shops
  - m. Develop database for public education and placards.
2. Types of Contracts
- a. Time and material contracts
  - b. Unit Price for follow up
  - c. Cost plus fixed fee
  - d. Personal Services: trainers, inspectors, hotline operators
  - e. Land-Lease Agreement with landowners
3. Specifics
- a. Pre-approved pricing
  - b. Identification of critical haul routes
  - c. Incentives: recycling, complete early
  - d. Recycling goals
  - e. Odor abatement
  - f. Length of storage to processing
  - g. All reserve right to hire other contractors
  - h. Noise
  - i. Access to area: ingress/egress

#### 4. Contract Monitoring

- a. Mutual Aid Agreements
- b. Private contractors to do monitoring

#### E. Public Information Activities

The PIO will be responsible for working with the debris manager, Emergency Manager or assigned personnel to educate the public on debris separation, household hazardous material lists and disposal methods, dead animal handling, recycling, general disposal methods, pick up schedules, site locations, and drop-off procedures. Press releases will be issued through currently established media links. A flier will be created to be distributed from structure to structure, (household to household).

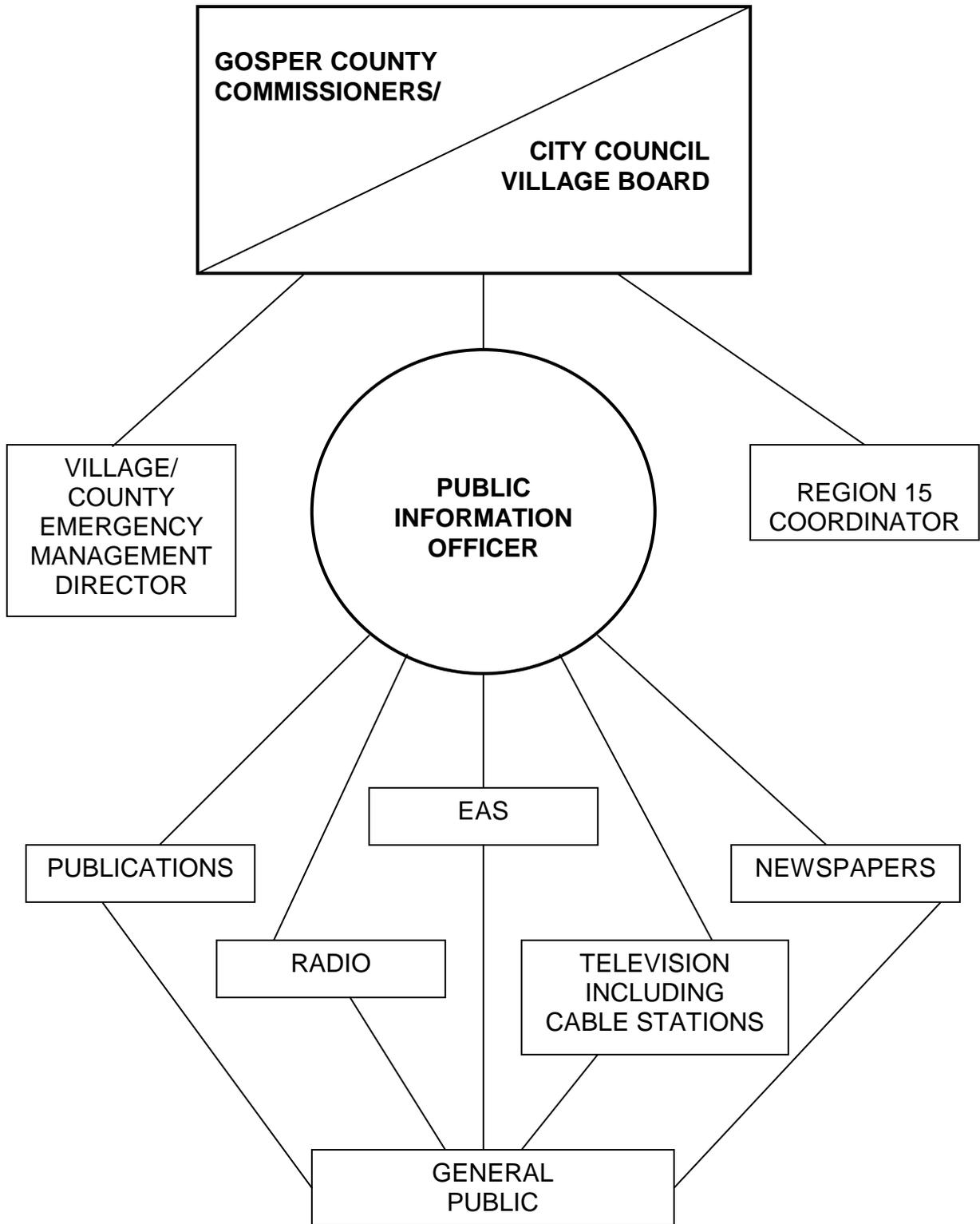
#### F. Volunteer Management

1. A volunteer manager will be appointed to deal with volunteers, see Annex L, Attachment 3.
2. Additional volunteers will be used to go from structure to structure with the flier to educate the public on debris recycling. The flier will include information about the:
  - a. Types of debris recycling and what they are.
  - b. Dates that a volunteer will be in the neighborhood to assist in questions about separation of debris.
  - c. Dates and times a pickup will occur in the neighborhood.
  - d. The hazards of burning debris, hazardous materials, toxic fumes, smoke, etc.
  - e. Debris drop-off points and procedures.
3. Volunteers will leave the flyers on the doors, but will be available for questions if the occasion arises.

#### G. State and Federal Agencies

In the event of either a Presidential Emergency Declaration or Major Disaster declaration, debris management activities will be coordinated with state and federal agencies. In a large scale event, debris removal activities will be written as a Category A project and the mission assignment/assistance may be tasked to a federal agency. This could be the Department of Transportation, US Military, US Army Corps of Engineers, or other Debris Management specialists.

# EMERGENCY PUBLIC INFORMATION



## **EMERGENCY PUBLIC INFORMATION**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Annex is to establish procedures for rapid dissemination of emergency public information and to outline the resources available. During an emergency/disaster, all levels of government are responsible for keeping the public informed of the situation as it develops. It is through a speedy and precise public information program that the populace will be advised of whether or not any hazard exists and gain knowledge of any necessary actions they will need to take to ensure their safety and survival.

### **II. SITUATION**

- A. Radio station KRVN-AM 880 in Lexington is the Local Primary (LP-1, or LP) Emergency Alert Station for Nebraska Operational Area 2, which serves Gosper County. Initial weather alerts and warnings and national emergency warnings are disseminated from this station.
- B. Gosper County officials will primarily use KRVN-AM 880 in Lexington to broadcast emergency instructions and information directed to people within the County.
- C. Emergency public information may be disseminated in Gosper County through an over-ride capability of ACT Communications Cable Television.
- D. There is one weekly newspaper published in Gosper County. Newspapers will be used for disseminating written instructions to the general public.
- E. Code Red High Speed Notification can be used to notify residents of emergency instructions and information.

### **III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS**

- A. There are some groups of non-English speaking people in Gosper County. Every household has members who can adequately read the newspaper and/or understand spoken English. A list of interpreters will be maintained by the Emergency Manager and Sheriff.
- B. There are provisions for disseminating emergency information to persons with special needs.

- C. During and after a disaster, specific protective action information and advice to the public would be essential to maximize survival and protect property. Most or all members of the public would comply with official advice received by them.

#### IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The Public Information Officer (PIO) directs all county emergency public information activities. The PIO is responsible for the collection, coordination, and dissemination and monitoring of emergency public information.
- B. The Public Information Officer has been appointed by, and is the official spokesperson for the Gosper County Board of Commissioners and is a member of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Staff. The PIO will coordinate all public information activities with the Chief Executive and the Region 15 Emergency Management Director.
- C. The PIO may appoint a supporting staff to assist in the public information functions and ensure the capability of extended operations. Supporting functions may include:
  - 1. Rumor Control,
  - 2. Distribution of emergency information, including broadcast and printed materials, monitors the media releases for accuracy.
  - 3. Coordination of emergency public information supplies and equipment requirements as well as volunteer support staff.
- D. The Public Information Officer at the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, in a disaster situation, has the following responsibilities:
  - 1. Coordinates with and supports the Governor's Office,
  - 2. Coordinates with and supports the local government's PIO's,
  - 3. Releases information concerning the state's involvement and/or activities.
  - 4. Monitors the media for accuracy of information released
- E. The federal agency's PIO, when federal support is activated, will have the following responsibilities:
  - 1. Coordinates with and supports the state and local governments PIO,
  - 2. Releases information concerning the federal government's involvement and/or activities.

- F. Volunteer and private organizations PIOs should coordinate with the local Public Information Officer and release information concerning their own efforts.

## V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

### A. Coordination

1. The public information program requires a coordinated flow of information from all levels of government and private agencies through a central release point (Attachment 1). This ensures that only accurate information is presented. This will be accomplished through:
  - a. Coordination and exchange of information among all staff, department heads, and the PIO.
  - b. Collecting, compiling, and verifying information before authorizing releases.
  - c. Releasing information to the media at briefings by the Public Information Officer or an authorized representative.
  - d. Establishing Rumor Control where citizens with questions can receive accurate and verified information. The set-up of Rumor Control must be coordinated with the Communications Officer to ensure adequate public service telephone capabilities. The media will publish/broadcast the Rumor Control telephone number. In addition to answering questions from the public, telephone operators will pass rumor trends on to the PIO and assistance requests to the EOC.
2. Information regarding emergency shelters, feeding, and assistance programs will be disseminated throughout any emergency/disaster period.
3. As a situation develops, use all available media resources to increase public education, instructions, and information (Attachment 2).
4. Disaster information on radio/television and in the newspapers may be monitored to ensure the public is receiving accurate and timely information.

### B. Information Dissemination

1. Joint Information Center (JIC)
  - a. The Joint Information Center (JIC) is a designated point where the PIO will conduct news briefings and conferences. The Gosper County Board

Room has been designated as the location where media briefings will be conducted.

- b. Briefings and conferences will be held at regularly scheduled intervals which will be determined at the time of the disaster.

2. Radio and Television

- a. Information requiring immediate broadcast for a local area will be released to radio and television stations, & newspaper. A list of local radio/television /cable stations is included in Attachment 2. Routine information will be given to the media through the JIC briefings.
  - b. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) will be activated through radio stations KRVN-AM 880, Nebraska EAS Operational Area 2, in accordance with the Emergency Alert System Plan.
3. Printed materials such as newspaper releases, flyers, brochures, etc. will be prepared and/or approved by the Executive Group and distributed at the direction of the Public Information Officer.

C. Support from State Agencies

1. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency is responsible for the collection, correlation, and dissemination of disaster-related information to appropriate state agencies and the Governor's Office. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's Public Information Officer will, during a State of Emergency, coordinate all state public affairs/information efforts with the Governor's Office.
2. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency has established procedures for rapid dissemination of hazard warnings and disaster-related information to local government primarily through the National Warning System (NAWAS) and to the public through the Emergency Alert System (EAS).
3. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will coordinate the use of the state warning system to ensure that all commercial radio and television stations receive the emergency information.
4. The Nebraska Education Telecommunications (NET) in conjunction with the Nebraska Commission for the Hearing Impaired, will, by law, provide text decoding to the hearing impaired for all programming to include area and statewide disaster warnings.
5. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's Public Information Officer will work closely with the local government and provide assistance,

particularly in preparing and disseminating information to the public concerning disaster recovery centers.

6. State agencies will support local governments by providing reports of potential and existing widespread hazardous conditions.
7. The Nebraska State Patrol, in coordination with the Department of Roads, will provide road conditions to affected agencies, the media, and the general public.
8. Subsequent to a Presidential Declaration, the Public Information Officers of all state agencies involved in disaster recovery efforts will coordinate activities with the federal agencies involved through the PIO from the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and the Governor's Office.

#### D. Support from Federal Agencies

1. The National Weather Service has the primary responsibility for issuing weather-related disaster warnings to the public.
2. Under a Presidential Emergency or a major disaster declaration, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Information Officer will coordinate and be responsible for release of public information concerning federal assistance.

#### E. Support from Volunteer Agencies and Organizations

Volunteer and private organizations will be evaluating the situation and making internal determinations of the level of assistance they can provide. Each organization in coordination with state and local government will be providing public information concerning their efforts.

#### F. Support from Media

Agreements have been made with local media organizations to ensure rapid dissemination of emergency public information.

### VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

- A. The Public Information Officer should meet annually with local government officials, the Emergency Management Director, and media representatives to review this Annex and coordinate operating procedures.
- B. The Emergency Management Director will revise this Annex based upon the recommendations of the PIO.

- C. Every effort will be made to incorporate media involvement in exercises of this Plan.

VII. TRAINING AND EXERCISING

A. Training

The training program will be consistent with the five-year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

B. Exercising

All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

<u>Attachment #</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Information Flow Chart	D-8
2	Public Information Resources	D-10

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION FLOW

A. Assumptions/Planning:

1. All emergency information and communications support the local jurisdiction's activities during an event.
2. The size or severity of the event determines the extent of support or participation from other county jurisdictions, levels of government, supporting agencies.
3. All hazards, man-made, technical or natural, may require public information releases.

B. Direction and Control:

Sources of Emergency News, Information, Instructions

<b>LOCAL</b> (Positions that generate information and instructions)	<b>STATE</b> (Positions that generate information and instructions)	<b>FEDERAL</b> (Positions that generate information and instructions)
County, City, Village Chief Elected Officials	Governor's Office	NAWAS
County Emergency Manager	NEMA	FEMA, Federal Coordination Officer
Regional Emergency Manager	State Agencies supporting local response and recovery	Federal Agencies supporting local incident
Incident Commander	Volunteer Organizations	
Fixed Facility Coordinator (some Hazmat incidents)		

C. Responsible Positions:

Public Information Officers who release official information.

<b>LOCAL</b> (Coordinates with and supports County, City, Village PIO)	<b>STATE</b> (Coordinates with and supports County, City, Village PIO)	<b>FEDERAL</b> (Coordinates with and supports County, City, Village and State PIO)
Local Law, Fire PIO	Governor's Communications Director	Federal Public Affairs PIO
Local Agencies PIO	NEMA PIO	Federal Agencies PIO
Local Hazmat Facility PIO	State Agencies PIO	

D. Information Release Points:

NAWAS, EAS Areas, Local EOC, State EOC, Joint Information Center.

E. Ways Public Receive Information:

Local, regional, and national radio, television, cable; newspapers; CodeRed High Speed Notification; Internet outlets, and face-to-face.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION RESOURCES****RADIO**

KRVN-AM/FM 880  
1007 South Plum Creek Parkway  
Lexington, NE 68850  
EBS PRIMARY STATION

Phone: 308-324-2371  
FAX number: 308-324-5786  
Contact: Frank Snyder  
email: fsnyder@krvn.com

KUVR-AM 1380  
613 Fourth Avenue  
Holdrege, NE 68949

Phone: 308-995-4020  
FAX number: 308-995-2202  
Contact: Randy Issler  
Email: randy@highplainsradio.net

KICX/KPRL  
802 W. C  
McCook, NE 69001

Phone: 308-345-5400  
Fax: 308-345-4720  
Contact: Bryan Loker

**TELEVISION**

KNOP-TV CH 2  
P.O. Box 745  
North Platte, NE 69103

Phone: 532-2222  
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Contact: Jacque Harms  
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KOLN/KGIN TV, Channel 10/11  
40th & W Street  
Lincoln, NE 68503

Phone: 402-467-9216  
Hotline: 402-467-9270  
Contact: Susan Ramsett  
402-467-9237  
Email: [desk@1011now.com](mailto:desk@1011now.com)

Nebraska ETV Network  
1800 North 33rd  
Lincoln, NE 68501

Phone: 402-472-3611  
Contact: July Thompson

KHGI TV Channel 13  
South Highway 44  
Axtell, NE 68925

Phone: 308-743-2494  
FAX: 308-743-2660  
Contact: Vince Barresi  
Email: news5@KHASTV.com

**PUBLIC INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
**continued****NEWSPAPERS**

Elwood Bulletin  
312 Smith Street  
Elwood, NE 68937

Phone: 308-785-2251  
Fax: 308-785-2251  
Contact: Gayle Schutz  
Email: [elwdbltn@atcjet.net](mailto:elwdbltn@atcjet.net)  
[arapmir@atcjet.net](mailto:arapmir@atcjet.net)

North Platte Telegraph  
621 North Chestnut  
North Platte, NE 69103

Phone: 532-6000  
FAX number: 532-9268  
email: [editor@nptelegraph.com](mailto:editor@nptelegraph.com)

Cozad Tri-City Trib  
320 West Eighth Street  
Cozad, NE 69130

Phone: 784-3644  
Contact: Dean Dorsey  
Hotline: 784-4577  
Fax Number: 784-3647  
Email: [dean@tricitytrib.com](mailto:dean@tricitytrib.com)

Omaha World Herald  
14th & Dodge  
Omaha, NE 6810

Phone: 402-444-1000  
Hotline: 402-444-1304  
Email: [news@owh.com](mailto:news@owh.com)

Gothenburg Times  
406 Tenth Street

Phone: 308-537-3636  
Hotline: 308-537-3807  
(Greg's Home)

Gothenburg, NE 69138

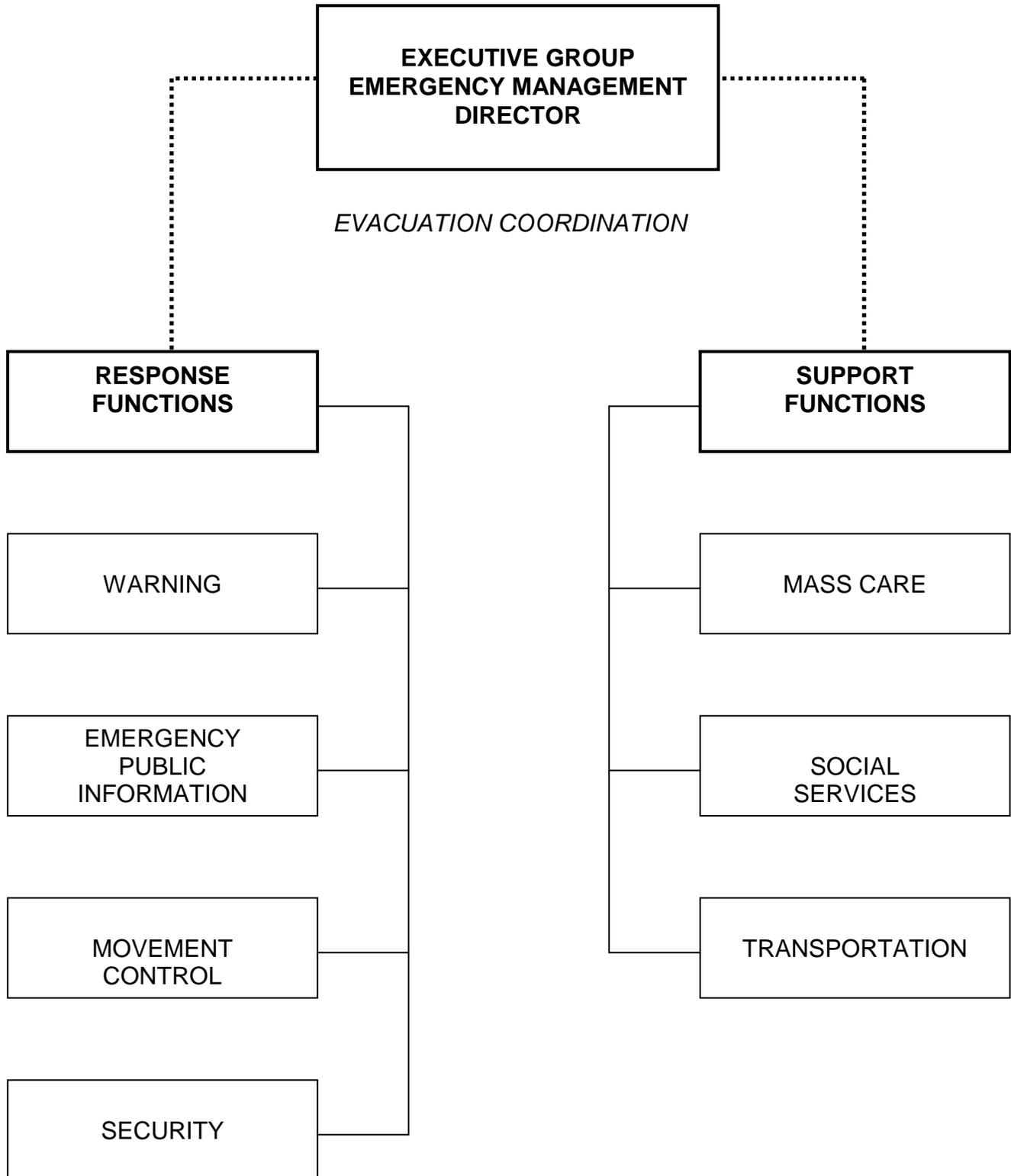
Contact: Greg Viergutz  
Email: [news@gothenburgtimes.com](mailto:news@gothenburgtimes.com)

Kearney Hub  
13 E 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Kearney, NE 68847

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email: [news@kearneyhub.com](mailto:news@kearneyhub.com)

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# EVACUATION



## EVACUATION

### I. PURPOSE

To provide for the timely and orderly evacuation of all or any part of Gosper County when it is determined that such action is the most effective means available for protecting the population.

### II. SITUATION

- A. The Gosper County Hazard Analysis identifies hazards that could result in the need to evacuate. The most probable of these are fires, tornadoes or hazardous materials incidents.
- B. Some degree of flooding along the Muddy, Plum, and Turkey Creek, occurs on an almost annual basis. While much of this involves lowland agricultural flooding, damage to public property (bridges, highways, and county roads) is a primary concern. Maps showing the 100 year flood plain are located at the Courthouse in Elwood. The County could also be affected by failure of the Johnson Dam located in northern Gosper County. See Appendix 1 for flooding details.
- C. Anhydrous ammonia and other hazardous materials are stored throughout the county. An accident could require the evacuation of a large number of residents. Transportation accidents on Highway's 283, 23, 18, or the NKC railroad could affect evacuation movement.
- D. There are places where large gatherings occur. Among these are the schools in the county with a student population over 280 students and faculty. Other facilities that could pose special evacuation problems are the various State Recreational areas, the Elwood Care Center in Elwood, and the Gosper County Fairgrounds. Each of these facilities and events should develop and exercise their specific evacuation plans and may coordinate with the EM for planning information or to participate in jurisdictional or regional joint exercises.

### III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

- A. Each jurisdiction will develop a Primary Evacuation Plan specific to the community and their needs. This Plan will in general address at least the listed assumptions and planning factors, yet keeping in mind that unique situations may cause departure from a portion of the primary Plan. This Primary Plan will be the guide for evacuation decisions. While some evacuations allow time for incident planning, the worse case assumption is that there will be little or no warning of the need to evacuate. This decision to evacuate could occur day or night.

- B. All evacuation decisions and resultant actions are event or incident driven.
- C. Maximum traffic congestion should be expected.
- D. Most people will use their own vehicles to leave the evacuated area. Fuel shortages may occur and evacuation routes may be blocked with vehicle breakdowns.
- E. In urban areas, additional time is required to inform citizens, develop assembly areas, load and transport those needing mass transportation.
- F. There would not normally be time to obtain manpower support from outside the county. Local government resources could be severely stressed.
- G. Evacuees will have little preparation time and may require maximum support in reception centers, particularly in the areas of food, bedding, clothes, and medical supplies. Many will be concerned about the care and welfare of pets and animals. It should be encourage to leave pets if possible until the area is safe.
- H. Reception centers may not be fully set up to handle the evacuees, especially those with special needs or at risk. Alternative locations may need to be located.
- I. Voluntary evacuation probably will not have occurred; however, voluntary evacuation could occur after the public has been advised of a potential problem or danger, even though the situation does not warrant an official evacuation. Under this situation:
  - 1. Voluntary evacuation in excess of 50 percent of the residents of the affected area is a possibility if there is an extended danger period.
  - 2. News reports of a hazard situation may cause some voluntary evacuation.
  - 3. If evacuation is directed for a small area, then voluntary evacuation of adjacent areas should be expected.
  - 4. A large percentage of voluntary evacuees will leave because they have a place to go such as to relatives, friends, etc.
- J. Some people will refuse to evacuate.
- K. State and federal highways will receive priority snow removal by the Department of Roads and are expected to be open at all times. County roads in the area are mainly graveled, and the road networks are sufficiently developed that alternate routes can be developed if temporary closures are experienced. School bus routes, which receive county priority clearance, will also support an area evacuation.

#### IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

The overall responsibility for issuing evacuation orders rests with the chief elected executives of the affected political subdivisions. When there is an immediate need to protect lives and provide for public safety, the Incident Commander can make the decision to evacuate. Key organizational requirements are:

##### A. Local Emergency Management Director:

1. Responsible for advising the Executive Group on the evacuation decision, for coordinating evacuation support activities, providing for special transportation needs, and managing resources.
2. Will coordinate with assistance of the Executive Group the development of the Primary Evacuation Planning Document with other agencies that may be involved in an evacuation.

##### B. Law Enforcement Agencies:

Responsible for conducting actual evacuation efforts, for designating evacuation routes, providing traffic and movement control, and establishing security of the evacuated area. If necessary, they will also assist in warning the public.

##### C. Fire Departments:

For hazardous material and fire incidents, responsible for on-scene control and for advising executives on the evacuation decision. Also responsible for fire security in evacuated areas and assistance in warning the public.

##### D. Public Works Director / County Highway Superintendent / Street Superintendent:

Responsible for maintenance of the evacuation routes and for providing traffic control devices.

##### E. Public Information Officer:

Responsible for the dissemination of emergency information advising the public of what evacuation actions to take.

F. American Red Cross:

Responsible for coordinating mass care activities including registration, lodging, and feeding. This effort may be supported by the Salvation Army and other service organizations. Mass care operations are defined in Annex I.

G. Office, State Department of Health and Human Services:

Will ensure that Social Service programs are continued and supported by other area programs, such as the West Central Area Agency on Aging, and may assist in crisis counseling and other activities for the handicapped, infirm and elderly. Social Services actions are defined in Annex G.

H. Game and Parks Commission:

Will assist evacuation efforts in state parks and recreation areas during major emergency/disaster operations, then will support other law enforcement agencies.

I. Affected Facilities (Hazardous Materials Incident):

The Facility Emergency Coordinator will advise local and State officials if the facility management recommends evacuation or in-place shelter.

J. Local Humane Animal Shelters / Veterinary facilities / Voluntary Animal Care organizations:

These groups may provide insight and additional information on animal care during an evacuation for inclusion into the Primary Evacuation Plan and will cooperate with local law enforcement agencies and the EOC during an incident.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONSA. Direction and Control

The Emergency Operating Center may be activated because of the primary hazard event. Executive direction and control of the incident and any ensuing evacuation may be conducted from the EOC as outlined in Annex A. The Emergency Management Director may coordinate all evacuation support activities.

B. Evacuation Order

1. The Chief Executive of the affected political subdivision will normally order an evacuation.

2. In situations where rapid evacuation is critical to the continued health and safety of the population, the Incident Commander may order an evacuation.
3. During floods, evacuation orders will generally be initiated after evaluation and recommendation of Local Officials. Dam failure/flooding considerations are in Appendix 1 of this Annex.
4. In the event of a radiological incident/accident, the evacuation order will be based on the recommendation of the State Health and Human Services System, Regulation and Licensure.
5. All evacuation orders will contain instructions for at-risk populations to take medications, supplies and special equipment with them or to notify the Sheriff's Department for transportation assistance.

#### C. Evacuation Decision Considerations

Evacuation may be only one of several protective action alternatives. Decision makers must exercise care to ensure that a directed evacuation will not place the affected population into a more dangerous situation than posed by the primary hazard. When ordering the evacuation, the following considerations should be addressed:

1. Weather conditions,
2. Evacuation routes, their capacities and susceptibilities to hazards,
3. The availability and readiness of shelters for evacuees,
4. Modes of transportation for evacuees and for those unable to provide their own,
5. The location in the evacuation area of special needs individuals including nursing home or hospital patients. These may pose unique evacuation problems and the evacuation itself could be more life threatening than the initial hazard.
6. In the event of a hazardous material incident the choice needs to be made between evacuation and in-place shelter. The decision should be based on the speed, and density of the plume and the chemical substance involved.

#### D. Evacuation Area Definition

The definition of the area to be evacuated will be determined by those officials recommending or ordering the evacuation based on the advice of appropriate advisory agencies. In the case of hazardous materials incident/accidents, fire chiefs should refer to DOT Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Guide

book, or follow the recommendation provided by CHEMTREC. In all cases, the hazard situation will be continually monitored in case changing circumstances, such as a wind shift, require redefinition of a potentially affected area. The PIO will ensure that the evacuation area is described to the public in understandable terms.

#### E. Public Notification

Persons to be evacuated should be given as much warning time as possible.

1. Pre-evacuation Warning: For slow moving events, pre-evacuation notice should be given to affected residents. Residents should be advised that they might have to move out with little or no additional notice. Consideration should be given to early evacuation of schools and large gatherings. Hospitals and nursing homes will be kept fully advised of the situation and be given earliest possible warning because of the extra time required to evacuate.
2. Evacuation Warning: All warning systems will be utilized to direct the affected population to evacuate. Wherever possible, the warning should be given on a direct basis as well as through the media. The use of vehicles moving through the affected area with sirens and public address is usually effective. Door-to-door notification should be considered, particularly in rural areas. Responders should sweep the evacuated area to ensure all persons have been advised. Persons refusing to follow evacuation instructions will be left alone until all who are willing to leave have been provided for. Time permitting, further efforts may be made to persuade them to evacuate.
3. Emergency Public Information: the Public Information Officer will ensure that evacuation information is disseminated to the media in a timely manner. Instructions to the public such as traffic routes to be followed, location of temporary reception centers as well as situation updates will be issued as that information becomes available. Specific public information guidelines are contained in Annex D.

#### F. Movement

Law enforcement agencies will direct and control the vehicular and pedestrian traffic flow during the evacuation.

1. The jurisdiction's primary evacuation plans will be used to determine the specific Evacuation routes at the time of the evacuation decision
2. Evacuation procedures and instructions will be part of the warning and subsequent public information releases.

3. If at all possible, two-way traffic will be maintained on all evacuation routes to allow continued access for emergency vehicles. Specific traffic control points will be determined at the time based on anticipated traffic volume and identifiable problem areas.
4. The Sheriff's Department will coordinate the use of wrecker services needed to clear disabled vehicles.
5. Traffic control devices such as signs and barricades will be provided by the County/State Highway Departments.
6. Fuel shortages experienced by the evacuees will be addressed under the primary plan.

#### G. Transportation

The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will determine requirements for special transportation and coordinate the use of transportation resources to support the evacuation.

1. **Assembly Area:** If the potential evacuated population is of significant size, there could be many people without private transportation. Convenient centralized locations in the evacuation area, such as schools or churches, will be identified as assembly areas. These locations will be announced in evacuation instructions issued by the Public Information Officer. Residents will be instructed to go to the assembly areas for transportation.
2. **Special Needs Transportation:** There could be cases where elderly, infirm or handicapped persons in the evacuation area will not be able to get to the assembly point or would need special type of transport. The Emergency Manager will make provisions for the use of government or volunteer vehicles to transport these individuals. The public will be instructed to notify the Sheriff's Department of any special transportation problems.
3. **Health Care Transportation:** The evacuation of the nursing homes or the hospital poses special transportation problems. The Emergency Manager will coordinate with the respective institution administrator to determine specific transportation needs. Ambulances from fire departments within Gosper County are the primary resource for medical transport.
4. **Transportation Resources:** Buses operated by the school, handi-buses operated by the West Central Area Agency on Aging would all be available during emergencies. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director maintains a listing of all such resources (Annex L).

#### H. Mass Care of Evacuees

While many evacuees will go to the homes of friends and relatives, there may be requirements for temporary mass lodging and feeding. Mass care of evacuees will be managed by the American Red Cross. Mass Care operations are covered in Annex I.

#### I. Health Care Facilities

Evacuations of health care facilities create special problems and may extend the time required to clear the affected area. Health care evacuation considerations are addressed in Annex G.

#### J. Schools

1. All schools have internal emergency evacuation plans.
2. Elwood Public Schools have four buses and five vans equipped with cell phone with a total capacity of 215 passengers. Assuming 215 passenger capacity buses, one additional bus would be necessary or would need to make more than one trip. If buses are required to make more than one trip, they will take students and staff to a temporary staging area outside the hazard area and return for additional passengers.

#### K. Access Control

Law enforcement agencies will establish a perimeter control to provide security and protection of property. An access pass system will be established.

#### L. Re-entry

Reoccupation of an evacuated area requires the same considerations, coordination, and control of the items undertaken in the original evacuation. The re-entry decision and order will be made by chief executives after the threat has passed and the evacuated area has been inspected by fire, law, health, and utilities personnel for safety. Some specific re-entry considerations are:

1. Ensure that the threat which caused evacuation is over,
2. If needed, ensure that homes have been inspected to determine if they are safe to return to and unsafe structures are so marked to prevent entry.
3. Determine the number of persons in shelters who will have to be transported back to their homes,
4. If homes have been damaged, determine the long-term housing requirements,

5. Coordinate traffic control and movement back to the area,
6. Inform the public of proper re-entry actions, particularly cautions they should take with regard to re-activating utilities and issuing instructions for proper clean-up and debris disposal.

M. State Support

Under disaster conditions, evacuation support and resources may be available from a number of state agencies. Assistance will generally be requested through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. Assistance includes manpower, transportation, supplies, and technical advice. The following agencies may become involved in the emergency evacuation of an area.

1. Department of Roads The Department of Roads will provide updated information on road conditions, load bearing capacities and usability to support evacuation or rerouting of traffic. They will also provide equipment and manpower to maintain or repair roads and bridges to usable condition in support of an evacuation. Personnel may assist in traffic control by erecting barricades, warning lights and signs, or providing manpower.
2. Health and Human Services System The Nebraska Health and Human Services System will make recommendations to local authorities and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency regarding health problems within an area which may dictate that evacuation of that area is necessary. Special consideration will be given to hospital and nursing home evacuation. If an evacuation is initiated, maintenance of the health standards in reception areas will be closely monitored. This agency is responsible for the prevention of overcrowding, spread of disease, and the development of unsanitary conditions/practices.
3. State Fire Marshal The State Fire Marshal may recommend that evacuation of an area be initiated because of an existing fire emergency. The State Fire Marshal may coordinate manpower from local fire departments for disaster assistance.
4. Nebraska State Patrol The State Patrol will establish control points for traffic control, assist in maintaining order, issue passes to prevent unauthorized entry into areas, obtain medical help and direct emergency vehicles to the proper destination within the disaster area.
5. Nebraska National Guard The National Guard will provide support to the civil authorities when authorized by the Governor. Any National Guard facility or area may be used as an assembly or dispersal area in support of evacuation procedures with the approval of the Nebraska National Guard on request by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency.

- 6. Game and Parks Commission The Game and Parks Commission field personnel may be able to provide information on local conditions or augment law enforcement personnel in traffic control. The Game and Parks Commission also has boats available to assist in evacuation during floods.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE

The Gosper County Emergency Management Director is responsible for annual review and update of this Annex.

VII. TRAINING AND EXERCISING

A. Training

The training program will be consistent with the five-year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

B. Exercising

All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

<u>Attachment #</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Pets and Service Animals in Disasters	E-13
2	Flood\Dam Failure Evacuation	E-15

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## **RESPONSIBILITIES of ANIMAL OWNERS 'PETS and SERVICE ANIMALS IN DISASTERS'**

*(NOTE: This may also be distributed as part of the local E. M. outreach efforts)*

Family disaster planning should also include pets (household animals). If you must evacuate your home and you have the time and resources, plan to take your pets with you. Pets most likely cannot survive on their own and if they do, you may not be able to find them once you return. Include these steps in your planning:

- A. Locate a safe place for the pets before disaster strikes. Friends or relatives outside the affected area may shelter your animals. If you have more than one pet, they may be more comfortable if kept together, but be prepared to shelter them separately.
- B. Prepare a list of friends, boarding facilities and veterinarians who could shelter animals in an emergency; include 24 hour phone numbers.
- C. Call hotels and motels in your immediate area and a reasonable distance from the home. Ask whether they accept pets, under what conditions, and whether they are restricted as to the size or number of animals.
- D. Call local boarding kennels.
- E. You may not be home when an evacuation order or disaster warning is given. Make arrangements with a trusted friend or relative to gather your pets and meet you at a pre-arranged location.
- F. Assemble a portable Pet Disaster Supplies Kit and keep it in a sturdy container in an accessible place. Essential supplies will be needed, regardless of the time the family will be away.
  1. Medication and medical records (stored in a waterproof container),
  2. A first aid kit,
  3. Current photos of the pet(s),
  4. Food, water, medications, portable bowls, cat litter/pan, and can opener, feeding schedule, notes about medications or potential behavior problems,
  5. Instructions on the pet(s)' feeding schedules, diet, and special circumstances (allergies, difficulty chewing/swallowing, mobility restrictions, diabetes, etc.) and
  6. Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and/or carriers to transport pets.

- G. Know what to do as a disaster approaches:
1. Owners are responsible for the care, feeding and control of their animals at all times, including any time spent in public or private shelters.
  2. Call ahead to your pre-identified care facility to confirm emergency shelter arrangements for you and your pet.
  3. Check that your pet disaster supplies are ready to take at short notice.
  4. Eliminate search time for your pets by sheltering them in one central place (a barn, the house, the basement, storm cellar, etc.).
  5. Make sure all dogs and cats are wearing collars that are securely fastened with up-to-date identifications. If available, attach the name, address, and phone number of the temporary shelter the family will be located or the information of the friend/relative where you'll be staying. Temporary tags may be purchased or adhesive tape attached to the pet's I.D. tag may be used for additional information.
  6. Transport dogs, cats and birds in sturdy carriers, reptiles such as snakes and lizards in heavy cloth bags, "pocket pets" animals such as rabbits, hamsters, gerbils in cages that can contain litter or the bedding without spilling during transport or sheltering.
- H. If you cannot move your animals, try to arrange to leave a minimum of three days food and water for each animal. Bring all animals indoors. Do not chain or restrict any animals outside. Separate dogs from cats as even "friendly" or "family pets" may show signs of stress and lash out or attack other animals in the house. Provide for sanitation as best possible.
- I. Provide for search and rescue responders semi-permanent notices on the inside and outside of the house that there are animals in the house. List the kinds and numbers of animals, favorite hiding places, other essential information and how the responder can reach you concerning the care and welfare of your pets.
- J. Follow all directions and procedures if you place the pet in a public animal care facility. You are still responsible for your animal(s).
- K. Large animals and livestock require a higher level of response. Additional planning guidelines may be available through local veterinarians or animal associations and trade organizations. Plan to have an animal identification system, trained handlers, sufficient transportation and alternate sites to feed and house the animals if evacuation is necessary. Have sufficient feed, water, medications and handling equipment for several days should one choose to shelter-in-place. Consider having an alternate power supply for water pumps.

## FLOOD/DAM FAILURE EVACUATION

### I. PURPOSE

To identify actions required to evacuate the population and protect facilities threatened by flood or dam failure.

### II. SITUATION

#### A. Middle Platte and Republican River Basin

1. Gosper County lies within the Middle Platte and Republican River Basins. The flows of the various rivers and creeks are well controlled so that flooding on the mainstream is infrequent. However, damaging floods occur periodically on some of the tributaries. Many of the areas between the plains and the valley are steep and concentrate runoff from high intensity storms. The distribution systems serving these lands are thus subject to damage. Heavy winter snows, ice dams and rapid spring melt could overstress the system of flood control impoundment's resulting in flooding in Gosper County.
2. Approximately a very small percentage of the population of the county resides within the 100-year flood plain as defined on the National Flood Insurance Maps which are located in the Courthouse in Elwood.

#### B. Dam Failure-General

1. Dams are designed and maintained according to the best safety practices. Dams have failed in the past. The following conditions may or could become critical, adversely affecting any dam:
  - a. Flood pools higher than previously attained,
  - b. Unexpected drop in pool level,
  - c. Pool near maximum level and rising,
  - d. Excessive rainfall,
  - e. Large discharge through spillway or spillways
  - f. Earthquake
  - g. Erosion, landslide, seepage, settlement, cracks

2. Under the National Dam Safety Inspection Program; a dam is classified according to loss of life and property damages, which would occur downstream should the dam fail. Such a classification does not mean that the dam is considered unsafe. The following classes of dams are defined accordingly;
  - a. High Hazard Dam: a location located where failure may cause loss of life, serious damage to homes, industrial and commercial buildings, important public utilities, main highways, or railroads. Dams addressed in this Appendix fits in this category.
  - b. Significant Hazard Dam: A dam located in predominately rural or agricultural areas where failure may damage isolated homes, main highways, minor railroads or cause interruption of use or service of relatively important public utilities.
  - c. Low Hazard Dam: A dam located in rural or agricultural areas where failure may damage farm buildings, agriculture land, or township and county roads.

C. Dams That Could Affect Gosper County

1. Johnson Lake Dam

Owner: Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District

Emergency Preparedness Plan: December 2010

Inundation Area: This would affect the entire Plum Creek watershed as well as the Platte River in Gosper County. In Gosper County, the area affected would be slightly greater than the 100-year flood plain with the greatest affect on rural farmland which would approach the 100 percent inundation. Refer to the Johnson Lake Warning and Information Plan for detailed maps.

2. Elwood Dam

Owner: Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District

Emergency Preparedness Plan: Elwood Dam does not fall under the Federal Regulatory Commission guidelines. As such, no emergency plans have been prepared.

D. Potential Effect of Dam Failure

A small percent of the population of Gosper County could be affected by the failure of one or another of these dams.

### III. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The National Weather Service is responsible for notifying and advising local government when conditions exist that could cause flooding.
- B. The owner/operator of each dam, as listed in Section II C, is responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of dam structures. They are also responsible for notification or alerting local jurisdictions promptly in the event of a threat situation which could affect persons downstream.
- C. Local government responsibilities are as defined elsewhere in this Plan for all hazards. In addition, the Gosper County Highway Superintendent is responsible for monitoring high water conditions and for coordinating warning systems. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director is primarily responsible for maintaining the flood gauge system and along with local elected officials for making recommendations on evacuation decisions. Other flooding responsibilities:
  - 1. The Gosper County Highway Department will provide sandbagging activity, emergency dike/levee repair, construction of temporary dikes.
  - 2. The Gosper County Highway Department will monitor conditions of local dams, sandbag or effect temporary repairs, if necessary.
  - 3. The Gosper County Highway Department will conduct safety inspections on bridges, wing walls and approaches to bridges after the water subsides.
- D. The Region 15 Emergency Manager is responsible for disseminating warnings concerning dam failures or emergencies to all affected local governments.

### IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

This section addresses unique aspects of an evacuation under threat of flood or dam failure.

#### A. Notification of Threat

- 1. General flooding – Plum Creek and other Gosper County creeks and the Platte River: The potential for flooding will be closely monitored by the National Weather Service and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency as well as other state agencies. Advisories will be released by these agencies to the Region 15 Emergency Management Director. Local monitoring of river conditions will augment this information.

2. Flash flood: Notification of the potential for flash flooding will be received from the National Weather Service in the form of flash flood watches or warnings.
3. Dam failure or emergency release: Dam owners or operators will notify the Region 15 Emergency Manager of potential or actual problems at their respective dams. See Section II B and the appropriate Dam Emergency Plan.

B. Increased Readiness Measures

1. On receipt of a flood watch, the Region 15 Emergency Management Director will ensure that flood monitoring procedures are implemented (see Annex B.)
2. On receipt of a flood warning or notification of a potential or actual emergency, the Region 15 Emergency Management Director will alert and advise all affected communities and key facilities.
3. Preparations will be carried out for the movement of people and critical equipment from the affected areas. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will notify all support agencies and organizations.

C. Dam Failure - Response Times Available  
(Predicted Time of Maximum Elevation)

1. Johnson Lake Dam
  - a. Leading edge at Road 748: .25 hour  
Crest at Road 748: 1 hour
  - b. Leading edge at Road 430: .84 hour  
Crest at Road 430: 1.59 hour
2. Elwood Dam
  - a. Times have not been defined for this Dam at this time.

D. Key Facilities In Inundation Areas

1. General Flooding (100-Year Flood Plain)  
Low lying agricultural lands only, no key facilities
2. Johnson Lake Dam  
Same as those listed in D.1. above)

E. Special Notification Procedures – Johnson Lake Dam

In the event of an emergency with the Johnson Lake Dam, the Gosper County Sheriff will make direct contact with those residences located in potential inundation areas.

F. Evacuation Decisions

The decision to evacuate any potential flood or inundation area will be made by the executives of affected jurisdictions based on recommendations from local officials. In the event of immediate danger, the Incident Commander may make the evacuation decisions.

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## **FIRE SERVICES**

ELWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT

SOUTH CENTRAL &  
TRI-VALLEY  
MUTUAL  
AID  
ASSOCIATION

## FIRE SERVICES

### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Annex is to provide for a coordinated response for Fire Services during, or as a result of, a natural or man-made disaster or a nuclear crisis.

### II. SITUATION

- A. Gosper County is vulnerable to various severe weather phenomena and failure of man-made structures that have the potential to destroy property and cause loss of life.
- B. There are major vehicular and rail transportation routes that pass through the county. Both truck and train traffic transport hazardous materials. In addition, there are a number of sites within the county for hazardous material storage. Because of this, the potential exists for both accidents and incidents involving hazardous materials.
- C. A risk analysis of fixed facilities and known transportation routes where potential release situations with possible consequences beyond the boundaries of the facility or adjacent to the transportation route was completed in conjunction with SARA Title III planning.

SARA Title III requires that facilities report all extremely hazardous materials and materials included under the Community-Right-to Know category in the facility and other emergency plans. The most current information is included this Annex.

- D. Gosper County is served by five Fire Departments, all of which operate Rescue Squads (Attachment 1). Regionally, all Fire Departments are members of the South Central Mutual Aid Association and will respond accordingly to any area of Gosper County.
- E. There are no private or company fire brigades located in Gosper County.

### III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

- A. Existing fire personnel and equipment will be able to handle most emergency situations through their own resources or mutual aid.
- B. Clearing roads to permit passage of emergency vehicles will be a high priority responsibility of Public Works subsequent to any disaster (Annex K).

- C. Law enforcement will handle on-scene traffic and crowd control to permit access for emergency personnel and equipment.
- D. The Nebraska Department of Health And Human Services Regulations and Licensure will advise the local Fire Departments on the radiological response activities of a radiological incident/accident involving Gosper County.

#### IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The primary responsibilities of the Fire Services are the prevention and suppression of fires; providing rescue services; and responding to hazardous material incidents.
- B. The Fire Chief of each district in the County is designated as the Community Emergency Coordinator (CEC) for hazardous materials incidents as defined in the Superfund Amendment. As CEC, the Fire Chief:
  - 1. Receives notification from facilities that an accidental release of an extremely hazardous substance has occurred.
  - 2. Makes determination to implement those portions of the plan relating to hazardous material incident response, as necessary.
  - 3. Provides notification to the Local Emergency Planning Committee and the public that the plan has been activated.
- C. The Fire Chief of each individual jurisdiction or fire district is responsible for the coordination, planning, training, and development of Fire Department operational policy for the jurisdiction including:
  - 1. Fire Fighting,
  - 2. Coordination of Fire Services during a natural disaster,
  - 3. Acting in his role as CEC, coordinating with other governmental response authorities and Facility Emergency Coordinators in the event of a hazardous material incident.
- D. During emergency operations, the Fire Chief(s) of the affected jurisdiction(s), or a designated representative, will serve as a member of the EOC staff.
- E. In a situation that affects more than one Fire Department in the county and a central Emergency Operations Center is activated, each department will select a member to represent their district on the EOC Staff. This representative will:

1. Coordinate data regarding requirements (i.e., personnel, equipment, supplies, reporting requirements, etc.) of the Fire Departments.
2. Act as a liaison between Fire Departments and the local government and other agencies/organizations.
3. Report general activities and status of Fire Services at EOC briefings.

F. Overall Fire Service Responsibilities are:

1. Fire Chief

- a. Develop standard operating procedures, provide training, and use the Incident Command System per the NIMS and policies for the department.
- b. Coordinate and direct volunteers assisting the Fire Department.
- c. Maintain a current file of information submitted under Title III to include:
  - 1) The current list of reporting facilities and the Facility Emergency Coordinators (FEC).
  - 2) Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS), Inventory lists or Tier II reports.
- d. Develop departmental tactical response plans for facilities where hazardous materials are produced, used, or stored.
- e. Coordinate fire inspections for homes or commercial buildings during or after a disaster to determine if the facility is safe for occupancy.
- f. Alerts all emergency response organizations, governmental, non-governmental and private, of the dangers associated with technological hazards and fire during emergency operations.

2. Assistant Fire Chief, Captain, Lieutenant, or Senior Firefighter

- a. Direct the level of response, request mutual aid or other assistance, and make decisions concerning the Fire Department's actions and policies during emergency operations.
- b. Direct search and rescue operations.

- c. Request the Medical Coordinator in the event of a Multiple Casualty Incident (MCI) if required (Annex G).
- d. Authorize Fire Department personnel and equipment to respond to mutual aid requests.

G. Line of Succession

Each Fire Department's line of succession is as follows

1. Fire Chief,
2. Assistant Fire Chief
3. Captain/Lieutenant
4. Senior Fire Officer on duty.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Mutual Aid

1. The Senior Fire Officer will request mutual aid when the emergency extends beyond the capabilities of the local Fire Department.
2. When an emergency extends beyond the capabilities of mutual aid resources, the Senior Fire Officer will:
  - a. Notify the local Emergency Management Director, if one is appointed, or the Region 15 Emergency Management Director to coordinate additional support.
  - b. Request assistance from the state and/or other agencies/organizations required at the scene.

B. Hazardous Materials

Specific policies, responsibilities, and operational procedures for hazardous material response including radiological are contained in Appendix 1 to this Annex. The following general guidelines apply for hazardous material response:

1. The local Fire Department is responsible for the initial response, and, if possible, containment of hazardous material incidents within their level of training and certification. The Fire Department will contact the Region 15

Emergency Management Director for response and resources. The Incident Commander will coordinate with law enforcement regarding:

- a. Defining the hazard area,
  - b. Limiting access requirements,
  - c. Providing advice on the hazards involved and making recommendations to local executives.
2. Direct advisory or technical support will be requested through the Communications Center.
- a. Accidents involving chemicals
    - 1) Chemtrec (1-800-424-9300),
    - 2) State Fire Marshal's Office,
    - 3) Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality,
    - 4) The nearest MOU Hazmat Response Team is either Hastings Fire Department or the Red Willow Western Rural Fire Department.
  - b. Accidents involving radioactive materials
    - 1) Immediate notification to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services is required. Once they have been notified, it is their responsibility to determine what radiation control actions are necessary to protect the public.
    - 2) Each Fire Chief will ensure that personnel are selected and trained in both radiological monitoring equipment operation and agency emergency response procedures before responding to a radiological incident.
    - 3) In addition, all major hazardous material incidents will be reported to the Region 15 Emergency Management Director for coordinating additional support and for notification of and reporting to the appropriate state agencies.

### C. Searches

1. The Senior Fire Officer of the jurisdiction will coordinate all searches involving

- a. Fires,
  - b. Personal injuries.
2. Law enforcement officials are responsible for searches involving
    - a. Lost or missing persons,
    - b. Fugitives,
    - c. Bomb scares.
  3. The State Department of Aeronautics is responsible for all searches involving missing or downed aircraft other than military.
  4. When a search extends beyond the capabilities of the coordinating agency, the Region 15 Emergency Management Director will be notified to coordinate additional requirements.
  5. Additional resources (personnel, equipment, supplies) may be available through:
    - a. Mutual Aid,
    - b. Local, state, and/or federal agencies,
    - c. Volunteer organizations.

D. Rescue

Rescue operations are usually performed by the Fire Department. Annex G has a detailed description of emergency medical operations. Each jurisdiction is responsible for providing rescue, emergency treatment, and transportation for the seriously ill or injured. This is accomplished through:

1. The local Fire Department's Rescue Unit. See Annex G, Attachment 2, for EMS resources.
2. Mutual aid agreements with adjacent Fire Department's Rescue Unit's when the local Fire Department does not operate a Rescue Unit or when the Rescue Unit is unavailable.
3. The Rescue Units of the individual Fire Departments have the capability to provide Basic Life Support only. Phelps Memorial Emergency Services will have to be called if Advance Life Support Service is required.

### E. Resources

1. The State Fire Marshal has certain fire response and investigative responsibilities as set forth in State Statutes. In addition, the Fire Marshal will support operations to the fullest extent possible and would normally be contacted as early as possible in major fire, explosion, or hazardous material incidents or accidents.
2. Agencies available to support Fire Services along with contact information are listed in the South Central Mutual Aid Association Resource Directory and the Gosper County Emergency Management Resource Lists.

### F. Support to Other Agencies

The Senior Fire Officer has the authority to utilize the Fire Department personnel and equipment to support other agencies or organizations during an emergency/disaster, dependent on the current situation and resources available. Areas of possible support include:

1. Law Enforcement: traffic and crowd control.
2. Health and Medical: first aid stations, public health (i.e., collecting water samples, etc.), and transportation to assist a medical facility during evacuation.
3. Radiological Protection: radiological monitoring and decontamination.
4. Public Works: debris clearance.

### G. Extended Operations

1. All fire and rescue personnel in Gosper County may go on full time status with twelve (12) hour shifts. An exception will be the individuals who are considered by the Executive Group to be key personnel in other areas.
2. Mutual aid information may be coordinated through the EOC.
3. The fire districts within Gosper County will maintain their normal jurisdictional responsibilities.

## VI. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICS

### A. Administration

The individual Fire Departments will maintain their normal administrative records of personnel, equipment and material used. Accurate record keeping will identify specific needs to the Resources Coordinator (Annex L).

### B. Reports

Each Fire Chief will prepare and submit reports required by Statutes of the State of Nebraska and as requested by other state agencies.

### C. General

Some of the information contained in this Annex may also be found in the publication "Rural Fire Plan, Gosper County Mutual Aid Association" dated 2000 and supporting documents. Additional detailed information specifically pertaining to the Mutual Aid Association is contained in these publications and has not been duplicated in this Plan.

## VII. TRAINING AND EXERCISING

### A. Training

1. In addition to the prescribed training required by Fire Departments for normal operations, fire personnel should be trained in:
  - a. Radiological monitoring/decontamination - every two years,
  - b. Hazardous materials response to the level determined by their employer in compliance with OSHA and EPA regulations. It is critical that responders never perform a function for which they are not adequately trained and equipped.
  - c. National Incident Management System
2. Intra-agency action will be taken to inform other emergency support agencies of the physical hazards associated with fire emergencies.
3. The training program will be consistent with the five-year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

B. Exercising

All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).

**LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

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3	Hazardous Materials Incident Notification and Telephone Numbers	F-28

## GOSPER COUNTY FIRE RESOURCES

FIRE DEPARTMENT	PHONE	AERIAL	PUMPER	TANKER	PUMPER/TANKER	GRASS WEED TRUCK	UTILITY TRUCK	RESCUE UNITS	OTHER SPECIALITIES
Elwood Fire Dept.	308-785-2311	0	1	3		2		2	
Hastings Fire Dept.	402-461-2350								Haz-Mat
Red Willow Western	308-345-3450								Haz-Mat

F-11

November 2011

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## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE

### I. PURPOSE

To identify actions required to minimize damage to human health, natural systems and property caused by the actual or potential spill or release of hazardous materials, including a radioactive material incident/accident.

### II. SITUATION

- A. Substances, which if released in an uncontrolled manner (i.e. spill), can be harmful to people, animals, property, and/or the environment. A hazardous material is any substance or combination of substances, which because of quantity, concentration, physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may pose substantial immediate or potential hazards to humans or the environment.
- B. Gosper County is vulnerable to various hazardous materials. Agricultural and industrial chemicals, explosive and combustible materials are transported and stored in the county.
  - 1. There are facilities within the county with the potential of a release beyond the boundaries of the facility.
    - a. Some facilities store extremely hazardous material over the SARA Title III threshold levels. See Attachment 1 for the listing of facilities.
    - b. Some facilities produce, use or store hazardous materials that are not required to be reported under Title III. See Attachment 1.
  - 2. Hazardous materials, including radiological materials, transported on Highway 23 or 283, rail, river barges, pipelines, or aircraft could be involved in an accident causing a spill or the potential for a spill. See Attachment 2 for the location of these transportation routes.
  - 3. There are several areas particularly vulnerable to hazardous material spills.
    - a. Locations may contribute to additional risk because of their proximity to facilities with hazardous materials. See Attachment 1 for these locations.
    - b. Special populations, such as schools, hospitals, or nursing homes, are subject to additional risk due to their proximity to facilities with hazardous substances (Attachment 1).

4. Some areas of Gosper County because of sensitive environment, land use patterns or water supplies are particularly vulnerable (Attachment 1).
  5. Weather and time variables, like time of day and month of year, may impact on the response to a HazMat incident.
- C. OSHA and EPA regulations define levels of training required for response to a hazardous materials incident. The employer must certify the level of training for each person who may respond to an incident. Responders will not perform any function they are not trained and equipped to execute.
1. There are no HazMat Response Teams in Gosper County, trained and equipped to respond to a hazardous material spill.
  2. The Fire Departments have response vehicles equipped with some of the following special resources: self-contained breathing apparatus, bunker/turnout gear, binoculars, foam/agents, foam application equipment, sorbents, communications, radiological monitoring equipment, dry chemical extinguishers and are trained to handle some but not all hazardous materials incidents.
  3. Facilities that use and store hazardous materials may have response equipment. See the individual facility list, attachment 1.
- D. There are many different ways an individual can be exposed to radioactive materials. In Gosper County, highways and railroads are used for receiving and/or transporting these materials. Any peacetime radiological incident would probably be the result of a transportation accident.
- E. There are no known registered users of radioactive materials in Gosper County.

### III. ASSUMPTIONS

- A. The fire department or law enforcement agency responding to an accident scene will usually be the first to discover the presence of hazardous materials either spilling or with the potential to spill. These personnel usually have had some training in handling this type of incident.
- B. It is imperative that the hazardous material involved in the incident be identified as early as possible for the safety not only of the general populace, but for the first responders as well. Knowledge of the agent involved will determine the specific response required.
- C. This plan considers any incident/accident involving radioactive materials that could have an impact on Gosper County. The most likely scenario would be a

transportation accident. It is unlikely that the shipping container would rupture due to the impact; however, attendant with each vehicle accident is the distinct possibility of fire or explosion. These could either melt the protective lead containers or create a rupture allowing a release of the radioactive materials. In the early stages of this type incident/accident, local capabilities are usually limited because assistance from persons with special radiological knowledge and expertise may not be immediately available.

- D. In the event of a radiological incident/accident, response personnel will notify the Nebraska State Patrol in Lincoln (402) 471-4545. The first responder calling the State Patrol should gather as much of the information as possible from the Hazardous Materials Reporting Form (Attachment 3) prior to placing the call.

#### IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The Fire Department is responsible for:

1. Coordinating with the Facility Emergency Coordinator on response to hazardous substances in the facility.
2. The initial response and containment, if possible.
3. Contacting the Region 15 Emergency Management Director and coordinating and the establishing a command post at the scene.
4. Assuring that first responders receive sufficient direction to be able to handle the situation properly.
5. Request Holdrege or Lexington Fire Departments for decontamination equipment as needed.
6. Planning for a possible in-place-shelter or evacuation of buildings or areas involved.
7. Coordinating with law enforcement in defining the hazard area.
8. Requesting Local Haz-Mat Team. State Emergency Response Team (SERT) through the Nebraska State Patrol, if necessary,
9. Initiating notification of support agencies including hospitals that may receive potentially contaminated patients.
10. Ensuring that a hazardous material training program is conducted for all department personnel.

B. Law Enforcement Agencies are responsible for:

1. Providing security for the hazard area.
2. Traffic and crowd control.
3. Directing and controlling any evacuations.
4. Training their personnel.

C. Region 15 Emergency Management Agency is responsible for the:

1. Notification of support agencies.
2. Coordination with charitable and volunteer organizations that may provide assistance.
3. Coordination with state and federal agencies that may have a disaster response role.
4. Coordination in notifying the public of evacuation areas or other health and protective measures.
5. Development and conduction of an appropriate training program which will provide the unique skills and capabilities required for radiological operations within the various departments of government. Emergency response agencies such as law enforcement, fire, and rescue services are considered primary responders to a radiological incident.

D. Radiological Responders

1. Radiological Officer

- a. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director serves as the Gosper County trained Radiological Officer (RO)
- b. The RO works with the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, and the Nebraska Health and Human Services System to develop and maintain a radiological program in the jurisdiction. The RO is involved in recruiting and training Radiological Monitors, makes quarterly operational checks of assigned monitoring equipment and reviews response plans.

## 2. Radiological Monitor

- a. Gosper County does not have assigned and trained Radiological Monitors (RM)
3. Local government agencies may be responsible for decontamination of their equipment and vehicles.

## E. State Agencies

1. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency coordinates state agency response and provides assistance and support as determined by the situation.
2. The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ)
  - a. Provides technical assistance for determining areas likely to be affected by an on-going release.
  - b. Provides technical assistance relevant to the containment and cleanup of hazardous materials incidents. They are also responsible for warning downstream water users, where applicable.
  - c. Approves the cleanup plan and notifies the responsible person when satisfactory cleanup is achieved.
  - d. Gives prior approval to all disposal actions.
  - e. May require a report, following the cleanup, from the responsible person describing all aspects of the incident including cause of the release, monitoring requirements (long and short term), cleanup and disposal methods, and steps to prevent a similar occurrence. If the cleanup is to be long-term, the Department may require interim status reports.
  - f. NDEQ is the main point of contact with the Regional Response Team (RRT), for requesting assistance, resources and coordination with Federal Agencies for response, cleanup and recovery actions.
3. The State Department of Health and Human Services System (HHSS)
  - a. The Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure (HHS-R&L), under the authority of R.R.S. 71-3513, has responsibility to issue regulations and require actions needed to meet any radiological emergency. Once notified of an accident/incident involving radioactive materials, HHS-R&L is responsible for health

hazard assessment and controlling/ advising of all safety, containment, decontamination, and cleanup actions.

- b. HHSS notifies the public of the potential health effects of a HazMat incident.
4. The State Fire Marshal supports the local fire department's response in all working fires and hazardous materials incidents.
5. The Nebraska Department of Agriculture can provide additional technical assistance for a suspected or actual pesticide release.

#### F. Federal Government

1. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC)
  - a. Coordinates the overall federal technical response to a radiological emergency.
  - b. Provides technical advice to state or local agencies.
  - c. Assesses the nature and extent of the radiological emergency and the potential consequences to the health and safety of the public.
2. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
  - a. Emergency planning and response branch provides technical assistance in hazardous material spills under the National Contingency Plan.
  - b. Establishes radiological protective action guides (PAGs) and recommends appropriate protective measures.
  - c. During emergency operations provides personnel, equipment, and laboratory support to assist DOE in monitoring activities.
  - d. Assumes the responsibility from the Department Of Energy for the intermediate and long-term monitoring function.
  - e. Can provide resources through the Regional Response Team (RRT). The RRT can be activated through the NDEQ.
  - f. Office of Water and Hazardous Materials provides assistance with pesticide incidents.
  - g. Section 123 of SARA authorizes EPA to reimburse local governments, who qualify, for expenses incurred in carrying out temporary emergency

measures in response to hazardous substance threats. Reimbursement is available only to local governments. To be eligible for these funds, EPA must be notified within 24 hours of the incident by calling the National Response Center at 1-800-424-8802. An application package may be obtained by calling the Superfund Hotline 1-800-424-9346.

3. Department of Energy (DOE) during federal support operations will provide the personnel, an on-scene technical director, and equipment for radiological monitoring and assessment activities.
4. Department of Transportation (DOT) under Public Law 93-633, Section 109 (d) (2), is required to provide information and advice in transportation emergencies involving hazardous materials. The DOT will also investigate transportation accidents and inspect for violations under their authority.
5. National Response Center (NRC) receives and relays notices of releases to the appropriate On-Scene Commander (OSC), disseminates OSC and RRT reports to the National Response Team (NRT), and provides facilities for the NRT to use in coordinating a national response action.

#### G. Industry

##### 1. Owner or Operator

- a. The owner is required to notify the State Department of Environmental Quality upon discovery of a release of certain hazardous materials.
- b. The owner or operator will designate a Facility Emergency Coordinator who will participate in the planning process and who will notify:
  1. The Community Emergency Coordinator (CEC) for the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC),
  2. The State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) of any state likely to be affected by the release,
  3. The National Response Center (NRC), and
  4. Any other persons to whom the facility is to give notification.
- c. The Facility Emergency Coordinator will make available to the Community Emergency Coordinator any information needed for implementing this emergency plan including advice on response, evacuation and in-place shelter options.

## 2. Shipper

- a. Under the regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the shipper of hazardous materials is responsible for complying with all applicable regulations in packaging, labeling, marking, and otherwise preparing any goods for transport by carrier. The shipper must certify on the shipping papers that applicable regulatory requirements have been met.
- b. DOT regulations also require the shipper to inform the carrier of any special precautions that must be taken in the transport of the goods.
- c. If called in case of an accident, the shipper is also required to provide whatever details about the shipment that are necessary and helpful. The shipper may wish to offer assistance in confining and cleaning up any accident involving his shipment.
- d. The shipper must also provide a list of 24-hour telephone contacts of persons familiar with the technical details of the shipment.

## 3. Carrier:

- a. The carrier is responsible for handling, stowing, storing shipments, and placarding vehicles in accordance with DOT regulations and exercising due care in transporting the shipment to the consignee.
- b. In the event of an accident, the carrier is responsible for initial actions to include notification of appropriate governments, the shipper, DOT, and possibly the Department of Energy (DOE).
- c. The carrier also has the basic responsibility for containing or confining any threat associated with the cargo in his possession, whether or not radioactive materials or other hazardous materials are involved.
- d. During recovery, the carrier also has the basic responsibility to see that the cleanup/decontamination is completed.

## 4. Licensees operating within the states generally fall into one or two categories. They either must comply with the Nebraska Radiation Control Act (RRS 71-3501 to 71-3519) or they must be covered by an appropriate reciprocal procedure.

- a. In the event of a radiological incident, licensees must respond as required by HHS-R&L regulations. Licensees may assume the responsibilities of the shipper when radioactive materials under their control must be transported by a carrier.

## V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Most operations would be conducted as defined elsewhere throughout this Plan. This Appendix addresses only those unique aspects of hazardous materials incidents.

### A. Notification

1. When a hazardous materials incident is identified, the first responders will notify local authorities and executives of the incident.
  - a. In the event of a fixed site incident, the facility will use the normal emergency notification system to notify the Fire Chief, who is the designated Community Emergency Coordinator (CEC). The Incident Commander shall decide to implement the plan.
  - b. In the event of a transportation spill, the notification will be satisfied by dialing 911 or the Operator, if 911 is not available.
2. The owners/shippers of the materials should be notified to request information on the properties of the hazardous materials involved.
3. The appropriate State Agencies should be advised of the situation using the Hazardous Material Incident Report Form, Attachment 3, to ensure that all necessary information is gathered and reported and request assistance if the situation is beyond local and/or mutual aid capabilities.
4. When the incident is identified as having a radiological material involved and the rescue of injured personnel has been completed and an initial safety perimeter established, all other activities will be accomplished under the advice of HHS-R&L. That agency will be notified via Nebraska State Patrol Communications as soon as possible after the initiation of the hazardous event.
5. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will alert volunteer and charitable organizations that may provide assistance to evacuees.
6. Nuclear Power Plant Incident/Accident

There are no Nuclear Power Plant facilities in Gosper County.

### B. Initial Response

1. The Incident Commander, when notified of an actual or potential hazardous materials release, will identify the area to be isolated by a controlled perimeter, the area of population likely to be affected by such release, and

report this information to the dispatch center to relay to other responding agencies.

2. Determine the nature of the material from the placard, label, or shipping papers from the shipper/owner.
3. Identify, evaluate, and assess the problem and its potential. Consider that some effects of the incident may not be noticeable for some time.
4. Contact CHEMTREC (1-800-424-9300) for information to determine the most effective handling of the incident.
5. The State Emergency Response Team (SERT) may be requested through the Nebraska State Patrol to aid the responding units. NSP will dispatch the closest members of the team to the scene to provide guidance and technical assistance to the Incident Commander.

#### C. Emergency Public Information

It is important to provide accurate information to the public so they know what to do immediately to protect them.

1. The Public Information Officer will coordinate the dissemination of information concerning the incident with the Chief Executive Officer and Region 15 Emergency Management Director as defined in Annex D.
2. Because information will be needed quickly, radio and television are the best media to release data on health hazards, precautions for personal protection, and evacuation routes away from the hazard area. Radio and TV stations commonly used in Gosper County are listed in Annex D, Attachment 1.

#### D. Evacuation / In-place-shelter

1. The Incident Commander will make the decision to shelter in-place or evacuate the hazard area based on the recommendations of CHEMTREC, the DOT Emergency Response Guidebook, the manufacturer, and/or state or federal agency advisors.
2. Policy and procedures for evacuation are defined in Annex E. In-place sheltering procedures are in Annex J. Procedures for movement of evacuees are in Annex H. Procedures for the reception and care of evacuees are in Annex I.

## E. Containment and Cleanup

1. Determine what can be done, based on training and equipment available, to remove the threat, i.e., contain and/or counteract, decontaminate, or remove, etc. By law it is the spiller's responsibility to contain or confine any threat associated with the cargo in their possession.
2. The responsible party should, depending on the material involved, accomplish cleanup and disposal as specified by publications and agencies.
3. The manufacturer is a source of advice and information for a chemical decontamination team.
4. The Regional Response Team (RRT), composed of representatives of Federal Agencies may be convened by the Federal On-Scene Coordinator to provide advice or recommendations during a response to a major hazardous materials incident.

## F. Health and Safety

Federal law requires the presence of a Safety Officer on every hazardous materials site. The Safety Officer will:

1. Determine the types of respiratory or other protective equipment required for workers.
2. Have victims treated if an accurate diagnosis can be obtained. Some effects may not be noticeable for some time. Information should be obtained to identify all persons at the scene even if no immediate medical problems appear.
3. Get emergency medical information and other pertinent information from CHEMTREC (800-424-9300).
4. Notify local supporting hospitals of the hazardous substance's identity and the number of persons affected.
5. Have standby medical personnel ready to provide service to those working on the material. Provide medical checkup for all who have been exposed.
6. Every precaution should be taken to minimize exposure of emergency workers to radiation. Dosimeters are included in all monitoring sets issued to emergency response personnel. Once the presence of radioactive material is detected, the on-scene commander will ensure that personnel wear dosimeters and/or TLDs (if available). The Gosper County Radiological officer will ensure that sufficient dosimeters/TLDs are charged and available

at the scene and that records of exposure times and readings are initiated. Lifesaving rescue and emergency care will not be delayed in order to obtain precise measurements of radiation exposure levels or to distribute radiological equipment.

- a. Radiation exposure to emergency workers will be kept as low as reasonably achievable. Guidelines recommend maximum accumulation of not more than 1 REM in general emergency situation or 25 REM to save a life.
- b. Air breathing apparatus should be utilized if there is a gaseous or particulate release of radioactive material. If in doubt, the equipment should be used.

#### G. Security

The defined hazard area will be isolated and cordoned, permitting only lifesaving and response operations, if the responders are properly trained and equipped.

#### H. Explosive Handling

Only trained specialists should attempt to remove or defuse an explosive device when found.

1. Law Enforcement, Emergency Management, key officials, and the State Patrol Office will be notified immediately. Other agencies that might be notified depending on the circumstances are the State Fire Marshal and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency.
2. If it is a military device, notify the nearest military installation.
3. If terrorist activity is suspected, use the procedures outlined in Appendix 1 to Annex H.

### VI. TRAINING AND EXERCISE

#### A. Training

1. In addition to the training required for normal operations, fire, law enforcement and medical personnel should be trained to respond to a hazardous material incident to the level determined by their employer in accordance with OSHA and EPA regulations. All training supported by the Homeland Security process or grants must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

2. Radiological Officers and all Radiological Monitors will receive initial radiological training. This training should specifically relate to their area of individual responsibility.

B. Exercise

An exercise involving response to a hazardous material incident should be conducted annually. The training program will be consistent with the five-year Homeland Security Exercise Plan.

**FACILITIES AND VULNERABLE AREAS**  
**IN**  
**GOSPER COUNTY**

Facility Name	Location	Owner/ Operator
---------------	----------	--------------------

Reporting Under Section 302 of Title III -  
 Extremely Hazardous Substances

**ALL FACILITIES THAT HANDLE OR STORE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS WITHIN PHELPS  
 COUNTY ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGION 15 EMERGENCY  
 MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR LOCATED IN THE COURT HOUSE AT 715 5<sup>TH</sup> AVE, SUITE 22,  
 HOLDREGE, NEBRASKA**

Facilities reporting under Section 312 - Community Right-to-Know

**ALL FACILITIES THAT HANDLE OR STORE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS WITHIN GOSPER  
 COUNTY ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGION 15 EMERGENCY  
 MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR LOCATED IN THE COURTS HOUSE AT 715 5TH AVENUE,  
 SUITE 22, HOLDREGE, NEBRASKA**

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL INCIDENT REPORT

Anyone giving or receiving a report of an incident should obtain as much of the following information as possible.

\* Time Report \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. \* Date \_\_\_\_\_

\* NAME OF PERSON CALLING \_\_\_\_\_

\* REPRESENTING \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE OR POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

\* TELEPHONE NUMBER WHERE PERSON CALLING MAY BE REACHED \_\_\_\_\_

\* LOCATION OF INCIDENT:

\*City \_\_\_\_\_ \*County \_\_\_\_\_

\* Exact location of area involved: \_\_\_\_\_

\* HAZARDOUS MATERIAL INVOLVED:

\* Chemical name: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Quantity spilled/released (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

\* Physical form (e.g., liquid, solid, or gas): \_\_\_\_\_

\* Duration of release: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Media into which the release occurred (e.g. land, air): \_\_\_\_\_

\* Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Measurements from radiation detection instruments: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT:

A. Time and date of incident: \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20\_\_\_\_

B. Weather conditions (wind, atmospheric conditions, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

C. Current status of incident:

1. Is the incident area secured? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Was there an explosion? \_\_\_\_\_ Fire? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Are there people injured? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Advise regarding necessary medical attention? (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

5. Precautions to take as a result of the release (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

D. Report taken by: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency \_\_\_\_\_

\*Information that must be obtained for Federal Reporting Requirements

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENT NOTIFICATION****INCIDENT OCCURS****I. Spill or release from a fixed facility.**

Responsibility of facility owner/operator to notify;

1. Local response organizations by dialing 911 or appropriate number,
2. Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ)  
Monday through Friday 0800 – 1700, call (402) 471-2186,  
after-hours, weekends, and holidays, call the Nebraska State Patrol,  
(402) 471-4545,
3. National Response Center (NRC) hot line (800) 424-8802
4. The Community Emergency Coordinator (CEC) designated by the Local  
Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) will be the local Fire Chief.

**II. Transportation accident.**

By law, dial 911 or the operator.

**III. Responsibility of local response organization, Incident Commander (IC):****A. Incident at Fixed facility**

1. Operate under the Incident Management System (IMS),
2. Confirm the appropriate notifications have been made by responsible party, if  
not make notifications to NDEQ, NRC, and CEC.

**B. Transportation accident**

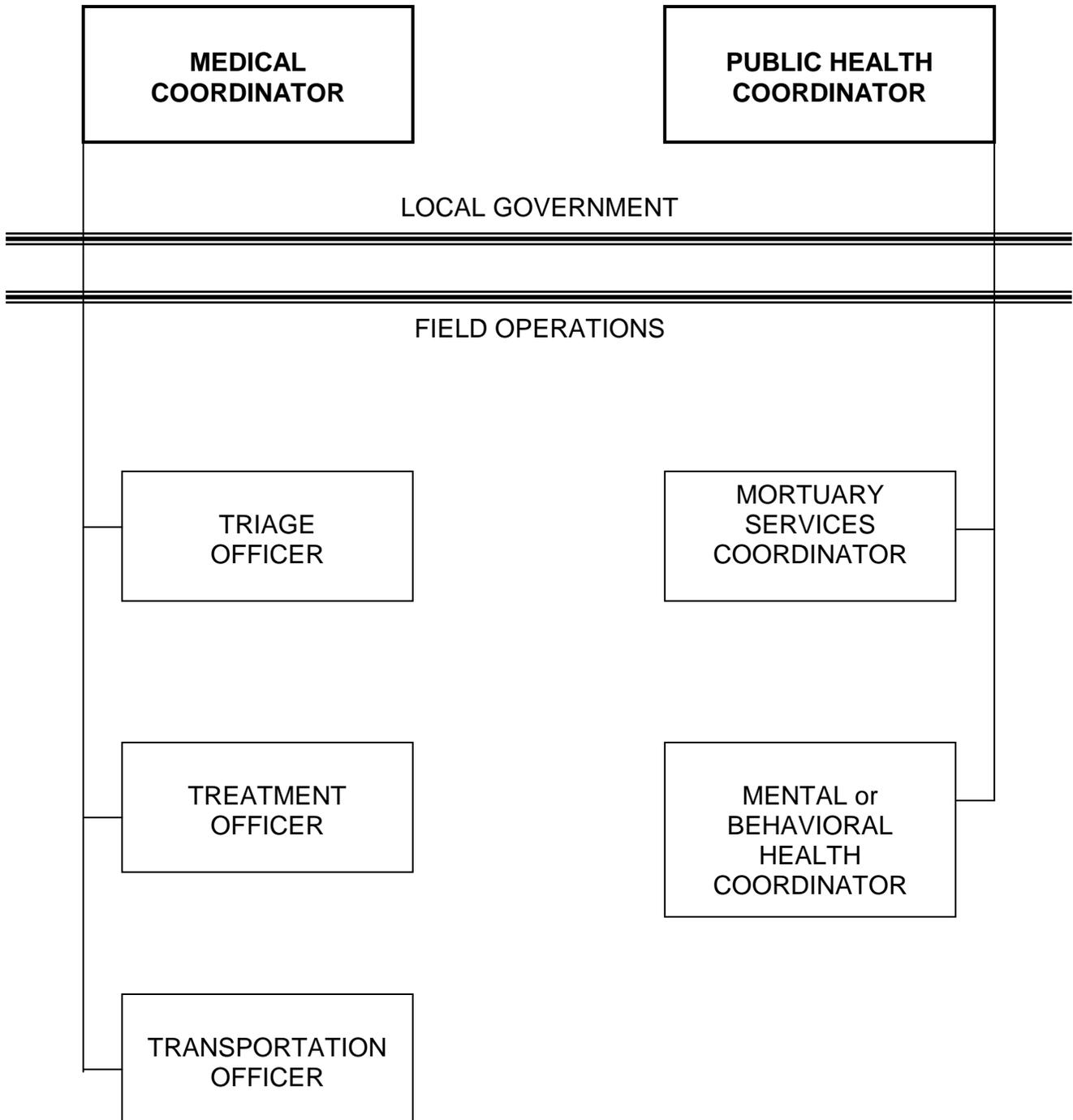
1. Operate under the Incident Management System (IMS),
2. Incident Commander should see that above notifications are made to NDEQ,  
NRC, and CEC.

**EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION ROSTER**

<u>Groups</u>	<u>Phone</u>
<u>State Assistance</u>	
State Emergency Response Commission	402-471-3241
State Dept. of Environmental Quality	402-471-2186
State Emergency Management Agency	402-471-7421
After Hours	877-297-2368
State Fire Marshal	402-471-2027
State Patrol	402-471-4545
State Department of Health and Human Services	402-471-2541
State Game and Parks	402-471-5547
State Dept of Roads (local District)	308-995-4242
State Department of Aeronautics (downed aircraft, non-military)	402-471-2371
<u>Other Emergency Assistance 24 HRS</u>	
Emergency Planning, Community Right-to-know Act (EPCRA) Hotline	800-424-9346
Chemtrec	800-424-9300
National Response Center/ Spill reporting	800-424-8802
Union Pacific Railroad	800-877-0511
Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad	817-234-6164
Nebraska Kansas Colorado Railroad	800-331-3115
Nebraska Central Railroad Company	402-562-6155 day, 402-564-8329 night
Natural Gas Pipeline	800-733-2400
Poison Control Center (PCC)	800-955-9119
National Poison Control Center (directs to the nearest PCC)	800-222-1222

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# HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



## **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### I. PURPOSE

#### A. Medical

To provide a coordinated response for medical care and treatment for the ill and injured during, or as a result of a disaster.

#### B. Public Health

To provide coordinated public health services and interventions during and following a disaster in order to protect the community's health. Functions include early detection and surveillance; epidemiologic investigation; implementation of control measures to reduce, contain or prevent disease; communication of essential information to the healthcare community, general public and media; distribution and delivery of prophylactic medication or vaccination, if needed; and environmental surety.

#### C. Behavioral Health

To reduce harmful stress levels in the general population and to respond to the behavioral health needs of survivors, emergency responders in the field, and special needs groups in time of disaster.

#### D. Social Services

To provide for the coordination of public welfare and human needs of disaster survivors and/or special needs groups in time of disaster.

### II. SITUATION

A. The potential exists for a multiple casualty incident resulting from a naturally occurring, manmade, or terrorist event involving weapons of mass destruction which would stress emergency medical services. Public health hazards in the form of disease outbreak situations may also stress the existing medical system.

B. There are no hospitals in Gosper County.

C. There is one nursing home in Gosper County the Nebraska Health and Human Services, Department of Regulation and Licensure. Facility details are found in Attachment 1.

D. There is one Emergency Medical Services (EMS) within Gosper County (Attachment 2).

- E. There is one clinic in Gosper County staffed two days a week with a doctor. The other days it is staffed only with a nurse.
- F. The Dawson County Office of the Department of Health and Human Services, the West Central Area Agency on Aging and other private agencies have the capability to respond to the serious needs of the population should a major disaster occur.

### III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

- A. Any incident that generates an emergency patient load that exceeds the normal day-to-day capabilities of local emergency medical resources or poses a public health threat to the residents of Gosper County may be considered a disaster.
- B. Mutual Aid and outside resources will be available to assist Gosper County in natural, technological and man-made emergencies/disasters and incidents involving threatened or deliberate terrorist use of weapons of mass destruction, emergencies/disasters.
- C. Any hospital or nursing home evacuating patients to facilities in other local or regional facilities will provide the medical records of patients, professional staff, and as many supplies and equipment as practical.
- D. There are indirect and direct public health threats associated with specific types of emergencies and disasters. These might include non-outbreak situations (for example, contaminated drinking water, chemical exposures, and sewage discharges), disease outbreaks (for example *E. coli* 0157, anthrax, meningitis, West Nile Virus, plague, smallpox, and SARS), sanitation problems, an overload of mortuary service capabilities and community mental health issues.
- E. People not normally clients of the local Social Services agency may require some form of public assistance under disaster conditions.
- F. The Two Rivers Public Health Department will ensure the care and sheltering of populations with special needs.

### IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Medical, Public Health, Mental or Behavioral Health and Social Services operations are each described separately, but close coordination is required to fulfill the overall responsibility of safeguarding and minimizing the adverse health factors which may affect our citizens during and/or after an emergency or disaster. To provide a coordinated and effective response, the health and human services functions have been separated into two areas, local government support and field operations (see chart on page G-1).

1. Local government support and coordination entails coordinating emergency services such as law enforcement, fire, rescue, and public works, and providing logistical support where required. Both the Medical Coordinator and the Public Health Coordinator represent their respective functions on the EOC Staff.
2. Field operations direction and control should follow the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) developed by the local health, mental or behavioral health, state social services and local area medical professionals/facilities.

## B. Health and Medical Responsibilities

### 1. Emergency Medical Services:

- a. Basic Life Support is the responsibility of Elwood Fire & Rescue. Advanced Life Support Services (ALS) is the responsibility of Phelps Memorial Health Center.
  - 1) The notification for emergency medical assistance comes from Lexington Communications Center dispatch via pager.
  - 2) The Ambulance/Rescue Chief or Lead Emergency Medical Technician will initiate an Incident Command System and will coordinate field operations and transport of victims to the first available Hospital.
  - 3) The Ambulance/Rescue Chief or Lead Emergency Medical Technician will notify the receiving Hospital as soon as possible if the patient being transported is potentially contaminated from a HazMat incident and provide information about the hazardous substance involved.
  - 4) The Ambulance/Rescue Chief will ensure that all personnel are trained to respond to a hazardous materials incident according to levels of response training set by their employer in compliance with OSHA and EPA regulations.
  - 5) The following functions are needed:
    - a) Triage: Assessing patients and assigning priorities for medical treatment and transport.
    - b) Treatment: Providing care and treatment of patients while being held for transportation to medical facilities.
    - c) Transportation: Coordinating with receiving Hospital for directing patient transport to receiving hospitals and/or medical facilities.

- b. Air ambulance support would be requested from Air Care Helicopter Service of Kearney.

## 2. Medical Coordination

- a. A member of the EOC staff will appoint a Medical Coordinator in the event a disaster extends beyond mutual aid capabilities. The Medical Coordinator will act as a liaison between the medical community and the local government.
- b. When an incident occurs which requires medical field operations, the Medical Coordinator will support medical mutual aid requests and coordinate additional requirements.
- c. The Medical Coordinator, with the support of the Resource Coordinator and/or Emergency Management Director, will locate supplies and/or equipment to support medical operations in the event of an actual or anticipated shortage.

## 3. Public Health Coordination

- a. The Two Rivers Public Health District designee will serve as the Public Health Coordinator and is responsible for coordinating activities required to safeguard public health and minimize the spread of disease. The Public Health Coordinator is the liaison between public health officials and the local government.
- b. The Public Health Coordinator will coordinate with the Emergency Management Director, County Emergency Board, and other agencies as applicable. This is critical in the care and sheltering of populations with special needs.
- c. The Public Health Coordinator will assess the need for crisis counseling for disaster survivors and disaster workers. If crisis counseling is deemed necessary, the Public Health Coordinator will request assistance from and coordinate with the local ministerial association and/or the Richard Young Mental Health Center to provide the necessary services.
- d. The Public Health Coordinator or designee is responsible for initial size-up, hazard evaluation and assessment related to existing or anticipated public health threats. The Public Health Coordinator or designee will determine the scope and level of the public health response and what assistance may or may not be needed. Depending upon the nature of the incident, the Health Department may take the lead or assume a support role. Specific capabilities, which correspond to the Target

Capabilities List in Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8 include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) Environmental Health Water Safety: The Department would coordinate with NE HHSS Regulation and Licensure Division about potential drinking water contamination. NE HHSS and/or Two Rivers Public Health Department would direct the certified public water operators within Gosper County to provide bottle water, direct or recommend boil water orders, or perform additional sampling, depending upon the situation, to confirm contamination. For private wells, Two Rivers Public Health Department would contact the homeowner and make appropriate recommendations.
- 2) Environmental Health Emergency Sanitary Sewage Disposal: The Department would recommend portable toilets for use by incident site clean-up crews, residents and the public as needed. The Department would also coordinate with the Dawson County Chapter of the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Region 15 Emergency Management to inform and advise the public of emergency individual sewage disposal procedures.
- 3) Vector Control: The Department would survey and map affected area(s); provide mosquito trapping and testing of mosquitoes for West Nile Virus; identify problem areas so that preventive measures (i.e., larviciding) for vectors may be taken; recommend other prevention methods such as drainage of standing water and use of mosquito abatement techniques over potential breeding sites as needed. Rodent and insect control is expedited by public complaint. Exterior mouse and rat infestations are exterminated by the Department. Extermination of interior insect and rodent infestations are required of homeowners.
- 4) Food Safety: The Department would coordinate with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to identify extent of contamination, embargo and recall food as necessary, and request laboratory and investigation assistance as needed. Reports of human illness would be forwarded by the Department's Epidemiology Section to NE HHSS Epidemiologist. Upon confirmation of food contamination, food would be transported (by the facility) to the Gosper County Sanitary Landfill for disposal and destruction.
- 5) Mass Prophylaxis: Based upon the results of epidemiologic investigation and in compliance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and NE HHSS recommendations, the Public Health District/Department would vaccinate or provide

antibiotic prophylaxis to the citizens of Gosper County, see Appendix 1.

- 6) Isolation and Quarantine: The Public Health Coordinator or designee would determine measures necessary to prevent the introduction of communicable diseases into the county and to remove or quarantine any person or persons having such disease. The Public Health District/Department, in consultation with NE HHSS, the CDC, and other local health experts (as deemed necessary) will determine the specific community-wide containment strategy(s) to be implemented and the geographic area in which it will be implemented. The Public Health Coordinator or designee, in consultation with NE HHSS, Gosper County Sheriff and County Attorney, shall produce and execute the written order of isolation or quarantine.
- 7) Epidemiological Investigation: The Public Health District/Department Epidemiology Section is responsible for the evaluation of suspected and confirmed communicable disease events and the identification of situations of public health importance that may require the implementation of aggressive disease containment measures that go beyond the routine measures employed on a daily basis. Confirmed or suspected communicable diseases of possible significant public health concern identified by Epidemiology staff be immediately reported to and evaluated by the Epidemiology Section Supervisor for analysis. Based upon determination that the reported disease or event is unusual and/or poses a significant, immediate threat to the community, the Public Health Coordinator will consult with NE HHSS, and the CDC.
- 8) Emergency Public Information: The Public Health District/Department would provide information, updates, guidelines and recommendations to the healthcare community including treatment recommendations and protocols and plans for prophylaxis if warranted. The District/Department would also relay appropriate information and recommendations to the public through responsible media and public relations activities. The Department would use the State Health Alert Network (HAN) to get out time critical information to HAN recipients (physicians and healthcare organizations) in Gosper County or to areas surrounding the incident. The Department would coordinate and consult with Region 15 Emergency Management Agency to use public alerting systems if necessary.

- 9) Re-entry: The District/Department may recommend when it is safe to reoccupy an area after evacuation caused by a hazardous material release.

#### 4. Mortuary Services

- a. When normal mortuary capabilities are exceeded during a disaster, the County Attorney is responsible for coordinating the interment of the dead. Disposition of deceased bodies will be in accordance with Nebraska Statutes. Additionally the County Attorney may:
  - 1) Assign bodies to local funeral homes,
  - 2) Establish temporary morgue facilities,
  - 3) Coordinate emergency interment.
- b. Emergency Morgue: If a request for an emergency morgue is made through the Sheriff's Office, then the County Attorney acting as coroner, will:
  - 1) Obtain the use of a suitable building that is easily accessible to the disaster area,
  - 2) Notify the EOC of the morgue location,
  - 3) Coordinate with all the area funeral homes for the preservation of the bodies,
  - 4) If conditions warrant, request refrigerated trucks from local trucking companies to hold bodies pending transfer to funeral homes.

#### 5. Mental (Behavioral) Health Coordinator:

- a. The Mental (Behavioral) Health Coordinator will work closely with the Social Services Coordinator and will coordinate available services for victims, family members, first responders, health and medical personnel as well as the general public. Within the general population are those identified as having special needs, at-risk or having increased vulnerability to the effects of a crisis. These populations are:
  - 1) Individuals with disabilities, including developmental, physical and/or mental illness.
  - 2) People with a history of substance (drug or alcohol) abuse.
  - 3) Children under the age of 18.

- 4) Adults age 65 and over
  - 5) Non-English speaking populations
  - 6) Individuals who are homeless
  - 7) Long term care and residential nursing facilities
- b. Locations where the Mental (Behavioral) Health response/services may be available include:
- 1) Sites where the survivors and families of victims will be such as, shelters, meal sites, disaster application centers, American Red Cross service centers, hospitals, survivor's homes, farms, morgues, etc.
  - 2) Mass care centers and immunization clinics
  - 3) Hotline sites
  - 4) Community outreach sites such as community centers, shopping malls, locations announced through the media, etc.
  - 5) Sites where responders gather such as the incident site, staging and material storage areas.
- c. Services will be coordinated with the American Red Cross, local ministerial associations or interchurch ministries, community volunteers, Critical Incident Stress Management personnel and others as appropriate.
- d. A public outreach program providing information and messages relating to services and health topics may be established. This public education information will be prepared in collaboration with the State of Nebraska HHSS, local service providers and coordinated with the various Public Information Officers.
- e. The Mental (Behavioral) Health Coordinator will make recommendations and provide status reports to the Public Health Coordinator
- f. The Mental Health Coordinator will make recommendations and provide status reports to the Public Health Coordinator.
- g. The local Ministerial Association with possible referral to the Richard Young Mental Health Center will conduct the initial crisis counseling.
- h. Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Teams are available for debriefings, defusings, and/or demobilizations to fire, EMS, law

enforcement, dispatchers, and emergency management personnel following a disaster/emergency situation. Contact the Nebraska State Patrol Troop area where the disaster/emergency situation is located.

6. Social Services Coordinator

The Administrator of the Dawson County Office of the Department of Health and Human Services will serve as the Social Services Coordinator. The Coordinator will advise local executives on matters pertaining to social services, ensure that activities are administered in an orderly, efficient manner, develop procedures for determining needs of disaster survivors, and process inquiries concerning disaster survivors. The existing Health and Human Services Staff, augmented as necessary from other organizations, will serve as support staff. Health and Human Services will distribute USDA donated foods to local organizations and Red Cross to provide mass feeding for disaster survivors and, if implemented, will administer the Emergency Food Stamp Program. All agencies will participate to the extent of their mandated responsibilities.

7. Community Services

- a. Various community services programs function as vital support on a routine basis and are an important resource in disaster response and recovery activities. Their ability to respond to community needs is based on the organized efforts of many volunteers. Services provided by the community include, but are not limited to:
  - 1) Food for disaster survivors,
  - 2) Clothing,
  - 3) Temporary shelter.
- b. Churches and church groups are a vital community resource and function as support organizations to provide response and recovery assistance to disaster survivors. They may provide:
  - 1) Food to disaster survivors,
  - 2) Clean-up and recovery equipment and labor assistance,
  - 3) Crisis counseling for disaster survivors/workers.
- c. In addition to the local church groups, assistance in disaster recovery activities can be obtained from the Mennonite Disaster Service, the Adventists Community Services, and other non-profit, volunteer-based, disaster recovery organizations. Most of these organizations are

affiliated with Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD). Contact with these groups can be made through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency.

- d. The West Central Area Agency on Aging assesses the needs of the elderly population in Gosper County to include food, clothing, housing, and transportation. During disaster situations, emotional stress experienced by the elderly is greatly increased; therefore, referral recommendations to local mental health organizations for crisis counseling may be initiated by this group to aid recovery from the effects of the disaster.
- e. The Gosper County Handi-Bus Program assists by providing the handicapped and elderly with transportation services.

## V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

### A. Multiple Casualty Incident

1. The Fire Chief, Senior Fire Officer or Senior Firefighter will establish a command post that is responsible for patient care operations at the scene including personnel assignment.
2. The Ambulance/Rescue Chief or Lead Emergency Medical Technician will triage and assign priority categories based on urgency and chance of survival.
3. The command post will be in communication with the receiving Hospital. Determination of receiving facility will be predicated on medical facility patient loads and nature of injuries.
4. The incident command will normally determine requirements for and request medical mutual aid. If necessary, the Medical Coordinator will support the mutual aid requests and coordinate additional resource requirements.
5. The receiving Hospital will coordinate with law enforcement officials on additional security requirements at the hospital if needed.
6. Shortages (or anticipated shortage) of medical supplies/equipment or personnel will be reported to the Medical Coordinator for procurement.

### B. Evacuation of In-patient Medical Facilities

1. The hospital and nursing homes are responsible for developing internal procedures for:

- a. Assessing and preparing patients for evacuation,
  - b. Assuring medical records are transported with patients,
  - c. Identifying and transporting essential medications and supplies.
2. The Administrator, or designated representative, of the affected facility(s) will coordinate evacuation requirements, including transportation, with the EOC.
  3. Receiving facilities will be in accordance with Hospital Emergency Plans.

C. Support to Medical Professionals

The hospital will work closely with the Region 15 Emergency Management Director in providing emergency transportation to and from critical medical facilities. Volunteers, such as 4-wheel drive vehicle owners/clubs, snowmobile owners/clubs, and amateur radio operators (depending on situation - i.e., winter storms) will be utilized to provide this transportation.

D. Public Health Threats

1. In the event of an anticipated or actual public health threat, the Public Health Coordinator or the Emergency Management Director will notify the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency to coordinate State assistance for Gosper County.
2. In the event of water shortages, Public Works should coordinate with the Emergency Management Director and Public Health Coordinator to meet the critical potable water requirements.
3. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will contact state, federal, or other agencies, as appropriate, and request assistance for Gosper County

E. Social Services

To provide for an effective response to a disaster situation, the Social Services Coordinator will coordinate the efforts of various agencies to meet individual human needs. During actual or impending disaster situations requiring the lodging and feeding of a considerable number of people, procedures outlined in Annex I, Mass Care, will be supported by Health and Human Services agencies.

1. Disaster Recovery Center (DRC): Upon a Presidential Disaster Declaration, a representative of Health and Human Services may participate in the Disaster Recovery Center. The DRCs will provide information to individuals on the various disaster assistance programs available as a result of the Presidential Disaster Declaration. The Center will also provide a bank of telephones for individuals to make direct application for assistance.

2. Special Needs: Disaster survivors and special needs groups may require assistance to meet their necessary expenses and serious needs (food, clothing, housing, medical and financial). The Dawson County Office Department of Health and Human Services, in coordination with community services, such as the Red Cross, and the Area Agency on Aging, will identify any special needs groups and in the event of a disaster, ensure that their needs are met.
3. Counseling: Mental health professionals, members of the local ministerial association and public school counselors may provide emergency counseling to disaster survivors. This counseling may occur at several locations and will be coordinated between the Mental Health Coordinator and the Public Health Director.
4. Evacuation: Health and Human Services, in coordination with the Area Agency on Aging and Handi-Bus Service will attempt to identify and assist any elderly, infirm or special needs individuals who may be unable to evacuate on their own. The availability of this service will be emphasized in emergency public information releases and should be coordinated with the PIO.

## VI. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICS

- A. The Emergency Management Director will update and/or revise this Annex based upon the correlation of information provided by the Medical, Public Health and Social Services Coordinators.
- B. Exercising
  1. Every effort will be made to incorporate local and where possible regional health care facilities involvement into the hospital and nursing home's annual exercise.
  2. Emergency medical professionals and volunteers will participate in these exercises to the maximum extent possible.
  3. All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).
- C. Training
  1. In addition to the training required for normal operations, health and medical personnel should be trained to respond to a hazardous material incident to the level determined by their employer in accordance with OSHA and EPA regulations.

2. The training program will be consistent with the five-year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

### LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

<u>Attachment #</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>
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2	Emergency Medical Resources	G-19
 <u>Appendix</u>		
1	Mass Prophylaxis Plan	G-21
2	Agricultural Disease Response Plan	G-25
 <u>Attachment #</u>		
1	Initial Activities During an Agricultural Response	G-39
2	Potential Animal Holding Areas	G-45
3	Response Call-down lists	G-55

**HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESOURCES****WITHIN GOSPER COUNTY****LICENSED HOSPITALS****CAPACITY****PHONE NUMBER**

No Hospital

**NURSING HOME**Elwood Care Center  
613 Smith Street  
Elwood, NE 68937

47-ICF

308-785-3302

**MORTUARIES FOR MULTI-CASUALTY INCIDENTS (MCI)**Elwood Funeral Home  
Elwood, NE 68937

308-785-2514

**AMBULANCE**Ambulance/Rescue Unit  
Elwood, NE 68937

911

**OUTSIDE GOSPER COUNTY****HOSPITALS**Cozad Community Hospital  
300 East 12th Street  
Cozad, NE 6913021-A  
6-B

308-784-2261

Gothenburg Memorial Hospital  
910 20th Street  
Gothenburg, NE 6913812-A  
6-B  
37-LTC

308-537-3661

Lexington Regional Health Center  
1209 Erie Street  
Lexington, NE 6885025-A  
8-B

308-324-5651

**OUTSIDE GOSPER COUNTY (continued)**

<b><u>HOSPITALS</u></b>	<b><u>CAPACITY</u></b>	<b><u>PHONE NUMBER</u></b>
Great Plains Regional Medical Center 601 West Leota Street North Platte, NE 69101	116-A 20-B 19-P	308-696-8000
Phelps Memorial Health Center 1220 Miller Street Holdrege, NE 68949	25-A 7-B	308-995-2211
Good Samaritan Hospital 31 St & Central Avenue Kearney, NE 68848	165-A 20-B	308-236-8511
 <b><u>NURSING HOMES</u></b>		
Plum Creek Care Center 1505 North Adams Lexington, NE 68850	66-SNF	308-324-5531
Bertrand Nursing Center 100 Minor Ave. Bertrand, NE 68927	26-SNF	308-472-3341
South View Manor Care Center 318 West 18th Street Cozad, NE 69130	90-SNF	308-784-3715
Christian Homes RFD Holdrege, NE 68949	89-SNF	995-4493
Holdrege Memorial Homes 1320 11th Avenue Holdrege, NE 68949	59-SNF	308-995-8636
 <b><u>MENTAL HEALTH</u></b>		
Richard Young Family Life Center 1305 South Willow Street North Platte, NE 69101		308-532-2044

**OUTSIDE GOSPER COUNTY (continued)****MORTUARIES****PHONE NUMBER**

Adams-Swanson 421 West 4th Street North Platte, NE 69101	308-532-2044
Carpenter Memorial Chapel 1616 West B Street North Platte, NE 69101	308-534-6480
Blase Memorial Chapel 620 10th Street Gothenburg, NE 69138	308-537-2313
Berryman Funeral Home 620 East 22nd Street Cozad, NE 69130	308-784-3000
Nelson-Harris Funeral Home 401 Burlington Holdrege, NE 68949	308-995-4114
Wenberg Funeral Home Arapahoe, NE 68922	308-962-7940
Reynolds-Love Funeral Home 106 West 8th Street Lexington, NE 68850	308-324-2221

**KEY**

A - Acute  
 B - Bassinet  
 ICF - Intermediate Care Facility  
 LTC - Long Term Care  
 Psychiatric  
 SNF - Skilled Nursing Facility

Air Services

Lincoln

Star Care V, 1 (800) 252-4262 - Helicopter (Based at Bryan LGH Hospital)

Omaha

Life Net, 1 (888) 481-7040 - Helicopter

Kearney

Air Care, 1 (800) 474-7911  
Helicopter

McCook

Life Team (fixed wing), 877-213-5433

Scottsbluff

AirLink, 1 (800) 252 2215

Sioux City, IA

Marion Air Care, 1 (800) 367-9469

Denver, CO

Flight For Life 1 (800) 525-3712 - Helicopter and Fixed Wing

Greeley, CO

Air Life Of Greeley 1 (800) 247-5433 (Weld Co. CO Dispatcher)

## GOSPER COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESOURCES

RESCUE UNIT NAME	PHONE NUMBER	# of FIRST RESPONSE UNITS	# of FIRST RESPONDERS	# of BASIC LIFE SUPPORT	# of ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT	# of EMTS	# of PARA-MEDICS	# OF JAWS of LIFE	Advanced Services: A/D, EMT-IV, A/V,ETC.
Elwood	785-2311	2		X		16		1	

G-19

November 2011

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## **MASS PROPHYLAXIS PLAN**

### I. Purpose

This provides a rapid and coordinated response for the citizens and transients of Gosper County for a mass administration of vaccines and prophylactic medications in the event of a bio-terrorism outbreak or other medical needs.

### II. Situation

- A. Region 15 Emergency Management Agency along with the Two Rivers Public Health District (PHD), the Phelps Memorial Health Center, and Tri-County Hospital, the Nebraska Health and Human Services Systems (HHSS), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has identified numerous hazards that would give cause to do a mass vaccination/prophylaxis clinic. Any outbreak would affect all the citizens and transients of Gosper County. The population range could vary depending on the type and time of outbreaks and certain geographic factors.
- B. Transient population needing vaccination would be citizens not counted in Gosper County's vaccine allotment.
- C. On a local level, initial response will be by local authorities, using the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- D. The decision to mass vaccinate would come from the President of the United States under the advisement of the CDC. The Governor of Nebraska would declare a state of emergency.

### III. Assumptions and Planning Factors

- A. All the population in Gosper County may be affected by any outbreak.
- B. Outbreak events may occur with little or no warning and may not be determined for days after an event has occurred in the United States.
- C. No single agency at the local level possesses the expertise to respond to an event. All county agencies will work toward a common goal ensuring the well being of the citizens.

#### IV. Concept of Operations

The CDC, HHHS and PHD will provide direction to Gosper County in the event of an actual emergency. Gosper County's general plan for mass vaccine clinics and potential follow up clinics is as follows.

- A. Gosper County's Mass Vaccination/prophylaxis Clinic will be located at:
  1. Lexington High School as the primary site.
  2. Holdrege High School as the secondary site.
- B. Gosper County's Mass Vaccination Core Committee will provide a volunteer staff to fill all the positions needed to operate a clinic.
  1. The core team includes but is not limited to: Site Coordinator, Medical Director, Nurse Manager, Emergency Manager, Supply Manager, Clinic Security (Law Enforcement), Volunteer Coordinator, Translator, EMS and the County Board of Commissioners.
  2. The list of volunteers is on file and continually updated. Copies of this list are kept at the PHD, with the volunteer coordinator and with the Region 15 Emergency Management Director. The list will include but is not limited to county and village first responders, medical staff, record keepers, security, and other needed key personnel.
- C. Notification of a local event may come to the Emergency Management Director, Phelps Memorial Health Center, Tri-County Hospital or Law Enforcement. At that time, all clinic core team members will be contacted. Notification of public health events occurring outside Gosper County, which could affect the county, could come from several sources including the CDC, NE HHSS, adjacent county health departments or other State Health Departments.
- D. Notification of all volunteers
  1. A calling bank, designated by the volunteer coordinator, will be used to notify volunteers with back up provided by Region 15 Emergency Management Staff and Gosper County Sheriff Staff.
  2. The Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) Annex B (Communications and Warnings) will be utilized. This annex addresses how all emergency responders and officials are notified.
  3. Upon notification, volunteers will report as soon as possible or at a set time to the clinic site. Parking for volunteers will be determined at activation time of the clinic.

4. All clinic positions and operations will be staffed before the clinic opens to the public.

E. Handling of vaccine

1. Public Health District personnel will transfer vaccine to Gosper County.
2. The vaccine will be signed off to a designated person at the clinic. If the vaccine comes before the clinic is activated it will be delivered to the Gosper County Sheriff's Office. The vaccine will be signed for by the County Sheriff and placed in the evidence room.
3. The vaccine will be arm guarded at all times and will be under the direction of the supply manager. Certain vaccines may require special precautions.
4. All precautions will be taken when working with and around the vaccine, according to the guidelines provided.

F. Purchase and storage of supplies

1. In order to be prepared as possible for an emergency clinic, general supplies will be purchased ahead of time.
2. Before supplies will be purchased, storage space at Phelps Memorial Health Center and Tri-County Hospital will be requested. This location would make rotation of stock convenient, and therefore make it less likely that supplies purchased in advanced could deteriorate if not used by their expiration dates.
3. If storage space is not available at either Hospital, available storage space at the Gosper County Courthouse will be used.
4. If supplies are to be purchased in advance of a possible clinic, the supply manager will assemble a list of needed supplies and the estimated costs.
5. In case of any potential countywide clinic, the Gosper County Board of Commissioners/Supervisors will be asked for funding for supplies necessary to run a clinic. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director along with the County Board Chair and Supply Manager will make contact with medical/clerical suppliers for specific additional supplies from the Master Supply List found in the Public Health Districts Master Plan.
6. If county funding is not available, the core committee will seek other funding alternatives, including but not limited to solicitation of all emergency and health care services in the county, fund-raising events, donations, etc.

- G. Transportation and parking for the public.
1. Parking will be limited at the clinic site. The following lots will be used and shuttle service will be provided to transport the public:
    - a. Elwood Public Schools
    - b. Others will be announced if needed.
  2. Those individuals confined to health care or other facilities may receive on-site treatment. This will be coordinated with the Core Committee.
  3. Others unable to provide their own transportation will be given instructions through the media as to whom to call, staging areas for transportation pick-up and return, etc.
- H. Gosper County residents and transients will be notified as soon as possible of the mass vaccination plan and instructions for participation.
1. The local media will be utilized.
    - a. 880 radio AM, 93.1 FM (308) 324-2371
    - b. Channel 13 News (308) 743-2494
    - c. Emergency Alert System
  2. Local emergency management procedures will be followed as outlined in Annex B, Communications and Warning.
  3. The public will be given a local number to call for more information and further instructions.

## AGRICULTURE DISEASE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

### I. PURPOSE

- A. To provide coordinated measures and actions related to an agricultural emergency to detect, control and eliminate diseases, infestations, contamination and contagions to animals, plants and food as rapidly as possible within Gosper County.
- B. To generate appropriate measures at all response levels to eliminate the emergency and minimize its consequences in order to return Gosper County to a contagion-free status.

### II. SITUATION

- A. The agriculture industry in Gosper County is a major segment of the county's economy. Agriculture is a critical infrastructure of the State of Nebraska. A major outbreak of disease or infestation in animals or in plants, or a contamination of foods in the county will have a devastating economic effect not only on the local economy, but also on the state, region and nation as well. These events may occur by natural processes or as a result of a chemical or biological attack. Gosper County is vulnerable to such events. There are approximately 218 farms; 25,000 head of cattle; one local meat packing plant; a few confined hog operations; a small number of backyard poultry operations; and several smaller feedlots in Gosper County. Gosper County is home to the Gosper County Fair and several other town festivals that draw in hundreds of livestock for shows and thousands of people. The county has two major highways that run through it: U.S. Highway 283 and State Highway 23. Interstate 80 and the Platte River are located just north of the county border. Johnson Lake and Elwood Reservoir are in the northern part of the county.
- B. A major outbreak of disease, infestation or contamination in animals, plants or food could create both environmental and public health hazards to the human population including exposure to hazardous materials and contaminated water supplies, crops, livestock and food products. There could also be a significant mental health impact to the producers and their families, business partners, and the residents in and around the affected area.
- C. Hazardous biological or chemical substances, when released in either a controlled or uncontrolled manner, can be harmful to people, animals, plants, property, the environment and/or the economy. A hazardous material is any substance or combination of substances that, because of quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics, may pose

substantial immediate or potential hazards to humans, plants, and animals or the environment.

- D. Response to contamination and/or disease may involve local, state, federal and other entities. No single local or state agency has the full authority and expertise to act unilaterally, nor does the county have the necessary resources to deal with a large-scale situation.
- E. Limited response resources in some geographical sections of the county may increase response time and there is the potential of radio and telephone communication difficulties.

### III. ASSUMPTIONS and PLANNING FACTORS

- A. The identification of animal disease, plant disease or infestation, or food, milk or dairy product contamination within the United States (US) could affect the State of Nebraska, including Gosper County. This could result in the creation and enforcement of movement controls of people, vehicles, livestock, poultry, plants, food, milk and dairy products, and other property.
- B. Positive detection of disease, infestation or contamination elsewhere will prompt state officials to employ additional precautions to prevent or mitigate a local occurrence.
- C. Due to the nature of agricultural emergencies, such as a Foreign Animal Disease (FAD), and existing laws, entities other than the county may declare a disaster, subsequently affecting the county. In such incidents, the county also will submit a Disaster Declaration as described in Annex A, Direction and Control, Attachment 4, of the Gosper County local emergency operation plan (LEOP).
- D. If a threat of disease, infestation or contamination is received as a mechanism of terrorism and is confirmed as being a terrorist event, the "Terrorism" Appendix of Annex H, Law Enforcement, of this LEOP will be used in conjunction with this Appendix.
- E. Numerous local, state and federal agencies will play a role in mitigating an agricultural event. Remediation and recovery activities have the potential to involve massive amounts of resources.
- F. Large quantities of crops, rangeland, domestic livestock, wildlife and food may be destroyed or controlled to prevent the spread of disease, infestation, or contamination after it has been confirmed within the county.
- G. Vector-borne diseases can spread quickly; therefore, a rapid response and control over a potentially wide area is needed.

- H. Suspected or confirmed cases may require immediate quarantine of the area of origination and may require special operational procedures.
- I. Eradication of the causative agent will require proper sanitary and disposal procedures for animal carcasses, plant material and/or food, milk, or dairy products, as determined by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) or Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ). Suspected infected locations, transport vehicles and on-site personnel may require cleaning and disinfection. Local biosecurity guidelines will need to be established and implemented.
- J. Environmental protection regulations or procedures may need to be temporarily suspended to allow the timely and efficient disposal of food, plant material or euthanized livestock and wildlife.
- K. NDA is the coordinating state agency for a response to a livestock, plant, food, milk and dairy product emergency, as discussed in Appendix 1, Appendix 2, Appendix 3 and/or Appendix 4 of Emergency Support Function (ESF)-11, of the State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP). If an animal disease event occurs, NDA will determine the level of response and activities necessary to respond to a suspected or confirmed FAD.
- L. It is recognized that under some agriculture scenarios, the need for resources, trained personnel and specialized equipment and supplies will be tremendous.
- M. Before, during and following the Governor's emergency proclamation, an NDA representative will serve as the designated Emergency Support Function Coordinator (ESFC).
- N. If the situation is determined to be an act of terrorism, LEOP Annex H, Appendix 1, "Terrorism," will be referenced for response to the incident. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is the lead agency responsible for crisis management and is responsible for coordinating federal law enforcement response and action during a terrorist/weapons of mass destruction (WMD) incident, and throughout the post-incident investigation.
- O. The level of response to an event depends on the extent and severity of the event. The introduction of a major food contamination or highly contagious disease may initiate a response from multiple sectors in multiple jurisdictions for a prolonged period of time.
- P. Federal agencies may provide support during emergency events. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has the power, in certain circumstances, to declare an emergency. In these cases, USDA representatives will work with the NDA as described in ESF-11.

Animal Disease Incident Severity Levels

There are five incident severity levels relating to NDA's actions relative to animal health and maintaining the livestock and poultry industries within the state. The first two incident Levels, 1 and 2, are disease management levels and are generally handled internally by NDA. Incident Levels 3, 4 and 5 represent FAD emergency response levels. Under Levels 3, 4 or 5, it is likely that county response will be requested from NDA and that this Annex to the LEOP will be activated. In addition, these levels will require support from other state agencies, federal agencies, counties, humane organizations and other relevant and appropriate entities.

- LEVEL 1: Normal operating conditions. This level entails the daily routine activity of NDA enforcing statutory rules and regulations.
- LEVEL 2: A disease that is not common to Nebraska either threatens to enter the state or has been identified in the state. A Level 2 disease is not considered a high-consequence animal disease. Level 2 diseases include, but are not limited to, Tuberculosis, Brucellosis, Pseudorabies and Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza.

Levels 1 and 2 can be handled internally by NDA staff. It is unlikely that the SEOC's activation level will be changed due to a Level 1 or 2 livestock/poultry disease incident.

- LEVEL 3: A FAD is confirmed in North America but not in a bordering state, and there is no perceivable threat to Nebraska.
- LEVEL 4: A FAD is confirmed in a border state or when the incident in a non-border state has a real or perceived threat to Nebraska agriculture.
- LEVEL 5: A FAD is suspected or confirmed within Nebraska.

Specific details and actions are listed in the ESF-11, Appendix 1, of the SEOP.

IV. CONCEPT of OPERATIONS

In a FAD incident, Gosper County will be responding as a support entity for ESF-11 activities. Because of this, the county's concept of operations for a foreign animal disease response will focus on activation and notification, and response support.

A. Activation and Notification

- Upon a request for assistance, the ESFC, in cooperation with Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), will determine which participating departments/agencies/associations are needed and will take steps to activate them or place them on alert.
- In an animal disease event in North America, but not in Nebraska, when an approved diagnostic laboratory confirms a positive test for a "FAD LEVEL 3 and/or 4," the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) will notify NDA, which will notify

NEMA. ESF-11 may be activated. With this activation, NEMA may notify the Gosper County Emergency Manager. The emergency manager will activate the county Agricultural Disease Emergency Response Plan. The emergency manager will begin preparations to support the response, which could include:

1. Notifying appropriate elected officials;
  2. Requesting a local disaster declaration;
  3. Activating local temporary animal housing and care locations;
  4. Assisting in traffic control;
  5. Assisting in quarantine enforcement;
  6. Locating and mapping susceptible species locations;
  7. Assisting with cleaning and disinfection;
  8. Identifying local sites and options for carcass disposal;
  9. Acting as a local liaison with the NDA incident command and NEMA; and
  10. Managing logistics issues for the local response.
- In an animal disease event in Nebraska (LEVEL 5), when an approved diagnostic laboratory makes a presumptive positive identification of a FAD, NDA will be notified. NDA will subsequently notify NEMA. ESF-11 may be activated. With this activation, NEMA will notify the Gosper County Emergency Manager. The emergency manager will activate the county Agricultural Disease Emergency Response Plan. The emergency manager will begin preparations to support the response, as described above.
  - In an animal disease event in Nebraska (LEVEL 5), when a foreign animal disease diagnostician (FADD) makes a diagnosis of a medium or high suspicion of a FAD, NDA will notify NEMA. Either NDA or NEMA will notify the Gosper County Emergency Manager of the diagnosis. In this situation, county support may be required to assist the FADD, who may remain on-site until a diagnosis is made. Prior to a diagnosis, county support will be requested by the FADD or by the NDA. At this point in a response, all communications and information must be carefully controlled. Public dissemination of incident-specific information at this point is likely to cause significant negative economic impact on the livestock or poultry industry, as well as reducing the public's confidence in the nation's food supply. The county may be asked to provide the following support at this time:
    1. Notifying appropriate local elected officials;
    2. Assisting in traffic control;
    3. Assisting in quarantine enforcement; and
    4. Locating and mapping susceptible species locations.

#### B. Response Support

- In some animal disease incidents, the Governor's declaration may include closing or restricting movement across the borders of the state and/or

suspending livestock transport within the state. This action may be taken by the Governors of border states. This action may create the need for off-loading and holding pen locations for livestock in transit. See "Potential Animal Holding Areas," Appendix 2, Attachment 2. Gosper County should develop contingency plans for the proper care of animals in transit. This includes unloading, feeding and watering of livestock. The NDA Monograph, *Temporary Housing and Care of Livestock and Poultry*, provides operational guidance for this planning as well as the set-up and operation of these areas. Identifying and photographing unloaded animals will be necessary. Biosecurity techniques such as waste management, secure confinement of individual loads, and the inspection of certificates of shipment (health certificates) will be needed. Designated officials will perform a health inspection of livestock before reloading. Only qualified responders will be assisting as animal handlers. A notification process also needs to be established so that the State Veterinarian, the shipping company and the livestock owners know of the location of the animals being held (for reference, see the NDA Monograph, *Temporary Housing and Care for Livestock and Poultry*).

- Additional local plans or Standard Operating Procedures are needed for the cleaning, disinfection, and storage of the trucks and personnel involved with the event. NDA has developed the following set of five County Emergency Response Monographs, 2006: *Traffic Control*, *Catastrophic Mortality Disposal*, *Temporary Housing and Care for Livestock and Poultry*, *Cleaning and Disinfection*, and *Continuity of Services*. These monographs provide operational guidance for issues that an affected county may face.
- The entire process or chain of events needs documentation, which should include the confirmation of ownership of animals, copies of bills of lading, direct expenses incurred during the temporary housing of animals, and the final distribution of the animals.
- The Livestock Emergency Disease Response System (LEDRS) veterinary corps will supply trained first responders in case of an animal emergency, as well as limited initial veterinary supplies. LEDRS trailers, with limited amounts of equipment and supplies, also may be available. A list of equipment and supplies available in the LEDRS trailers is found in ESF-11 of the SEOP.

## V. ORGANIZATIONAL ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES

Details of the roles and responsibilities of the various agencies and organizations are found in the SEOP. The following describes in general the roles and scope of activities. Due to the nature of a specific event, this list may not be all-inclusive or describe all activities or operations.

### A. STATE AGENCIES

#### 1. Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA)

The NDA is the coordinating agency for all agriculture-related responses in the State of Nebraska as designated in the State Emergency Operations Plan, ESF-11, dated July 28, 2003, and in subsequent updates, dated 2004, 2005, 2009 and 2011. NDA, along with the NEMA, will conduct operations using National Incident Management System (NIMS) protocols for multi-agency coordination.

As the coordinating agency, some of NDA's responsibilities relative to local jurisdictions include:

- Working with local jurisdictions to support planning and mitigation related to agriculture response;
- Coordinating with individual producers and agricultural trade associations on mitigation, planning, response and recovery related to an agriculture emergency;
- Assisting local jurisdictions and producers with recovery-related issues;
- Developing and maintaining operational monographs to assist the state and local jurisdiction with agriculture response;
- Coordinating with USDA;
- Activating and deploying support personnel from the LEDRS;
- Directing all livestock- or poultry-related response;
- Providing coordination on public information release with local jurisdictions; and
- Providing technical expertise related to agriculture emergencies and response.

#### 2. Office of the Governor

- Issues State of Emergency Proclamations;
- Requests Presidential Declarations; and
- Affects the powers as granted in the Nebraska Emergency Management Act.

3. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

- Activates and operates the State Emergency Operations Center;
- Provides liaison to the affected jurisdictions;
- Prepares situation reports for the Governor;
- Responds to assistance requests from county emergency management;
- Coordinates the state's response with local jurisdictions;
- Coordinates with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Response Framework;
- Assists in the dissemination of disaster-related public information;
- Assists local responders, especially in remote areas, with communications; and
- Coordinates the provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), other equipment, chemicals and supplies to facilitate the movement, destruction, disposal, cleaning and disinfecting of equipment, and decontamination of individuals.

4. Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ)

- Provides technical assistance regarding environmental issues, regulations and requirements during the disaster planning;
- Specifies containment practices and procedures for carcass disposal, including on-site disposal, decontamination, cleaning, disinfecting stations, and waste disposal and/or treatment sites; and
- Provides information on permitted livestock feeding operations.

5. Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR)

- Provides technical assistance during planning; and
- Provides mapping information, especially on topography, water tables, and food and agriculture assets.

6. Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR)

- Identifies the sustainability of roads and bridges for law enforcement for traffic control issues;
- Provides guidance in re-routing traffic in and around the affected area;
- Assists with the transportation of soil, carcasses or debris; and
- Helps identify additional sources of contractors and specialized equipment.

7. Nebraska Games and Parks Commission (NGPC)

- Provides containment and/or quarantine assistance, including vector control, and monitoring and management of wildlife, to prevent the spread of animal disease to or through non-domesticated animals;

- Provides disposal sites and excavation equipment, and aids in the transport of carcasses, soil and debris; and
- Assists law enforcement agencies with traffic control, general security and law enforcement.

8. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

- Provides an assessment of the public health needs;
- Provides the technical assistance, leadership and coordination to address the medical and behavioral health care needs of the public;
- Provides assistance and epidemiology services in dealing with zoonotic (transmitted from animals to humans) diseases; and
- Supports local jurisdictions, per the LEOP, in other areas to include the testing of potable water, behavioral health and other public health concerns.

9. Nebraska Military Department (MIL)

- Supports other agencies in containment/quarantine activities, traffic control, general security, transportation or other designated functions. A request for military support is outlined in each county's LEOP, Basic Plan, VI, J, 3.

10. Nebraska State Fire Marshal (NSFM)

- Provides NIMS compliant Incident Management training to local responders, officials and animal care providers. The training also can address specialized topics such as cleaning and disinfection.

11. Nebraska State Patrol (NSP)

- Coordinates with local law enforcement agencies in establishing or assisting with personnel, responders and site security and safety;
- Coordinates with local law enforcement on travel into or out of movement control and quarantine zones;
- Assists with traffic control;
- Provides additional communications support with a mobile communications vehicle; and
- Assists in the coordination of transportation of suspected diseased tissue samples to an appropriate diagnostic laboratory.

12. University of Nebraska System (UNS)

The UNS, through its various departments, campuses and affiliations, such as the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) Extension, provides:

- Information regarding animal diseases, biosecurity, and plant/animal health practices;
- Technical assistance in the incident planning process; and
- Surveillance assistance in the prevention, response and recovery stages.

Various departments, such as the UNL School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, may assist in animal disease diagnosis and provide laboratory services for analysis or pathology of animal samples. The UNL Veterinary Diagnostic Center (UNL/VDC) is a member of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) and provides diagnostic support for animal disease diagnosis. The UNL Plant Pathology Department Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic and the Department of Entomology are members of the National Plant Diagnostic Network and provide diagnostic services to the State Plant Regulatory Official, for events involving plants or crops. The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) Nebraska Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) provides testing services on human specimens, when requested, during an event involving food, milk or dairy products.

## B. FEDERAL AGENCIES

### 1. Lead Federal Agency (LFA)

The Lead Federal Agency, generally the USDA, or the FBI in a terrorist incident, may implement the National Response Framework that provides a mechanism for the organization, coordination and mobilization of federal resources to support state and local activities.

### 2. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- The USDA, through its various national, state and local agencies' offices, will provide technical assistance during the planning phase and technical resources during the prevention, response and recovery stages of an incident. USDA will provide laboratory assistance in the identification of livestock and poultry FADs, and plant pests and/or diseases. Upon confirmation of a disease or pest, the USDA Secretary can issue an Emergency Declaration, which will initiate an immediate response by other federal agencies and affected jurisdictions. The USDA Farm Service Agency may administer the indemnification process to include the cost of animals and approved costs associated with an incident. USDA may do appraisal of animals to be euthanized, as well as other incident-related damages.
- NDA and USDA-APHIS-VS will work collaboratively to determine and issue animal-related quarantines. The USDA will consult with state and local authorities regarding eradication activities. These include but are not limited to treatment or elimination and disposal of exposed

or infected animals, cleaning and disinfection, transportation issues, records, public information coordination and required training for those involved in the eradication process.

- NDA, in conjunction with USDA-APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ), will determine actions to be taken in the event of an emergency involving plants or crops.

### 3. United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

The FDA, through its various divisions, will provide technical assistance during the planning stage and technical and laboratory support during the prevention, response and recovery phases of a food or dairy incident.

### 4. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

In the event that the emergency is the possible or confirmed result of terrorist activities, the FBI will be the lead agency related to the criminal investigation. The LEOP, Annex H, Appendix 1, Terrorism, details the role of the FBI, and its relationships with the affected jurisdictions.

### 5. Department of Defense (DOD)

The DOD has units trained and organized to respond to weapons of mass destruction/terrorists attacks. In such an event, the DOD may direct special operations in support of civil authorities in combating terrorism.

## C. LOCAL/COUNTY AGENCIES

Local officials, elected and appointed, will be actively involved and local resources will be used in a response, following the guidelines and framework provided in this LEOP. Any or all local agencies may be involved and will, in general, assume their normal roles as defined in this Plan.

Counties are expected to provide the following support:

- Provide assistance in identifying and locating livestock and poultry throughout the county;
- Identify, operate and manage locations to temporarily house and care for livestock or poultry held in the county during a movement control situation;
- Assist with cleaning and disinfection;
- Provide traffic control support; and
- Assist with local logistics.

The following agencies or entities may provide additional support during an agricultural emergency. The county role in a FAD or plant disease/pest incident will be a supporting role. The state, through NDA and in

coordination with USDA, will provide incident command and will serve as liaison with other state and federal agencies to coordinate support.

1. Gosper County Commissioners/Supervisors

- Maintain direction and control of governmental activities;
- Declare a county emergency through the normal process described in the LEOP; and
- Provide local resources within their capability.

2. Gosper County Clerk/Treasurer

- Coordinates the documentation of all disaster related expenses such as personnel time, overtime, equipment usage, in-kind or stocked materials, etc.; and
- Follows accepted accounting procedures. Each county or local agency will document its own disaster related expenses and make the data available as requested.

3. Gosper County Sheriff's Office

- Receives an early alert of an agricultural emergency from the County Emergency Manager when the situation warrants;
- At the time of a FAD event, the Sheriff will become a member of the Gosper County Unified Command structure for the event and assume the command position for local law enforcement functions;
- Provides the initial incident security to personnel and the quarantine zone;
- Provides communications support;
- Coordinates local law enforcement response with support from the Nebraska State Patrol; and
- Assumes other roles and responsibilities during a disaster that are outlined in other parts of this LEOP.

4. Gosper County Emergency Management

- Receives an early alert of an agricultural emergency, such as a suspected FAD, from NEMA or NDA should the conditions warrant;
- Activates the county Emergency Operations Center to support state or local response;
- Coordinates logistics and requests for additional support; and
- Communicates with the chief elected officials and NEMA, advising them of local conditions and activities.

#### 5. Gosper County Roads Department

- Assists with traffic control in and around any quarantine or movement control areas;
- Supports law enforcement agencies in identifying the sustainability of roads and bridges necessary for re-routing traffic from the quarantine or movement control areas; and
- Provides excavation and transportation equipment and operators to move soil, carcasses or debris as directed.

Their activities will be coordinated through the County EOC.

#### 6. Gosper County Fire Service/Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

- Provides assistance with cleaning and disinfection, hazardous material and fire protection as required by NDA and/or USDA; and
- Provides EMS services as needed.

Mutual aid requests will follow normal processes as described in Annex F, Fire Services, of the LEOP. Hazmat is provided by Red Willow Western Rural Fire District.

#### 7. Two Rivers Public Health Department

- Supports the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) in providing overall leadership, coordination, assessment and technical assistance for public health needs in the event of a disaster or emergency;
- Provides contacts and coordination for mental health support;
- Provides assistance and epidemiology services in dealing with zoonotic (transmitted from animals to humans) diseases; and
- Performs other functions as described in Annex G, Health and Medical, of the LEOP.

### D. OTHER AGENCIES and ORGANIZATIONS

#### 1. Livestock Concentration Points

Livestock concentration points include all livestock operations, auction markets, slaughter operations and private and commercial feedlots. These operations, in sizes from one animal to thousands, should develop livestock biosecurity plans, which will be implemented during an emergency.

## 2. Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

Various volunteer agencies coordinate the provision of food and temporary shelter on site, especially when an area is quarantined. See NEMA's 2009 The Nebraska Emergency Manager's Handbook for a list of participating agencies.

## 3. Associations (Trade, Professional, Marketing)

Industry and professional associations, from international to local affiliates, are invaluable resources, providing membership lists, lists of resources such as equipment, stock holding locations, trained stock handling personnel, information about security and other technology that may impact planning, response, recovery and mitigation.

# VI. ADMINISTRATION and LOGISTICS

## A. Administration

A record of the costs and expenses incurred in the direct support of an emergency or disaster situation will be maintained by each jurisdiction and agency in the event reimbursement of claims is made available by state and federal agencies.

## B. Exercises

All agencies with responsibilities outlined in this Appendix will provide annual training related to livestock and poultry emergencies. An orientation and/or tabletop exercise should be conducted annually to ensure adequate response to a threatened or actual outbreak of disease in a non-human population. The objectives for these exercises should be based on the policies and procedures identified in this Plan.

## C. Plan Maintenance

The County Emergency Manager, with the assistance of a member of the LEDRS Veterinarian Corps, shall annually review this Plan and update the information based on input from the Plan's participating agencies.

**ATTACHMENT 1  
FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASE INITIAL RESPONSE PLAN**

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## **FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASE (FAD) INITIAL RESPONSE PLAN**

This is a summary of the planned activities from the Emergency Support Function (ESF)-11 Annex of the State Emergency Operations Plan. This portion reflects only those activities at FAD Incident Severity Level 5: "A FAD is suspected or confirmed in Nebraska."

A FAD causing a Level 5 severity level is a highly contagious and/or economically significant foreign animal disease posing a serious threat to Nebraska's livestock or poultry industries, as determined by the State Veterinarian.

Many of the activities listed will happen simultaneously, although they are listed here sequentially.

An Agricultural Emergency Response to a FAD begins when a FAD is suspected.

A commercial producer or processor will most often notify a local veterinarian when unusual conditions or signs are recognized in a herd/flock. The local veterinarian will make an initial assessment. If a non-FAD condition is identified, normal animal health care practices are initiated. In some cases a National Animal Health Laboratory Network Laboratory (NAHLN), such as the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's (UNL) Veterinary Diagnostic Center (VDC) may receive samples that suggest the presence of a FAD.

If signs in the herd, flock or sample lead to the suspicion of a FAD, the following steps will be initiated:

### **I. STATUS INVESTIGATION**

- A. Either a NAHLN Laboratory analyzes an unusual or suspicious sample; or a local veterinarian, animal health technician or extension specialist, has been called to examine the animals in the flock or herd; and through the initial examination one of these professionals identifies a Nebraska Reportable Condition or otherwise suspects a FAD and will do the following:
  1. Contact the State Veterinarian at the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) 402-471-2351 or the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC) 402-434-2300. In some cases, the initial call will be to the closest NDA field veterinarian or animal health technician.
  2. NDA will advise the professional at the farm, or the producer directly on immediate herd health actions.

- B. The State veterinarian and the AVIC will decide if the circumstances warrant the deployment of a Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician (FADD) to site where the sample was taken or where the suspect animals were examined.
- C. The FADD, if deployed:
1. Will travel to the site and conduct an investigation. The investigation will include preliminary epidemiological data gathering, examination of the suspect animals, taking samples, and submitting samples for laboratory confirmation according to protocol for the suspected disease.
  2. Will report activities and situation to the State Veterinarian and the AVIC
  3. Will become the initial Site Incident Commander
  4. May implement local quarantine if necessary.
  5. May request voluntary travel restrictions of individuals in incident area.
  6. May request support from local emergency management (e.g., locating nearby animals, quarantine enforcement support, and cleaning, and disinfection support if necessary).
- D. NDA, if the FADD identifies a “high suspicion” of a FAD:
1. Notifies the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), and NEMA:
    - a. May assist in transporting samples to diagnostic laboratory.
    - b. May activate the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and implement ESF-11.
    - c. Notifies the local Emergency Manager in the affected jurisdiction.
    - d. Notifies the Nebraska State Patrol, which:
      - i. May assist in transportation of samples to diagnostic laboratory.
      - ii. May assist with local quarantine support.
  2. Notifies Governor’s Office.
  3. Coordinates incident site security, access control points and decontamination if local resources are unable to provide from local or mutual aid resources.
  4. Notifies the Livestock Emergency Disease Response System (LEDRS) Veterinary Corps.
  5. Activates NDA Command Center.
- E. USDA:
1. Performs diagnostic testing and disease confirmation.
  2. Informs FADD, State Veterinarian and AVIC of test results.

## II. DIAGNOSTIC RESULTS

### A. If results are negative for a FAD

1. FADD informs local producer, processor and veterinarian routine and ordinary veterinary procedures implemented.
2. NDA notifies the Governor's Office and NEMA, who in turn notifies the local Emergency Manager.
3. Incident response is curtailed.
4. Local agency maintains activity log and tracks expenses.

### B. If results indicate a presumptive positive or confirmed positive for a highly contagious or economically significant FAD, the following events will occur:

1. For a confirmed positive USDA will:
  - a. Notify the FADD, NDA, State Veterinarian and AVIC.
  - b. Notify all State Veterinarians and all federal AVICs.
  - c. Activate the National Animal Health Emergency Management System.
  - d. Declare an "Emergency" or "Extraordinary Emergency"; if necessary and evaluates the need for Presidential Declaration.
  - e. Provide technical advice, supplies and personnel to support NDA.
2. For a presumptive positive, most likely identified by a NAHLN laboratory (i.e., UNL/VDC), the laboratory will:
  - a. Notify NDA and the State Veterinarian.
  - b. Submit the sample to the appropriate USDA Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL) for confirmatory analysis.
3. In either of the above cases, presumptive or confirmed FAD in Nebraska:

#### NDA will:

- a. Notify the Governor's Office and NEMA.
- b. Send a representative to the SEOC to serve as the Emergency Support Function (ESF)-11 Coordinator.
- c. Establish quarantine zones.
- d. Issue "Stop (Animal) Movement Orders" (an embargo or import order to restrict animal transport either intra or interstate).
- e. Activate LEDRS.
- f. Confer with State Veterinarians in surrounding states.

#### NEMA will:

- a. Activate the SEOC and ESF-11, if not already activated
- b. Establish an appropriate Incident Command structure.
- c. Notify additional agencies for support.
- d. Advise the Governor's Office for the need for a State Emergency Proclamation, and to request a Presidential Declaration.
- e. Coordinates with local emergency manager, gathers information for analysis by NDA.
- f. Coordinate with other local, state, federal agencies.

- g. Establish a Joint Information Center (JIC), if not already activated.

The Governor will:

- a. Notify governors of surrounding states.
- b. Issue disaster proclamations.
- c. Consider the need for issuing a “Stop (People) Movement Order” (an embargo or import order).
- d. Monitor and assign state resources for import/export restrictions.

### III. LOCAL JURISDICTIONS

#### A. County with “High Suspicion” FAD – Local Emergency Manager

1. Is notified by NEMA.
2. May open the emergency operations center (EOC).
3. Reviews and readies to implement FAD section of the local emergency operations plan (LEOP) and Agricultural Monographs from NDA
4. Notifies local resources, such as local law enforcement.
5. Establishes site security.
6. Establishes access control points.
7. May establish cleaning, disinfecting and decontamination stations for vehicles and personnel; is advised by NDA and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ).
8. Prepares to support the identification and location of susceptible species throughout the county.
9. May notify the Chief Local Elected Officials and request a County Declaration.
10. Maintains activity log and tracks expenses.

#### B. County with “Confirmed FAD” – Local Emergency Manager

1. Activates EOC, reviews and implements LEOP and the appropriate Agricultural Monographs from NDA.
2. Activate county temporary animal housing locations.
3. Prepares to support the identification and location of susceptible species throughout the county.
4. Notifies Chief Elected Officials and asks for County Declaration.
5. Informs producers/processors through local network of University Extension agents.
6. Coordinates with Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) in support of mass care.
7. May request mutual aid from other counties.
8. Maintains activity log and tracks expenses.
9. Facilitates Law Enforcement and Fire Service to assist in quarantine, traffic control, cleaning and disinfection, and restricting access in/out of the area.

10. Confers with Nebraska State Patrol.

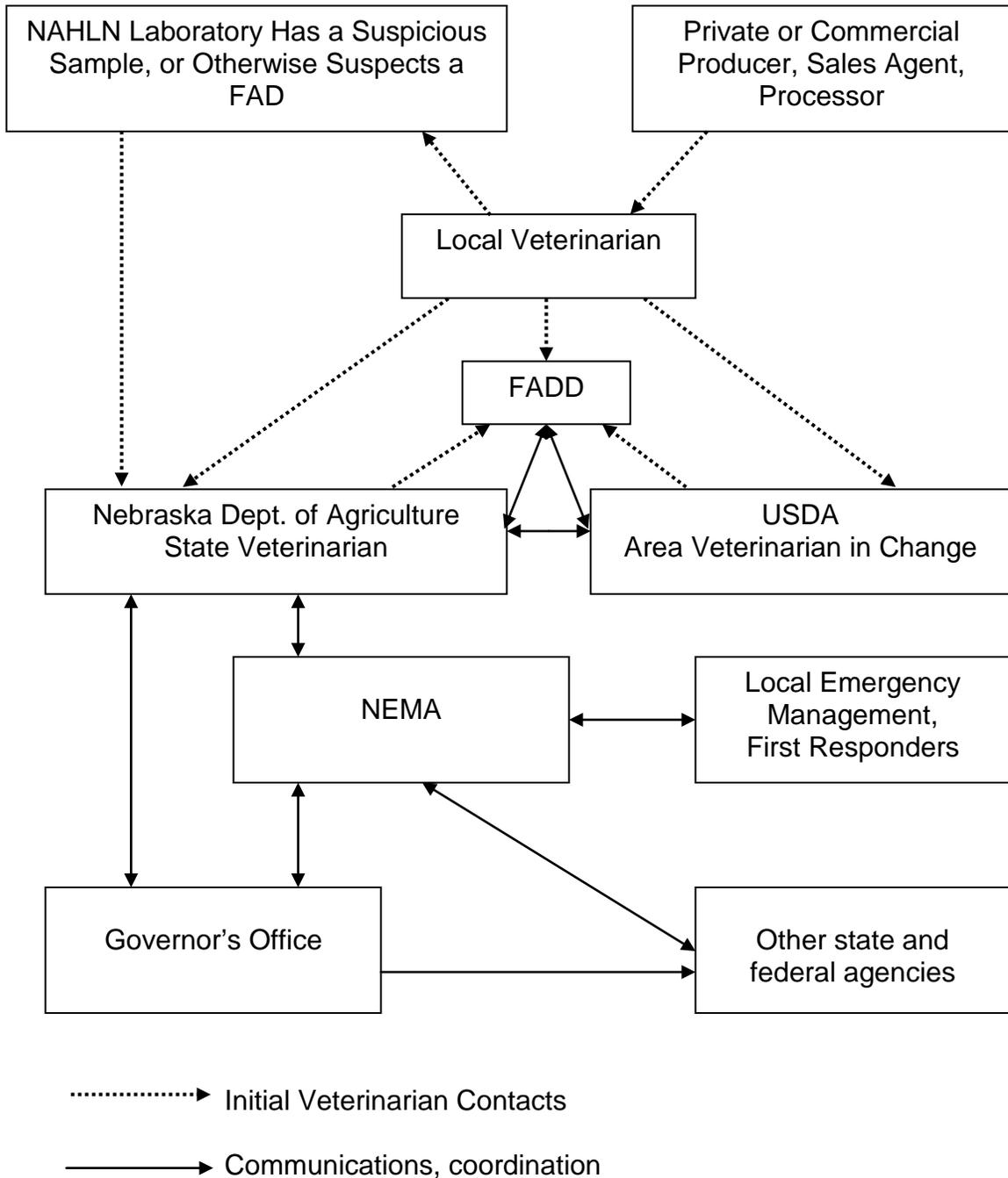
C. All Counties affected by a “Stop Movement Order” – (an embargo or import order) will:

1. Activate the county LEOP and appropriate NDA monographs.
2. May activate EOC.
3. Maintains activity log and tracks expenses.
4. Informs producers/processors through local network of University Extension agents.
5. Activate the county temporary animal holding areas.
6. Coordinate with local law enforcement regarding where animals are being held in the county.
7. Confers with Nebraska State Patrol.
8. Confirms with NEMA that “Stop (Animal) Order” is in effect.

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### AGRICULTURAL DISEASE INITIAL RESPONSE PLAN

#### Initial Phase: Suspected or Confirmed Contagious Animal Disease



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**ATTACHMENT 2  
POTENTIAL ANIMAL HOLDING AND DISPOSAL AREAS**

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**Potential Animal Holding Locations**

**Primary housing location for temporarily stopped livestock:**

- Gosper County Fairgrounds (Bruce Smith) (308) 325-5799  
Elwood, Nebraska

[A memorandum of understanding (MOU) for using Gosper County Fairground facilities is not needed since the property is owned by the county]

**Secondary locations:**

- Elwood Lake (Glen Monter) (308) 785-8104  
2 miles north of Elwood

[Need to establish a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for using facilities]

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**Potential Animal Disposal Locations**

For animals that are held in temporary housing locations, if it is determined that these animals need to be euthanized, the primary disposal method for these animals will be burial at a secondary location.

If it is not possible to properly dispose of the animals at the temporary housing locations (i.e., too close to water table, poor soils, high visibility) and it is necessary to move the animals to a different location for disposal, the euthanized animals will be moved to the following location:

**Secondary disposal location:**

- United State Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge  
4 miles southwest of Bertrand 308-263-3000
- Board of Education Land Fund (BELF) Brian Reynolds  
Need address or legal description 308-364-2224  
308-340-7143 (cell)

[Need to establish a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for using facilities]

Moving euthanized animals requires special equipment and practices to prevent disease spread. If the county needs to move these animals, it will be conducted according to the method prescribed by incident command.

The following county departments may assist with animal disposal activities:

- Gosper County Roads Department
- Gosper County Fire Department
- Gosper County Sheriff’s Department

Modifications to the disposal method and location may be made by incident command. If changes are made, the county will provide available support to accommodate these changes, as appropriate.

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**ATTACHMENT 3  
RESPONSE CALL-DOWN LISTS**

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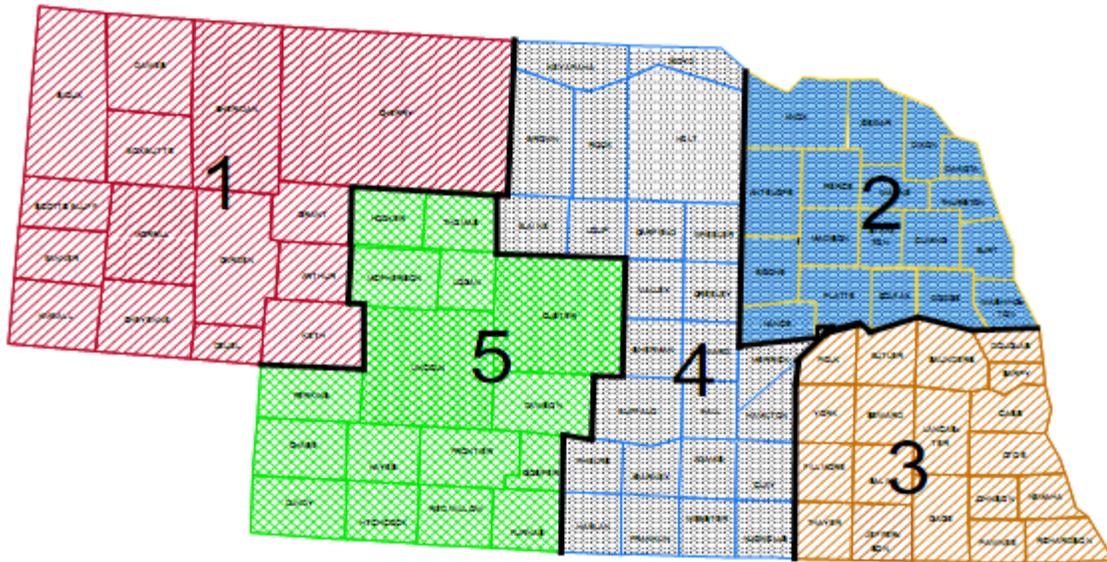
**GOSPER COUNTY  
AGRICULTURE EMERGENCY TASK CARD**

**SUPPORTING A FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASE DIAGNOSTICIAN**

- 1. Contact County Chairman:** Glen Monter (308) 785-8104 (h)
- Contact County Commissioner:** Terry Lerdall (308) 785-2151 (h)
- Contact County Commissioner:** Bruce Bader (308) 325-3962 (c)
- Contact Two Rivers Public Health:** Amy Elwood (308) 995-4778 (o), (308) 991-6416 (c)
- Contact Gosper County Sheriff:** Dennis Ocken (308) 785-2470 (o), (308) 325-5278 (c)
- Contact Region 15 Coordinator:** Patrick Gerdes (308) 995-2250 (o), (308) 991-2996 (c)
  
- 2. Identifying livestock and poultry locations in Gosper County:**
  - Cattle: Marshall Goodenberger (Elwood Vet Clinic) (308) 785-2722 (o)
  - Ron Huss (Lexington Livestock Market) (308) 324-4663 (o)
  - Robert Horton (NE Brand Inspector) (308) 928-2651 (o)
  - Gothenberg Livestock Market (308) 537-7188 (o)
  - Hogs: Nebraska Pork Partners (308) 497-2549 (o), (308) 358-0902 (o)
  - Elwood Steak Master (locker plant) (308) 785-2002 (o)
  - Goats/Sheep: Chuck Burr (UNL Extension) (308) 995-8046 (o), (308) 991-3064 (c)
  - Marshall Goodenberger (Elwood Vet Clinic) (308) 785-2722 (o)
  - Horses: Chuck Burr (UNL Extension) (308) 995-8046 (o), (308) 991-3064 (c)
  - Marshall Goodenberger (Elwood Vet Clinic) (308) 785-2722 (o)
  - Poultry: Chuck Burr (UNL Extension) (308) 995-8046 (o), (308) 991-3064 (c)
  - Marshall Goodenberger (Elwood Vet Clinic) (308) 785-2722 (o)
  - Livestock Markets:
    - Lexington Livestock Market (Ron Huss) (308) 324-4663 (o)
    - Gothenberg Livestock Market (308) 537-7188 (o)
  - Feed Stores: Shotkoski Hay Company (308) 324-4193 (o)
  - Kelly Gydesen (308) 785-3360 (h)
  - TNT Farm Service (308) 962-5343 (o)
  - USDA Farm Service Agency (Loren Vancura) (308) 785-3307 (o)
  - Univ. of Nebraska Extension (Chuck Burr) (308) 995-8046 (o), (308) 991-3064 (c)
  - Veterinarians:
    - Marshall Goodenberger, DVM (Elwood Vet Clinic) (308) 785-2722 (o)
    - Larry Marshall, DVM (Bertrand Vet Clinic) (308) 472-3218 (o)
  
- 3. Provide traffic control and quarantine support:**
  - County Sheriff's Department (Dennis Ocken) (308) 785-2470 (o), (308) 325-5278 (c)
  - Nebraska State Patrol (Troop D) (308) 535-8047 (o)
  
- 4. Provide cleaning and disinfection support:**
  - Red Willow Western Rural Fire Dist. (Bill Elliot) (308) 345-3450 (d), (308) 345-4333 (o)
  - County Fire Departments (Kevin Bullis) (308) 325-7816 (o)
  - [Elwood]

NE Department of Agriculture Nebraska State Veterinarian  
USDA Area-Veterinarian-in-Charge (AVIC)

(402) 471-2351  
(402) 434-2300



**Area Veterinarians**

- Dr. Richard Perry (Region 1) (308) 235-2479
- Dr. LeRoy Torkelson (Region 2) (402) 370-3440
- Dr. James Stuart (Region 3) (402) 873-3805
- Dr. William Meier (Region 4) (308) 946-9852
- Dr. Roy Schnell (Region 5) (308) 636-2366

**GOSPER COUNTY  
AGRICULTURE EMERGENCY TASK CARD**

**TEMPORARY AGRICULTURE MOVEMENT CONTROL ORDER**

- 1. Contact County Chairman:** Glen Monter (308) 785-8104 (h)
- Contact County Commissioner:** Terry Lerdall (308) 785-2151 (h)
- Contact County Commissioner:** Bruce Bader (308) 325-3962 (c)
- Contact Two Rivers Public Health:** Amy Elwood (308) 995-4778 (o), (308) 991-6416 (c)
- Contact Sheridan County Sheriff:** Dennis Ocken (308) 785-2470 (o), (308) 325-5278 (c)
- Contact Region 15 Coordinator:** Patrick Gerdes (308) 995-2250 (o)

**2. Primary housing location for temporarily stopped livestock:**

- Gosper County Fairgrounds Bruce Smith (308) 325-5799(c), (308) 785-2888 (h)

[A memorandum of understanding (MOU) is not needed because the property is owned by the county]

**3. Secondary locations:**

- Elwood Lake Central Nebraska PPD 308-995-8601 (o)

[A memorandum of understanding (MOU) needs to be established for the use of the above location in the event of an agriculture movement control order]

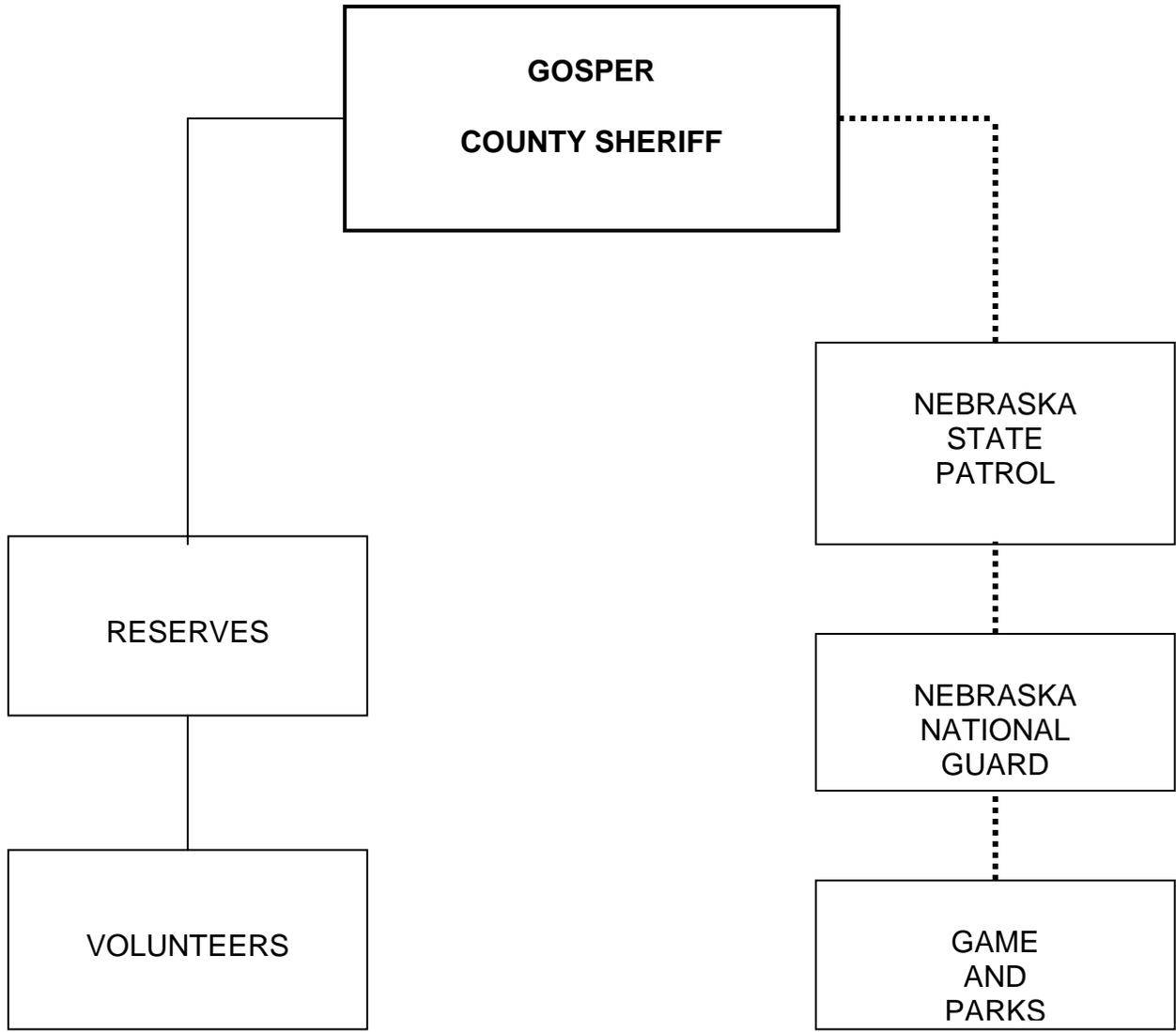
**4. Personnel for handling livestock:**

- All Species
  - Chuck Burr (UNL Extension) (308) 995-8046 (o), (308) 991-3064 (c)
  - Marshall Goodenberger (Elwood Vet Clinic) (308) 785-2722 (o)
- Veterinarians
  - Marshall Goodenberger, DVM (Elwood Vet Clinic) (308) 785-2722 (o)
  - Larry Marshall, DVM (Bertrand Vet Clinic) (308) 477-3218 (o)

**5. Equipment and supplies:**

- Panels, bunks, water tanks, fencing, etc.
    - Orschelns – Lexington, NE (308) 324-4231 (o)
    - Orschelns – Holdrege, NE (308) 995-8459 (o)
  - Portable chutes
    - Marshall Goodenberger, DVM (Elwood Vet Clinic) (308) 785-2722 (o)
    - Larry Marshall, DVM (Bertrand Vet Clinic) (308) 477-3218 (o)
  - Feed or bedding
    - Schotkoski Hay Company (308) 324-4193 (o)
    - Kelly Gydesen (308) 785-3360 (h)
    - TNT Farm Service (308) 962-5343 (o)
  - Water
    - County Fire Departments (308) 325-7816 (o)
    - [Elwood]
  - Air curtain destructors/incinerators for mortality disposal
    - NEMA (402) 471-7421 (duty officer)
  - Earthmoving equipment for mortality disposal
    - County Roads Department (Mike Snyder) (308) 785-3116 (o)
    - Leising Construction (Phil Leising) (308) 962-7612 (o)
- 6. Security patrols for animal housing area:**
- County Sheriff's Department (Dennis Ocken) (308) 785-2470 (o), (308) 325-5278 (c)
  - Nebraska State Patrol (Troop D) (308) 535-8047 (o)

# LAW ENFORCEMENT



————— CONTROL

..... COORDINATION AND SUPPORT

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

### I. PURPOSE

This Annex assigns responsibilities and provides coordination guidelines between the law enforcement agencies operating during disasters to ensure the safety of all citizens in Gosper County, maintain law and order, protect public and private property, and provide protection for essential industries, supplies, and facilities.

### II. SITUATION

During disasters, law enforcement agencies will need to expand their normal operations to provide increased control, protection, and security. Mutual aid, state and federal law enforcement agencies may be available to support local law enforcement. There is one law enforcement agencies in Gosper County (Attachment 1).

During threats or incidents of terrorism, the roles and responsibilities of the law enforcement agencies are detailed in Appendix 1 of this annex.

### III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

Local law enforcement activities will generally increase significantly during disaster operations. Additional law enforcement resources and services may be available through existing law enforcement agency mutual aid agreements. If local capabilities are overwhelmed, outside support may be obtained from state and federal law enforcement agencies. Areas that may require support are:

- A. Traffic and crowd control,
- B. Evacuation,
- C. Search and rescue operations,
- D. Security,
- E. Acts of terrorism or other federal crimes,
- F. Civil disobedience,

#### IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

The Gosper County Sheriff and city/village police departments are responsible for law enforcement within their respective jurisdictions. Troopers from the Nebraska State Patrol are available to support local law enforcement requirements. Nebraska National Guard units are available to provide support subsequent to a Governor's Disaster Proclamation. Jurisdictional law enforcement responsibilities are:

##### A. Gosper County Sheriff

1. Directs the Gosper County Sheriff's Office.
2. Coordinates search operations in rural areas.
3. Establishes mutual aid agreements with adjacent jurisdictions.
4. Coordinates evacuation procedures and special contingency planning with local law enforcement.
5. Maintains records of disaster related costs.

##### B. Nebraska State Patrol

1. Performs law enforcement activities within Gosper County in accordance with responsibilities assigned by State Statutes.
2. Participates in evacuation procedures and special contingency planning.
3. Maintains records of disaster related costs.
4. Coordinates the Nebraska State Patrol operations with Gosper County. The State Patrol may set up its Mobile Command Post, if needed.

C. Game and Parks provides law enforcement in state parks and recreation areas and may assist county law enforcement agencies.

##### D. Other Support:

1. Reserve/Auxiliary Training: The Gosper County Sheriff's Department currently does not have reserve law enforcement personnel.
2. Volunteers: if utilized, will assist law enforcement personnel as directed.
3. Nebraska National Guard: Under disaster emergency conditions proclaimed by the Governor, the National Guard assistance may be requested through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. Mission support provided to law enforcement includes:

- a. Security of disaster area.
- b. Search and rescue operations.
- c. Assisting Gosper County law enforcement resources during evacuation activities.
- d. Providing transportation and communications resources.
- e. Traffic management, including roadblocks.
- f. Providing aerial reconnaissance of disaster areas.
- g. Assisting with crowd control and riots.
- h. Providing support during acts of terrorism.

## V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

### A. General

Emergency law enforcement operations will be an expansion of normal operations and responsibilities. Each law enforcement agency is responsible for providing law enforcement for its jurisdiction. Upon request, they may assist in similar functions outside their jurisdictional area.

### B. Coordination

1. In an event involving a number of individual law enforcement agencies, it will be the responsibility of each agency chief to ensure that effective coordination and cooperation between agencies is accomplished.
2. If the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated, the affected jurisdiction's law enforcement chief will have the responsibility of advising and making recommendations to the Executive Group.

### C. Warning

Law enforcement personnel may support warning procedures by using emergency vehicles with sirens and public address systems to ensure notification of all residents in an affected area.

### D. Traffic and Crowd Control

Law enforcement agencies have the major responsibility of providing traffic and crowd control to ensure a safe and orderly evacuation of the disaster area.

1. Law enforcement units will be located at traffic control points on streets and roads designated as evacuation routes.
2. Where possible, evacuation routes will be confined to all-weather roads to provide easy accessibility and minimize the possible effects of inclement weather on evacuation operations.
3. Emergency routes will be designated as necessary. The law enforcement chief or the Executive Group will issue directives banning parking on emergency routes.
4. It is important to broadcast timely advice on the progress of the evacuation.
5. Spontaneous evacuation from the hazard area can be anticipated prior to an order for evacuation.

E. Security and Access Control

Individual jurisdictions will maintain regular security protection. Law enforcement personnel will establish and enforce policies and procedures for movement in restricted disaster areas.

1. Security

- a. Security will be provided by the law enforcement agency having primary jurisdiction.
- b. A security guard may be posted to prohibit unauthorized personnel from entering the EOC.
- c. The Chief Executive may declare a curfew.
- d. Law enforcement personnel will provide security for emergency response forces during disaster operations and establish a secure cordon around the disaster site(s).

2. Access Control

- a. Members of the EOC Staff will coordinate emergency worker identification requirements with law enforcement officials.
- b. Access Control Points will be used to manage access to the disaster area.
- c. Other than immediate response emergency personnel, entry into a disaster area will be controlled by a pass system.

- d. If a segment of the population is evacuated, control points will be established on routes providing access to the evacuated area. Operational responsibility will be coordinated among the various law enforcement agencies.

### 3. Passes and Identification

- a. Gosper County Emergency Management personnel will provide local government emergency response identification cards/passes. Possession of this card permits full-time entry into restricted disaster areas.
- b. The Emergency Management Director will determine the need and issue volunteers identification cards/passes.
- c. No village employees are issued permanent identification cards.
- d. Local government personnel not issued permanent identification cards will be issued the cards on a temporary, as-needed basis by the appropriate law enforcement agency in coordination with the Emergency Management Director.
- e. Media personnel within the county are provided with identification cards by their individual agencies. Except for unusual circumstances, these identification cards will be recognized for entry into restricted areas.

### F. Search Coordination

Law enforcement officials are responsible for the coordination of search efforts involving:

1. Lost or missing persons,
2. Fugitives,
3. Bomb threats.

### G. Extended Disaster Operations

1. All law enforcement personnel in Gosper County may go on full time status with 12-hour shifts to maintain a 24-hour capability. An exception will be individuals who are considered by the Executive Group to be key personnel in other areas.
2. Mutual aid information may be coordinated through the EOC by the law enforcement chiefs.

#### H. Damage Assessment

Law enforcement agencies will support damage assessment by providing an initial definition of the disaster area. They will maintain security of all the damaged areas and the essential facilities. This may include cordoning the disaster site.

#### I. Radioactive Materials Incident/Accident

Each law enforcement chief should select personnel to be trained in both radiological monitoring equipment operation and agency emergency response procedures.

#### J. Hazardous Materials Incident

In the event of a hazardous materials incident, the Sheriff, each Police Chief, and the Troop Commander, Nebraska State Patrol will ensure that personnel are selected and trained to respond in accordance with the standards set by their agency in compliance with OSHA and EPA regulations.

#### K. Prisoners

1. On a day-to-day basis, the jail population of Gosper County is transported to and confined in Lexington, Nebraska. The facility has the capability to house several prisoners. If a need arose to temporarily control a group of riotous or rowdy persons exceeding the capacity of the jail facility, the County Sheriff would be responsible for selecting a temporary control area.
2. The protection or evacuation of the prisoner population is the responsibility of the jurisdiction. If prisoners need to be re-located, they will be moved to the Phelps County Justice Center Jail Facility in Holdrege. The Jail Facility in Curtis will be used if additional space is needed.
3. Transportation requirements will be coordinated through Gosper County Sheriff's Office. Law enforcement vehicles will normally be used.

#### L. Animal Control/Pet Disaster Planning

Policies for animal control will be determined by the Gosper County Sheriff's Office working with an area Humane Society or a local veterinary clinic or local animal care volunteers. The evacuation, sheltering, care of sick and injured and the final disposition of loose domestic, zoo, pet store, school and kenneled animals will be the responsibility of these organizations when the owners cannot be contacted. Contact the NE Department of Agriculture and/or the NE Department of Environmental Quality for specific processes of disposing of large numbers or large animals, such herds of cattle. Contact NE Game and Parks for advice on the handling or disposal of displaced or injured wild animals.

During sheltering situations, Red Cross disaster shelters do not accept pets because of the state’s health and safety regulations. Service animals, such as guide dogs or trained companion animals, that assist people with disabilities are the only animals allowed in Red Cross shelters. Attachment 2 describes pet owners’ responsibilities during a disaster.

VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Plan Maintenance

The Emergency Management Director, in coordination with law enforcement, is responsible for annual review and update of this Annex.

VII. TRAINING AND EXERCISING

A. Training

The training program will be consistent with the five year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

B. Exercising

1. All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).
2. Law enforcement personnel will participate in exercises designed to examine the feasibility of this Gosper County Local Emergency Operating Plan.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

<u>Attachment #</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Law Enforcement Resources	H-9
 <u>Appendix</u>		
1	Terrorism	H-11

## GOSPER COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT RESOURCES

RESOURCES	SHERIFF DEPT	NEBRASKA STATE PATROL	GAME & PARKS
Sheriff	1		
Deputies	3		
Police Chief			
Assistant Chief			
Officers		1	1
Troopers			
Reserves			
Total	4	1	1
Vehicles with radios	4	1	1
Mobile Command Vehicle			

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## TERRORISM

### I. PURPOSE

#### A. Introduction:

1. In February 2003, the White House issued Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5), "Management of Domestic Incidents," to enhance the ability to manage domestic incidents by establishing a single, comprehensive national incident management system.
2. In December 2003, the White House issued Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8 (HSPD-8), "National Preparedness," to strengthen prevention to, preparedness for, and response and recovery to threatened or actual domestic terrorist attacks, major disasters and other emergencies by requiring a national domestic all-hazards preparedness goal and outlining other actions to assist preparedness.
3. Terrorism, as defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation is the unlawful use of force against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof in furtherance of political or social objectives. It must incorporate all four of these elements before an incident is considered to be an act of terrorism.

#### B. Purpose Of This Appendix:

1. To provide guidelines for assessing threats and reducing a community's vulnerability to terrorism.
2. To assist in developing a comprehensive and integrated plan for local governments to work in cooperation with state and federal agencies in responding to and managing the "crisis" of terrorism, including the use of nuclear, biological, chemical, and other weapons of mass destruction (WMD).
3. To provide guidance in coordinating "consequence" recovery activities in the community after a terrorist incident.

### II. SITUATION

#### A. Scope Of This Appendix:

1. This Appendix applies to all threats or acts of terrorism within Gosper County and to the departments/agencies that may be required to respond to a threat or act of terrorism.
2. This Appendix builds upon concepts already addressed in this Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) to respond to and recover from a broad

spectrum of hazards, but it will also address unique actions necessary to respond to a terrorist act.

- a. On the local level, initial response will be by local authorities, using an Incident Management System in accordance with HSPD-5.
- b. When the incident becomes identified as a terrorist act or there is a credible threat, the State may request Federal assistance in accordance with HSPD-8.

B. Conditions:

1. Concern or an actual threat of terrorism may prompt precautionary measures. A credible threat scenario will initiate a threat assessment led by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
2. Significant threat or act of terrorism will cause a response as described in this Appendix.

III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

- A. All communities are vulnerable to acts of terrorism.
- B. Terrorist events may occur with little or no warning and involve one or more of a variety of tactics to include WMD, bombing, hostage taking, etc.
- C. The fact that an emergency situation was a result of a terrorist act may not be determined until days, weeks, or months after the event has occurred.
- D. The local Emergency Management organization is based on a broad, functionally oriented, multi-hazard approach to disasters that can be quickly and effectively integrated with all levels of government.
- E. No single agency at the local, state, federal, or private level possesses the expertise to act unilaterally in response to threats/acts of terrorism, particularly if weapons of mass destruction are involved.
- F. Terrorism against a large population may overwhelm local and state government almost immediately; major events involving WMD may overwhelm federal capabilities as well.
- G. If protective capabilities are not available, responders cannot be required to put their own lives at risk in order to enter a perimeter contaminated with nuclear, biological, or chemical (NBC) material. It is possible that the perimeter will be closed until the effects of the NBC material have degraded to levels that are safe for first responders.

#### IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

##### A. Hazardous Analysis:

Emergency Management, in coordination with law enforcement and any other appropriate agencies, should conduct a Hazards Analysis to identify facilities/individuals, essential services, and activities that might be at risk from terrorism.

##### B. Initial Response To Terrorism:

1. Once it is suspected or determined that the incident may have been a result of a terrorist act, the following agencies will be notified:
  - a. Federal Bureau of Investigation
  - b. Nebraska State Patrol,
  - c. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency,
2. In responding to any terrorist event in a local community, the Incident Management System (IMS) will be utilized to effectively organize and integrate the various disciplines into one multi-functional organization.
3. The local Emergency Management organization will provide the framework under which local resources will be coordinated and deployed to support response efforts; EM will also be responsible for coordinating recovery efforts from a terrorist incident.

##### C. Site Assessment:

1. The area will be quickly evaluated in terms of responder safety and public health in order to identify the need to implement protective actions.
2. The need for protective equipment by response personnel will be assessed.
3. Evacuation or in-place protection of the general population in the affected area will be determined.
4. When a secondary device is suspected or discovered, the area must be evacuated immediately.
5. Security and access control measures in and around the disaster site will be implemented immediately by first responders to ensure public and responder safety as well as facilitate response and recovery initiatives.

6. Local law enforcement will immediately begin working with all responders to ensure that the crime scene is preserved to the maximum extent possible.

D. Beyond Local Capability:

Response to a terrorist event will involve multiple jurisdictions and levels of government. Upon arrival of state and federal resources at the local scene, response and recovery operations will be structured to include federal, state and local representation.

E. Command Structure:

The Unified Command (UC) will incorporate multi-levels of response similar to the Incident Management System already functioning at the local level. Members of UC are jointly responsible for the development of objectives, priorities, and an overall strategy to effectively address the situation.

F. Unified Command:

1. All agencies involved in emergency response in the field report to one Unified Command Post and follow one Incident Action Plan (IAP).
2. Factors determining agencies responding will be:
  - a. The terrorist tactics employed,
  - b. The challenges presented by the scope and nature of the incident,
  - c. The target group involved,
  - d. The response and recovery capabilities of the community impacted.
3. The Operations Section Chief, designated by the Unified Commander, will be responsible for the implementation of the Incident Action Plan. The designation of the Operations Section Chief is based on a variety of factors that may include such things as:
  - a. Existing statutory authority,
  - b. Which agency has the most involvement for that operational period?
  - c. The amount of resources involved,
  - d. Mutual knowledge of the individual's qualifications.
4. As the terrorism event unfolds, local Emergency Management and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will each conduct operations at their respective Emergency Operations Centers. Procedures for

coordination between local and state agencies will be maintained as in any other disaster.

5. Local representatives may be requested to serve in the Joint Operations Center structure as established by the FBI.

G. Joint Operations Center:

The FBI Field Office responsible for the incident site can modify its Command Post to function as a Joint Operations Center (JOC). Selected local, state, and federal Consequence Management agencies may be requested to serve in three areas at the JOC:

1. Command Group (multi-agency),
2. Support Group (media – public information functions),
3. Consequence Management Group (liaisons).

H. Technical Support

1. Once federal authorities have been notified of a suspected, threatened, or actual terrorist incident, both the FBI and FEMA can request federal agencies to support operations. These agencies/teams will be comprised of members who have the technical expertise to deal with a full range of terrorist tactics to include nuclear, biological, and chemical incidents.
  - a. The FBI may deploy a Domestic Emergency Support Team (DEST) to provide expert advice/assistance to the on-scene commander in the event of a major terrorism event.
  - b. FEMA can activate a Catastrophic Disaster Response Group (CDRG), rapidly deploy an Emergency Support Team (EST) to the scene, and/or request response of federal agencies that have been assigned duties under the functions of the Federal Response Plan.
2. Local and state specialized teams (i.e., hazardous materials, crime narcotics, gang, hostage, etc.) who have skills and equipment to support these operations will assist federal teams, as directed.

I. Preserving The Crime Scene:

1. Because of the nature of terrorist acts involving a variety of tactics, law enforcement personnel will work with other responders to:
  - a. Preserve the crime scene while developing strategies to protect response personnel,

- b. Carry out life-saving actions,
  - c. Implement necessary protective actions,
  - d. Define and contain the hazard.
2. First responders become potential witnesses, investigators, and sources of intelligence in support of the crime scene investigation. As such, they should be trained in looking at all incidents as a potential crime scene that may provide evidence in determining the cause of the event and in identifying the responsible parties. First responders will have to review and modify their response procedures to ensure that the crime scene can be preserved to the extent possible without compromising functional responsibilities or standards of service.

J. Accessibility Policies:

1. Once the life-saving activities and investigation of the crime scene are completed and the area is considered safe, the area will be made accessible to damage assessment teams, restoration teams, property owners, insurance adjusters, media, etc. However, access to the area may still be limited depending on the extent of damage sustained, general conditions of the area, and who is requesting access.
2. Accessibility and reentry policies will be developed in cooperation with the appropriate local, state, and federal officials. Policies will define:
  - a. Who will be given access to the damaged areas?
  - b. Any time restrictions regarding access,
  - c. Whether escorts will be necessary,
  - d. What protective equipment will be required, if any, to enter the area.
3. Methods to facilitate identification and accountability of emergency workers, media, property owners, insurance adjusters, etc. will also be developed for safety and security purposes, utilizing some system of colored badges, name tags, arm bands, etc. Security personnel will be responsible for enforcing these policies and procedures.
4. Areas on site that pose a potential hazard or risk will be identified and cordoned off with the appropriate isolation and warning devices.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Procedures that are unique in responding to a terrorist act include:

1. Law Enforcement, lead by the FBI, is responsible for the definition of the perimeter, control of access to the area, investigation of the crime and the collection of physical evidence.
2. Fire Service is responsible for fire suppression, search and rescue and hazardous materials response to the level of their training and equipment. See Annex F.
3. Emergency Medical is responsible for triage, treatment and transport of victims. See Annex G.
4. Public Works is responsible for debris removal, utilities, and to aid in traffic management. See Annex K.
5. Emergency Management is responsible for coordinating public information, damage assessment, sheltering, volunteer coordination, human services, and resource management.

## VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

### A. Records:

All agencies will maintain records of their expenses incurred in response and recovery activities to a terrorism event.

### B. Training:

Emergency Management training for response and recovery to terrorism is available to jurisdictions by contacting the Training Office at the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency in Lincoln.

### C. Exercising:

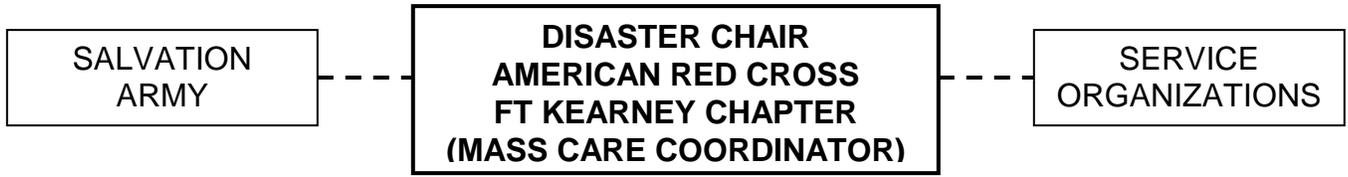
After the planning and training elements on counter-terrorism have been completed, an exercise addressing potential threats in the community should be conducted.

### D. Annex Maintenance:

The Gosper County Emergency Management Director will be responsible for maintenance and improvement of this Appendix. The Appendix will be reviewed and updated as necessary but not less than annually.

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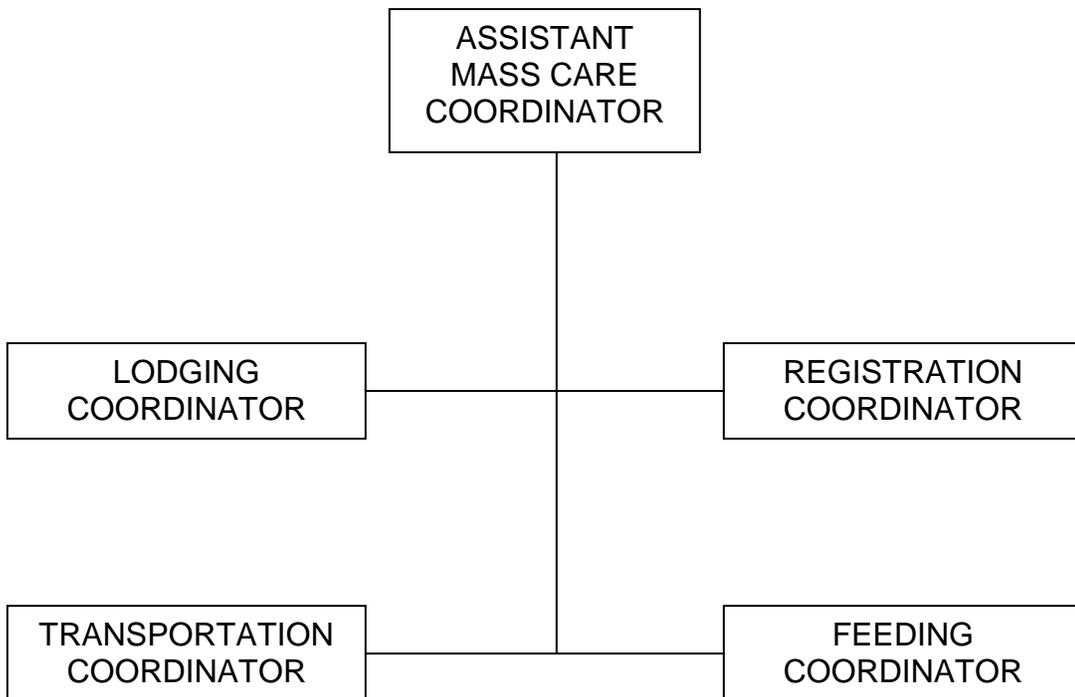
# MASS CARE



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## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION



## MASS CARE

### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Annex is to establish plans, procedures, policy and guidelines for providing temporary lodging, feeding, and the general welfare of forced to leave their homes due to any kind of emergency, disaster or precautionary evacuation.

### II. SITUATION

- A. Within Gosper County numerous hazards have been identified that could cause an evacuation of some portion of the county, see Annex E. Although the county has a resident population of approximately 2,143 there is no conceivable hazard that would require mass care of the full population. The most likely situations would be from a few families displaced to as many as 500 people displaced by a fire, tornado, or hazardous materials.
- B. Transient populations, tourists or travelers, needing mass care could be motorists stranded due to a sudden blizzard or the overnight occupants of the nearby motel/hotel beds should an accident or disaster cause their evacuation. Motel facilities are located along Highway 283 in Elwood.
- C. The Emergency Manager or the Red Cross has identified buildings suitable to lodge or feed evacuees. See Attachment 1.

### III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

- A. The Central Plains Chapter of the American Red Cross in Grand Island will manage and coordinate mass care operations. Gosper County and local government will support all mass care activities, particularly as the requirements become greater and the Red Cross nears its limit in resources. The public health agencies are responsible for the care and sheltering of those with special needs, at-risk and/or populations with extraordinary health support requirements.
- B. Other professional and volunteer organizations, which normally respond to disaster situations, will do so.
- C. Assistance from outside the county through mutual aid agreements and from state and federal level emergency oriented agencies may be available.
- D. Facilities planned for mass care use will be available at the time of need. Lodging facility capacities are based on 40 - 60 square feet per space.

- E. Experience has shown that under localized emergency conditions, a high percentage (50 percent or more) of evacuees will seek shelter with friends or relatives rather than go to established shelters.
- F. Essential public and private services will be continued during a mass care situation. Normal activities in some schools and churches may have to be curtailed or discontinued.
- G. If the threat of an evacuation is due to a visible hazard or has been discussed in the media, some spontaneous evacuation will occur prior to an implementing order. Therefore, mass care operations may have to commence early in any disaster period.

#### IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

The ultimate responsibility for the care of evacuees in Gosper County rests with local governments. In most emergencies, some level of government support will be required. The appropriate City/Village Emergency Management Director with the support of the Gosper County Emergency Management Director will act for their jurisdictions in coordinating mass care activities until the Red Cross can respond.

##### A. Emergency Management Directors:

The Emergency Management Director or designee will be responsible for identifying appropriate lodging and feeding facilities, coordinating utilization of transportation resources, supporting registration of evacuees, and overseeing lodging and feeding operations. Depending on the magnitude of mass care requirements, the Emergency Management Director may appoint additional mass care staff.

##### B. Central Plains Chapter, American Red Cross (ARC):

The Central Plains Chapter of the American Red Cross in Grand Island will carry-out the Mass Care coordination function. The nature and scope of the emergency will determine specific actions to be taken by the Red Cross, but in any case, the Red Cross will be responsible for carrying out its mandated responsibilities as indicated in the Act of Congress, January 5, 1905, as amended, 36 U.S.C. The Red Cross will not assume responsibility for government functions but will support state and local government and will provide assistance to individuals and families as indicated and within the realm of existing Red Cross disaster relief policies. Red Cross will coordinate registration of evacuees, shelter, feeding and other support as the situation may indicate. The Red Cross will be responsible for only those costs committed by its authorized representative.

C. Supporting Organizations:

1. The Salvation Army and other disaster relief organizations may support mass care operations as provided for in their plans and procedures.
2. The USDA County Emergency Board (CEB) maintains a listing of food, feed, and seed facilities located within the county which may be of assistance for mass care operations.
3. The public health agencies will address special health care requirements of the evacuees.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. American Red Cross Functions:

The Central Plains Chapter of the American Red Cross will manage lodging and mass feeding operations. They will work with the Emergency Management Director to ensure effective coordination of resources. Red Cross activities will be in accordance with the current ARC Disaster Guidelines and Procedures Series - ARC 3000.

1. Temporary Sheltering: When shelter facilities are opened by the Red Cross, it will be the responsibility of the Red Cross to maintain all functions and staffing according to Red Cross policy. Some functions will be to:
  - a. Provide shelter managers,
  - b. Select shelter sites in coordination with the Emergency Management Director and have a signed shelter agreement between ARC and the facility management,
  - c. Provide food service,
  - d. Provide disaster health service through Red Cross staff in cooperation with the Emergency Medical Services and the Public Health Coordinators. Services may include first aid, replacement of medication, immunizations, mental health services, etc.,
  - e. Maintain records,
  - f. Staff Lodging,
  - g. Maintain Red Cross shelter identity,

- h. Maintain order,
  - i. Provide evacuee locator and welfare inquiry services, especially for lost, missing or displaced children. Additional help from other local social services or volunteer agencies may be available.
  - j. Establish first aid stations in reception and care facilities, as necessary.
  - k. Shelter managers will maintain communications with the EOC and brief the EOC at scheduled times about the numbers housed, fed, status of supplies, condition of facility and other concerns affecting those being sheltered.
  - l. Shelter managers and agencies will coordinate with the EOC during the development of plans for and the initiation of shelter closings.
  - m. During the registration of evacuees at a shelter, those with special needs will be identified, protecting the individual's privacy, and a coordinated effort with the Red Cross and Public Health agencies, appropriate sheltering and care will be identified.
2. Feeding: As needed, meals and snacks will be provided to evacuees and workers through both mobile units and fixed feeding sites. Red Cross will be responsible for meal planning, coordination of mobile feeding, identifying feeding sites and resources for the procurement of food and related supplies. Some specific functions will be to:
- a. Select feeding sites in coordination with the Emergency Management Director,
  - b. Request health inspections through the Public Health Coordinator,
  - c. Procure food and supplies,
  - d. Maintain records and reports,
  - e. Provide and maintain mobile feeding units.
3. Registration: The Red Cross will register evacuees, and as applicable, will share the numbers with appropriate government agencies concerning evacuees housed in Red Cross shelters.

B. Salvation Army Functions:

The Salvation Army at Kearney may provide the following support during mass care operations.

1. Registration and identification of victims, missing persons services, locating individuals and answering inquiries from concerned relatives and families outside the disaster area.
2. Temporary shelter in the Salvation Army Citadel.
3. Mass feeding in Salvation Army temporary facilities assigned for that purpose.
4. Mobile feeding, hot meals or snacks, for disaster victims and emergency workers at the disaster scene.

C. Lodging/Feeding Facilities:

1. Facility List: Attachment 1 is the list of available lodging/feeding facilities.
2. Selection: The designation of specific lodging and feeding facilities will depend on the actual situation and the location of the hazard area. Selected facilities will be located far enough from the hazard area so that there is no possibility of the threat extending to the mass care facility. The best possible facilities will be selected from the list in Attachment 1 or from lists maintained by the Red Cross.
3. Agreements: The Red Cross has agreements to use facilities in the county. The Emergency Management Director will obtain permission from owners to use other facilities as required.
4. Special Needs: Selection and operations of temporary lodging facilities for institutionalized or special needs groups (nursing homes, hospitals, etc.) will be coordinated with those organizations to ensure the facilities are adequate.

D. Implementation:

Provisions of this plan concerning mass care will be implemented as soon as a need for temporary sheltering or feeding is noted. While a coordinated government/Red Cross decision is desirable, the Red Cross may independently activate their operations.

1. Preparedness Phase: communications will be established with all agencies. Essential personnel, including volunteers, will be alerted and required

material resources (cots, blankets, food, etc.) located and prepositioned, if necessary.

2. Response Phase: In the event of a major disaster, actions for the reception of evacuees, including the opening the Registration Center and selected lodging/feeding facilities, will begin.

E. Registration of Evacuees:

Registration will be conducted at the designated lodging facilities in accordance with Red Cross procedures. If it is necessary for shelters to be opened before the Red Cross is available to begin registration, local officials may make copies of the registration form, Attachment 2, to begin the process. During the registration process, individuals, with medical or other incapacitating conditions that may require more services than the Red Cross can provide, will be identified so that the appropriate placement and care can be provided to the individual.

F. Welfare Inquiries:

The Red Cross may establish a Disaster Welfare Inquiry Operation to answer requests from relatives and friends concerning the safety and welfare of evacuees or those in disaster areas. Incoming and outgoing traffic will generally be handled by the Heartland Amateur Radio Club and the Civil Air Patrol. Local volunteer groups in Gosper County will conduct welfare search missions. Welfare inquiry listings, along with registration listings, will be coordinated with the EOC and law enforcement agencies for comparison with missing persons lists.

G. Emergency Public Information:

The American Red Cross and the Emergency Management Director will coordinate with the Public Information Officer to ensure that the public is kept informed about location of mass care facilities, places of contact for missing relatives, and continued emergency services.

H. Resource Support:

The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will determine transportation and other resource needs and coordinate utilization of resources. The Emergency Management Director maintains a resource directory.

VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

- A. The Red Cross will maintain records of all expenses incurred by their mass care activities. The Executive Group will ensure that adequate records of local government expenses are maintained.
- B. The Red Cross offers training in Shelter Operation Workshop and Disaster Welfare Inquiry Operations and will provide these trained persons for disaster operations when requested by the Region 15 Emergency Management Director.

VII. TRAINING AND EXERCISING

A. Training:

The training program will be consistent with the five-year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

B. Exercising:

All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

<u>Attachment</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Listing of Mass Care Facilities	I-9
2	Sample Registration Form	I-11

## MASS CARE FACILITIES

Village of Elwood

Facility	Address	Point Of Contact	Phone Number	Lodging Capability (numbers)	Feeding Capability (numbers)	Usage Agreement Date
Elwood School	514 1 <sup>st</sup> Ave.	Rich Einspahr	308-785-2491	1400	1400	
Sr. Citizen Center	422 Ripley		308-785-2500	312	312	
American Legion	150 Rockford		308-785-9972 or 308-785-2141	248	248	
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	718 Smith Ave		308-785-2875	150	150	

Village of Smithfield

Facility	Address	Point Of Contact	Phone Number	Lodging Capability (numbers)	Feeding Capability (numbers)	Usage Agreement Date
St. John's Catholic Church	350 Niobrara	Father Lux	308-995-4590	69	0	

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**REGISTRATION FORM FOR EVACUEES ASSIGNED TO  
CONGREGATE CARE HOUSING/VOLUNTEER HOMES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date In

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Out

1		
(Name-Head of Household)	(Age)	(Sex)
2		
(Spouse)	(Age)	(Sex)
3		
(Family Member)	(Age)	(Sex)
4	(Continue On Back If Needed)	
(Family Member)	(Age)	(Sex)
5		
(Home Address)		(Telephone #)
6		
(Special Physical/Medical Requirements)		
7	8	
(Assigned Housing)	(Assigned Feeding)	
9		
(Volunteer Home-Name & Address)		
10		
NOTIFY IN EMERGENCY	(Address)	(Telephone #)

**REGISTRATION FORM FOR EVACUEES NOT HOUSED  
IN CONGREGATE CARE HOUSING  
(HOUSED WITH FRIENDS/RELATIVES/MOTELS/ETC.)**

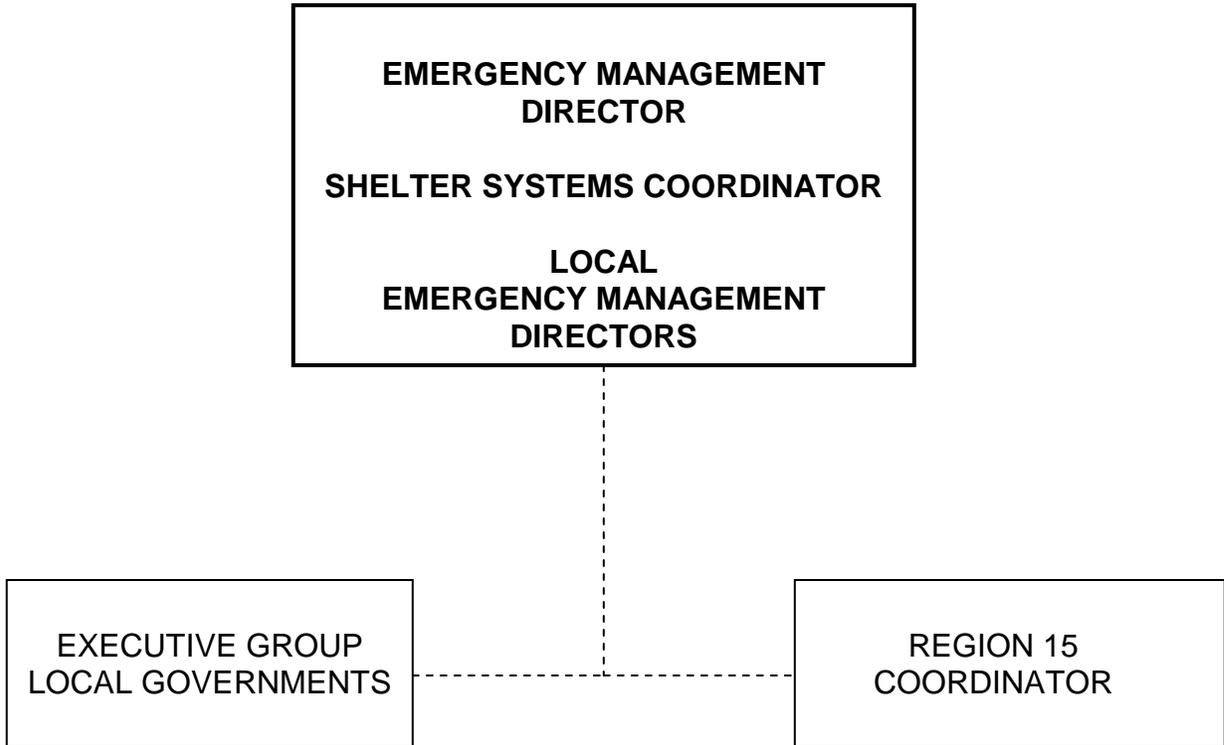
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date In

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Out

1		
(Name-Head of Household)	(Age)	(Sex)
2		
(Spouse)	(Age)	(Sex)
3		
(Family Member)	(Age)	(Sex)
4	(Continue On Back If Needed)	
(Family Member)	(Age)	(Sex)
5		
(Home Address)		(Telephone #)
6		
(Special Physical/Medical Requirements)		
7		
(Assigned Feeding-if Applicable)		
8		
(Name of Friend/Relative/Hotel)	(Address)	(Telephone #)
9		
NOTIFY IN EMERGENCY	(Address)	(Telephone #)

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# PROTECTIVE SHELTER



## PROTECTIVE SHELTER

### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Annex is to outline procedures necessary for the protective sheltering of Gosper County citizens and transients if severe weather, nuclear crisis, or other hazardous events make it necessary.

### II. SITUATION

- A. Tornadoes are the most severe natural event impacting the county and its communities.
- B. There are no known public buildings identified as public tornado shelters.
- C. Although not specifically identified as tornado shelters, there are enough public buildings in the urban areas to provide protection for that segment of the public not at home when a tornado warning is received. These buildings will generally be open during daytime "working" hours.
- D. There are other natural phenomena identified in the hazard analysis, which, while posing a potential threat, would require minimal, if any, protective shelter.

### III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

- A. There will be sufficient warning and time for people to find shelter.
- B. Buildings identified as protective shelters will be available at the time of need.
- C. Buildings identified as shelters are ADA compliant.
- D. Severe weather protective actions will be short term, spontaneous, and consist primarily of a relatively small sector of the county residents seeking immediate shelter. Minimal governmental action will be required.

### IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

#### A. Organization:

Protective sheltering programs in the various communities may be carried out by the Region 15 Emergency Management Director assisted by local Emergency Management Directors.

B. Responsibilities:

On-going shelter preparations activities include the:

1. Inspection and selection of potential shelter sites, assuring that the facilities can support special needs individuals, including non-English speaking persons.
2. Maintaining the current listing and usage agreements for shelter facilities,
3. Maintain current listings of shelter resources needed (i.e., supplies, equipment, material, staff).

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Tornado Warning:

In providing protection from tornadoes or any other violent weather phenomena, these are the actions that should happen:

1. When the weather conditions that produce tornadoes are recognized, the National Weather Service will issue a tornado WATCH. If the WATCH area includes Gosper County, or any portion of the county, that information will be transmitted to the public by both radio and television. During a tornado WATCH condition, people can continue their normal activities.
2. If a tornado is indicated by radar or actually sighted, then a tornado WARNING will be issued. The WARNING will include:
  - a. The location where the tornado has been sighted,
  - b. The tornado's estimated speed and the general direction of movement,
  - c. A time span during which the tornado poses an actual threat.
3. When a tornado WARNING is issued, people in the threatened area should immediately seek shelter and remain there until the WARNING period has expired and no further WARNINGS have been issued. A WARNING period could be extended because:
  - a. The existing tornado may persist for a longer period than originally estimated, or
  - b. There may be additional sightings.

B. Tornado Shelter Policies/Actions:

The Region 15 Emergency Management Director, in coordination with the Public Information Officer, will ensure that the public is made aware of the basic policies/actions they should use for protection. These policies/actions are:

1. People seeking shelter in public buildings will remain in the safest area of the building, generally the basement. If there is no basement, small span rooms close to the center of the building on the lowest floor will provide protection.
2. People outdoors on foot or in vehicles should immediately go to the nearest building that appears to be capable of providing protection.
3. People in homes should stay in the homes seeking shelter in the safest area. The basement usually offers the greatest protection. If there is no basement, a room in the center of the house, such as a bathroom, will provide the best protection.
4. Mobile homes, even those that are "tied down", provide practically no protection from extremely high winds and/or tornado activity. During a tornado WATCH or WARNING, mobile home residents at home should immediately take shelter in the nearest tornado shelter.
5. People living in rural areas should seek shelter in their homes or storm cellars if available.
6. People in vehicles should not try to outrun a tornado. Generally it is best to leave the vehicle and seek shelter in a ditch or culvert. If this is done, there is a need to be alert to the danger of flash flooding from the rainfall that usually accompanies tornado conditions. It is not safe to park under an interstate or highway underpass.
7. People congregated in large open area activities should, if during daytime, go to the nearest building area for protection, or, if at night, go to buildings that are open or to their homes.
8. Rural residents attending open area activities such as sporting events or the county fair should not attempt to drive home unless the direction of travel is absolutely certain to take them away from the known tornado area. Even then, severe weather phenomena usually accompanying a tornado condition could pose a severe driving hazard. Urban residents are encouraged to provide shelter in their homes if public buildings are not open.
9. At night, people in public buildings, such as theaters, restaurants, recreational facilities, auditoriums, and school should remain in the building and seek protection in what is thought to be the safest area of the building, generally, a basement. If there is no basement, small span rooms close to

the center of the building on the main floor will provide protection. Avoid large, wide span rooms, corridors with exterior doors, and rooms with many windows.

10. Special Population Groups:

- a. Schools: When schools are in session, school children, teachers, and staff should respond as directed by an existing school disaster/tornado plan. If there is no specific plan, teachers will gather the students in the most solid area of the school structure such as rest rooms or interior corridors without exterior openings. Do not use large span rooms such as auditoriums, gymnasiums, or corridors that do have exterior openings and rooms with windows. If the school structure does not have protective capability and time permits, school children should be moved to the nearest structure that would provide protection.
- b. Hospitals and Nursing homes: Ambulatory patients should be moved to the area of the building providing the best protection such as the basement or small span, interior rooms on the main floor. Use the best methods available to protect patients who cannot be moved.
- c. Recreation Areas: Visitors to area's recreation facilities should respond to a tornado warning in accordance with the current safety plan for those facilities.

C. Hazardous Materials Incident:

In the event of a HazMat spill or accident, it is sometimes safer to keep affected citizens inside with doors and windows closed. A warning should be given to:

1. Move inside,
2. Close all doors, windows, dampers, fans,
3. Shut off all ventilation, heating and air conditioner systems,
4. Move to a small room and seal the door and windows with plastic and tape, and
5. Tune your radio to the EAS station.

VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Administration:

1. Public Tornado Shelters: The Gosper County Emergency Management Director will maintain a current listing of identified shelters. The listing will be

periodically reviewed to assure the continued availability and usability of each facility planned for use and, in the event of change in owner, continued agreement for use of the facility. Where possible, tornado shelters are clearly marked.

- 2. Special Facilities: The Emergency Management Director may assist school officials, administrators of hospitals and nursing homes, and directors of other special institutions in determining the safest area in their facility or of the nearest protective facility. The Emergency Management Director may also aid in the development of a disaster plan for their facility.

B. Logistics:

Records of supplies, materials, and equipment used will be maintained to assist the Resources Coordinator in making a determination of resources remaining and to support requests for outside assistance (Annex L).

C. Public Education:

The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will work directly with the Public Information Officer to provide to the public:

- 1. Periodic spot announcements on pertinent aspects of the protective shelter program.
- 2. Useful and current information should a protective shelter situation arises.

VII. TRAINING AND EXERCISING

A. Training:

The training program will be consistent with the five-year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

B. Exercising:

All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

<u>Attachment #</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Tornado Shelters	J-7

## **TORNADO SHELTERS**

### City/Village

### Name of Facility

### Address/Location

### Contact/Owner & Phone#

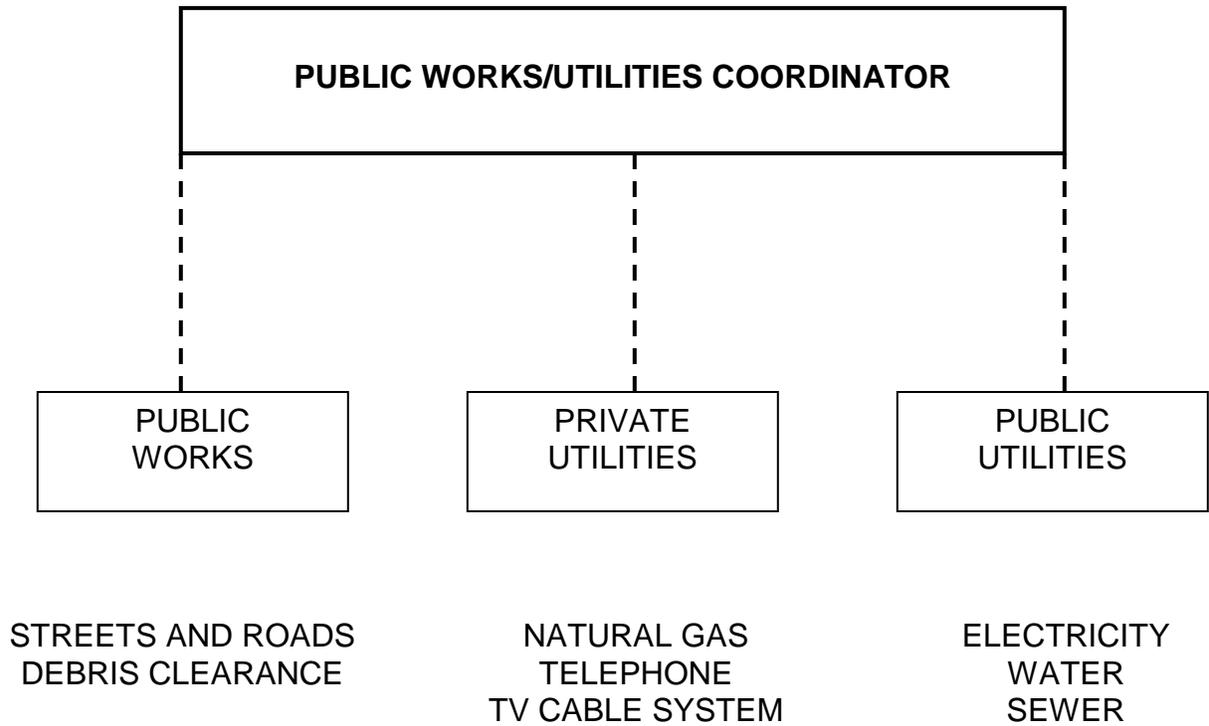
Public tornado shelters are not established in Gosper County. It should be the responsibility of all building owners who conduct private/public business in Gosper County to identify locations within their facilities as designated shelter areas.

The employees of all facilities (public, private, governmental, schools, care facilities, etc.) should be briefed on the internal emergency sheltering procedures. Signs should be posted to direct persons to the shelter areas within the facility.

The Region 15 Emergency Management may provide assistance to establish individual building emergency plans and identify the safest areas for shelter.

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# PUBLIC WORKS / UTILITIES



----- COORDINATION

## **PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Annex is to provide plans and procedures for:

- A. The continuation or restoration of those public services essential for basic human needs.
- B. Debris removal (also see Annex C, Appendix 1) and restoration of public access.

### **II. SITUATION**

Gosper County and its communities are subject to a number of natural and man-made hazards which could result in the disruption of public works/utility services to the population, limit the movement of portions of the resident population, or have a general deteriorating effect on the safety and welfare of the people.

### **III. ASSUMPTION AND PLANNING FACTORS**

- A. The continued operation of public works and utility services in Gosper County is essential for effective and efficient response and recovery actions to any disaster situation.
- B. The primary responsibilities of the county and urban public works departments will be the restoration and maintenance of essential public services.
- C. Private utility companies will cooperate with government services.
- D. The County Road Department and each town's street department will restore and maintain roads/streets in a condition to facilitate traffic movement.
- E. Assistance from outside the county will be available through mutual aid and other existing agreements.

### **IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. The Gosper County Highway Superintendent will serve as the Public Works/Utilities Coordinator. This Coordinator will be a member of the EOC staff for the purpose of collecting information and ensuring coordination among the Executive Group, various department heads, and government/private utilities.
- B. Each of the individual departments within the Public Works/Utilities function will be responsible for emergency/disaster operations within their normal operational

areas. Specific disaster procedures will be outlined in departmental Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

C. Each department will coordinate and manage their mutual aid support.

D. Private utilities are responsible for restoration of their services.

## V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Generally, department heads will continue to operate from their normal locations, but their primary actions during disaster operations will be to assess damage, then prioritize and restore interrupted services. The Public Works/Utilities Coordinator may work with each affected department head in coordinating recovery from the disaster.

A. Specific actions of the Public Works/Utilities Coordinator may include, but are not limited to:

1. Coordinating with the head of affected organizations, both public and private.
2. Assisting departments in determining staging areas for incoming assistance and coordinating mutual aid support.
3. Gathering information on damage in the public works/utilities area:
  - a. Assessing general damage in the public works/utilities area by obtaining damage reports from affected departments; present summary to the Executive Group at EOC briefings.
  - b. Ensuring departments are documenting actual damage with photographs that can later be used for disaster assistance requests. Pictures of debris piles should also be taken before disposal of the debris; dimensions need to be included with the photos.
  - c. Alerting departments to track disaster operation expenses. Examples of fiscal expenditures that should be recorded, fully detailed, and maintained are:
    - 1) Personnel costs, including:
      - a) Department employee overtime,
      - b) Additional help hired for disaster-related work.

- 2) Equipment:
  - a) Hours of actual use of department equipment in disaster operations,
  - b) Rental or lease equipment.
- 3) Materials and supplies, from stock or purchased, that are used in direct support of emergency operations and recovery actions.
- 4) Ad hoc contracts entered into for emergency operations and recovery actions.
- 5) Expenses incurred with the removal, transport, storage and disposal of debris.
4. Working with department heads and the EOC in prioritizing the restoration of services for each affected community. Attachment 1 lists the providers of public works and utilities services for each community in Gosper County.
5. Coordinating with those doing the damage assessments to ensure that all affected structures, public and private, are inspected for safety and habitability.
6. Attending EOC briefings.
7. Coordinating with other public works/utility departments, not directly involved in disaster operations, to obtain their support in the restoration/recovery activities.

B. Restoration of Services:

The Public Works/Utilities Coordinator will ensure that the following are completed as applicable to the disaster recovery:

1. Public Works:
  - a. Roads and Street Departments
    - 1) Assess the damage to streets and roads.
    - 2) May assist in establishing detour routings; provide barricades for traffic control.
    - 3) Provides priority service/repair to roads and streets designated as primary evacuation routes or to those needed for emergency vehicle traffic for initial disaster response.

- 4) Make emergency repairs, then permanent repairs on roads/streets, bridges, other structures.
  - 5) If weather conditions dictate, start the early implementation of the existing snow removal plans. The Plans for snow removal will include expanding snow removal activities to facilitate the movement of vehicles supporting emergency operations.
- b. Debris Clearance and Trash Removal
- 1) Clear fallen debris from streets and roads.
  - 2) Remove debris from public and private property (as established by jurisdiction's policy) and transport to selected sites for disposal.
  - 3) Separate debris into hazardous materials, special and common waste piles. The Department of Environmental Quality can advise on separation and disposal methods.

## 2. Utilities:

The Public Works/Utilities Coordinator ensures the timely restoration of interrupted community power, natural gas, water/sewer, and telephone service. This may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- a. Ensures that utility repairs are made, as prioritized, to key facilities necessary for disaster operations.
  - b. Provides emergency power. Existing emergency power systems will be checked and refueled as needed during any disaster. Action will be taken to ensure that emergency power is available for the key facilities if electricity cannot be restored to all of the community.
  - c. Provides adequate supplies of potable water and identifies sources of additional supplies, if needed.
- ## 3. Radioactive Material Incident/Accident

If trained in both radiological monitoring equipment operation and emergency response procedures, may provide support to the fire department during containment or decontamination activity in the event of a radiological accident/incident.

VI. ADMINISTRATION, LOGISTICS

A. Administration:

A record of costs and expenses incurred in direct support of an emergency or disaster situation will be maintained to support subsequent reimbursement claims to State and Federal government.

B. Plan Maintenance:

1. The Public Works/Utilities Coordinator will be responsible for annually reviewing this Annex; this review may include input from each public works/utility department head. Revisions to this Annex will be submitted to the Emergency Management Director for inclusion in LEOP updates/revisions.
2. Public Works/Utilities Department supervisors will also be responsible for preparing and maintaining Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) for disaster operations within their respective department.

VII. TRAINING AND EXERCISING

A. Training:

The training program will be consistent with the five year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

B. Exercising:

All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

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1	Public Works/Utility Service Providers	K-7

**PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITY SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Village

ELWOOD

- A. Dawson Public Power District
- B. K N Energy
- C. Village
- D. Village
- E. Qwest Communications
- F. Village
- G. ACT Communications

Village

SMITHFIELD

- A. Dawson Public Power District
- B. Individual
- C. Individual
- D. Individual
- E. Qwest Communications
- F. Village
- G. \_\_\_\_\_

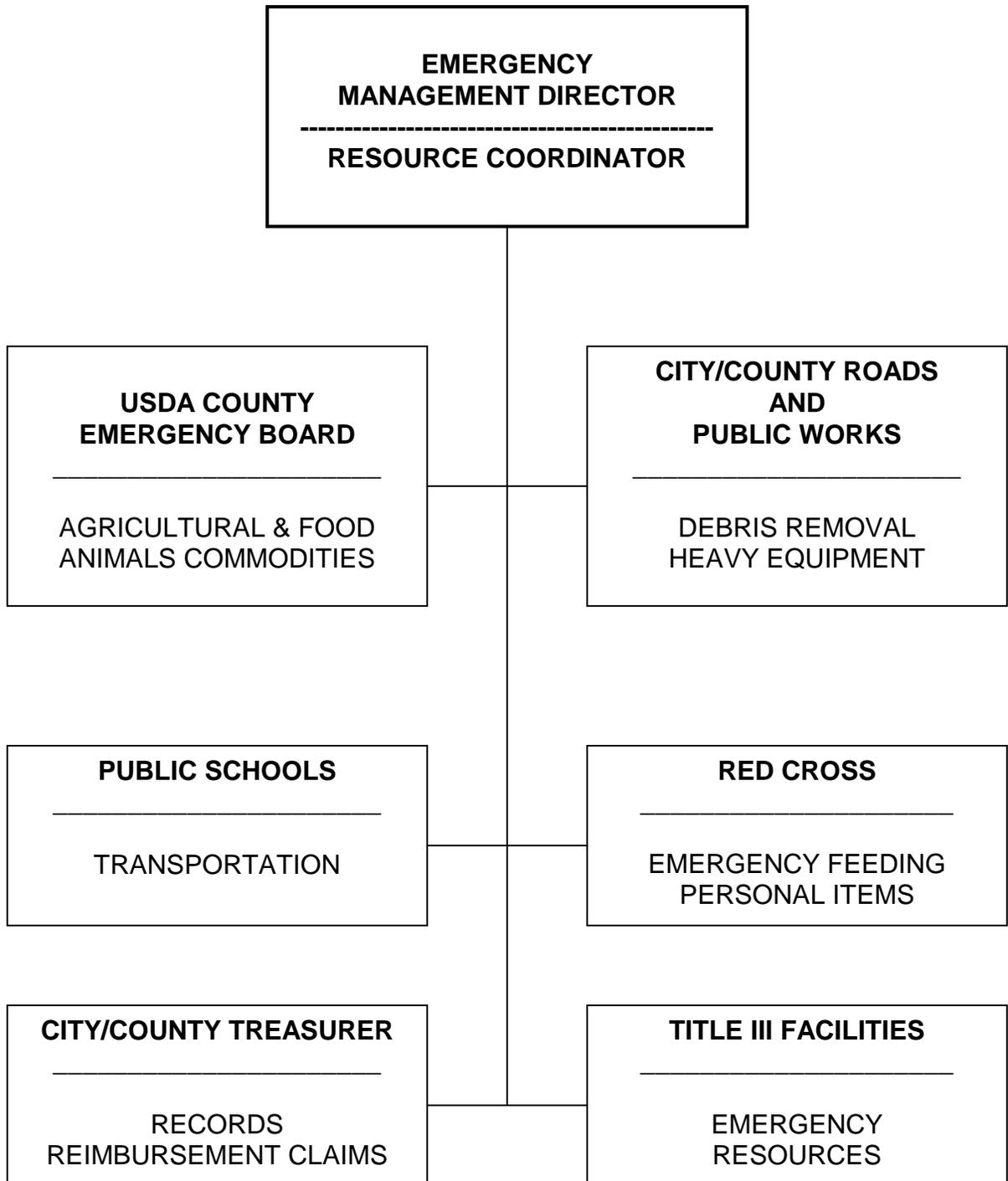
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LEGEND

- A. ELECTRICAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY:
- B. NATURAL GAS SERVICE PROVIDED BY:
- C. WATER SERVICE PROVIDED BY:
- D. SEWAGE SERVICE PROVIDED BY:
- E. TELEPHONE SERVICE PROVIDED BY:
- F. STREET/ROAD MAINTENANCE BY:
- G. CABLE SERVICES PROVIDED BY:

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# RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



## **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

### **I. PURPOSE**

To provide guidelines for the procurement, storage, control, and allocation of materials and equipment, and for the coordination of a volunteer labor force which could be required in the event of a disaster situation within Gosper County.

### **II. SITUATION**

- A. The Gosper County Hazard Analysis or Emergency Management Agency has identified a number of hazards which could occur and cause extensive damage to both public and private property requiring a coordinated management of resources within the County.
- B. Gosper County, its communities, agencies, and businesses have sufficient resources to support activities associated with most emergency or disaster operations. The Emergency Manager maintains the resources lists.

### **III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS**

- A. If the need arises, local government will assume control of and ensure appropriate and equitable distribution and use of existing resources. Rationing will be implemented, if necessary.
- B. The impacted jurisdiction may have to provide its own sustainability for up to 48 hours or more before additional help can arrive.
- C. County, cities, and villages will support resource actions as needed.
- D. Para-professional and volunteer agencies will provide resource support, equipment and manpower, within their capabilities.
- E. Each facility that reports under Title III requirements has an emergency response plan that lists their available emergency resources. This list may also be available at local fire departments and in Annex F, Appendix 1, Attachment 1.
- F. Assistance will be available from other counties through mutual aid agreements.
- G. Citizens within Gosper County and neighboring areas will volunteer to support the recovery efforts following a disaster. Coordination of these volunteers will be assigned to a Volunteer Coordinator who will work with the Resource Coordinator.

- H. Following a local declaration of emergency, support may be available through state emergency resources such as those available through the State Administrative Services, [www.das.state.ne.us/material/](http://www.das.state.ne.us/material/) to supplement local deficiencies, critical requirements, and replacement of expended emergency resources.
- I. Spontaneous and un-solicited donations of food, water, personnel, equipment, supplies may interfere with priority response and recovery activities.
- J. Some local resources will be available for use. Cataclysmic destruction of a city or village will require outside resources and assistance.

#### IV. ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The Emergency Manager has been appointed as the Resource Coordinator and is responsible for the overall Resource Management activities within the county and is a member of the Emergency Operating Center (EOC) Staff. The Resource Coordinator will:
  - 1. Advise the Executive Group on current status and recommend actions to be taken (i.e., implementing emergency ordinances required for price controls, procuring equipment, rationing, etc.).
  - 2. Initiate and control actions needed to comply with the desires and decision of the Executive Group. The NIMS protocols under the Logistics, Administration and Finance organization will be the model for operations.
  - 3. Coordinate the actions of the various agencies, offices, groups, and individuals involved with the procurement, temporary storage, distribution, utilization and control of local resources.
  - 4. Maintain an inventory of available resources and recommend to the Executive Group the most efficient use of existing/remaining resources.
  - 5. At the direction of the Executive Group, assume direct control of resources identified as critical items to assure most efficient utilization.
  - 6. Develop a plan for storage or disposal of surplus equipment or supplies.
  - 7. Develop and implement a plan or system to accept, reject, store, distribute and dispose of unsolicited or spontaneous donations of material, personnel and supplies.
- B. Because of the potential magnitude and complexity of the resource program, the Resource Coordinator may select a supporting staff.

- C. A Volunteer Coordinator may be named to work with the Resource Coordinator. The Volunteer Coordinator will coordinate the work requirements from the disaster with the volunteer assets. Guidelines are in Attachment 3 of this Annex.
- D. The various supervisors or department heads of local government agencies and private organizations will be responsible for managing the resources of their individual agencies/organizations when supporting overall disaster resource needs.
- E. The USDA County Emergency Board maintains an inventory of agricultural products and food animal resources and will act in an advisory capacity regarding availability, use and protection of these resources. This board can assist the Resource Coordinator in the management and requisition of needed materials and supplies.
- F. The County Roads Superintendent, City/Village Streets and Public Works Department(s) will assist in the management and requisition of heavy equipment (trucks, earth moving equipment, etc.), dirt or sand, barricades, and in the coordination of debris removal. The Resource Coordinator will ensure that resource listings are prepared and maintained.
- G. Unless otherwise determined, equipment provided by the various agencies and private organizations will be maintained and parked in the "yards".
- H. The Region 15 Emergency Management Director will coordinate the requisition and management of needed public transportation resources (buses, handi-vans, etc.).
- I. The Facility Emergency Coordinator (FEC) of each Title III facility will coordinate the requisition and management of the facility owned emergency resources.
- J. The American Red Cross will assume the lead role in providing for persons displaced from their homes due to an emergency or disaster. In accordance with established procedures, the Red Cross will procure the necessary food and personal care items needed.
- K. The County and/or City/Village Clerk's Office will assist the Resource Coordinator in developing and implementing a system of records for evaluating status of resources and supplies, emergency procurement and contract letting, and completing reports and procedures to verify and obtain reimbursement claims from local, state, and federal governments.

## V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Resource Management requires the full support from governmental and private sectors. Some resource categories and local sources are:

- A. Food products from local food retail and wholesale sources.
- B. Manual labor materials and hardware items from local hardware stores and lumberyards.
- C. Transportation needs will primarily be obtained from the Elwood Public Schools. The transportation resource listing is maintained by the Emergency Manager, see Attachment 1.
- D. The first priority for transportation is to support the evacuation of school children and citizens without private vehicles, including hospitals and nursing home patients. Some specific transportation considerations are:
  - 1. Specialized transportation includes alternate vehicles for use as ambulances or handi-buses.
  - 2. Public transportation includes buses to support an evacuation.
  - 3. Tractor-trailers (semi's), vans, pickups, other trucks and farm equipment can be used to move supplies and materials.
- E. All vehicles designated as essential to emergency operations will be serviced by local government during the actual operational period. Disaster related costs should be documented.
- F. Manpower requirements will be obtained through local government and private agency's utilization of their own personal resources, volunteer agencies, fraternal and social organizations, and job service sources. Normal work assignments may be re-assigned for the duration of the declared emergency. All volunteers will register with a Volunteer Coordinator. Procedures for managing a volunteer work force are discussed in Attachment 3 to this Annex.
- G. Heavy equipment resources will come primarily from government agencies such as the Gosper County Roads Department. Additional assistance may be requested from the State Department of Roads. Also, heavy equipment could be contracted from construction firms and private contractors, if required. See Attachment 2 for a listing of heavy equipment resources.

## VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

- A. The County, City/Village Clerks will maintain official records and accounting of materials and supplies used and funds expended in support of emergency operations for possible reimbursements by local, state, or federal governments. All department heads will maintain appropriate records regarding specific contracts, contractual agreements, employee overtime, and equipment operating costs.
- B. The Resource Coordinator will review this Annex annually and provide information to the Region 15 Emergency Management Director.

## VII. TRAINING AND EXERCISING

### A. Training:

The training program will be consistent with the five-year Homeland Security Exercise Plan. All training supported by the Homeland Security grant process must be ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) approved.

### B. Exercising:

All exercises and drills will be evaluated and any follow-up activities conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (NeHSEEP).

## LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

<u>Attachment #</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>
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2	Heavy Equipment Resources	L-8
3	Procedures for Volunteer Coordination	L-9

**TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES**

**AVAILABLE VEHICLES**

<u>Organization, Contact Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Number of Buses Capacity (*with lift)</u>	<u>Number of Vans Capacity (*with lift)</u>
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**AVAILABLE SCHOOL BUSES/VANS**

<u>School District</u>	<u>Buses</u>	<u>Vans</u>
Elwood	4 @ 42	5 @ 10

**Gosper County Totals**

TOTAL BUSES	4
TOTAL VANS	5
TOTAL CAPACITY	218

**HEAVY EQUIPMENT/SPECIAL TEAMS RESOURCES**

<u>Company</u>	<u>Contact/Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Types, # of Equipment</u>
Gosper County Highway Dept.	Mike Snyder	785-3116	6-Motor Graders 1-Pull type scraper 1-John Deere Scraper 1-Caterpillar Scraper 1-Caterpillar Loader 2-Tractors 2-Dump Trucks 1-Bobcat Loader
Village of Elwood	Stan Schutz	785-2480	1-Tractor 1-Front End Loader 1-Road Grader 2-Dump Trucks
Village of Smithfield	Jack Cline	785-2660	1-Tractor
Bertrand Fire Dept.	John Ford	472-3472	1-Large Portable Generator

## PROCEDURES FOR VOLUNTEER COORDINATION

- I. The Volunteer Coordinator will coordinate the work requirements from the disaster with the volunteer assets.
  - A. The Volunteer Coordinator will work with the Resources Coordinator.
  - B. Dependent upon the situation, the Volunteer Coordinator may need an additional three to five people to carry out the responsibilities of this function.
- II. Procedures and responsibilities of volunteer coordination:
  - A. The Resources Coordinator will receive the requests for assistance in priority order from the EOC.
  - B. Volunteers will register at a location designated by the Resources Coordinator and/or the Volunteer Coordinator. This information will be given to the EOC.
  - C. The Resources Coordinator will work with the Public Information Officer in coordinating public announcements concerning the location where volunteers will register as well as any other necessary information regarding this effort. This information should include but is not limited to:
    1. Volunteer registration and staging area locations.
    2. Tetanus shot information (i.e.) date of last tetanus shot and/or location where to receive tetanus shot.
    3. Protective clothing for volunteers such as steel-toed shoes, full length pants or jeans, full shirts preferable long sleeved, gloves, hat or hard hat, protective eye ware, and sun screen.
    4. Appropriate tools to bring such as shovels, brooms, buckets, mops or hand tools and chain saws.
  - D. Registration of volunteers should include:
    1. A registration card (pre-printed, if possible) with:
      - a. Name
      - b. Individual or organization represented
      - c. Equipment assets available, special training or skills
      - d. Supervisor or name/phone number for notification if there is an emergency

2. Being assigned work appropriate to capability and possible equipment assets of the volunteer,
  3. Giving the volunteer a pass/identification card to the disaster area. It is recommended these cards be reissued daily.
  4. Prior to deployment to the disaster area, volunteers should be given a safety briefing on:
    - a. the command and communications structure,
    - b. any hazards within the disaster area,
    - c. health safety instructions for drinking water, eating food,
    - d. sanitation, personal hygiene,
    - e. protecting themselves from extreme weather conditions such as extreme heat, cold, wind etc.
- E. In registering the volunteers, the Volunteer Coordinator must ensure that volunteers return to the registration desk after completing their work assignment and notify the Coordinator that the work has been completed or additional resources are needed. If volunteers wish to continue working, they will receive a new assignment.
- F. The Volunteer Coordinator will update the Resources Coordinator frequently on:
1. Personnel and equipment being volunteered,
  2. Work being accomplished in the disaster area.
  3. Additional resources needed or unusual circumstances that are of concern.