2019
ANNUAL REPORT
BOONE COUNTY
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
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2019 was a year of change, both for me and the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). On July 1st, OEM lost their director, colleague and friend, Tom Hurley. His unexpected passing was a great loss to our community at the ECC, and Boone County.

In his absence, I agreed to fill the position of interim director until a replacement could be hired. I was quickly immersed in the world of Emergency Management. The OEM staff graciously welcomed me to the team and quickly filled me in on their many ongoing projects. I was immediately impressed with their knowledge, professionalism, and work ethic.

At the time, the County was dealing with the repercussions of near-historic spring flooding along the Missouri River. OEM had been supporting sandbagging operations by obtaining and managing resources as well as coordinating the Public and Individual Assistance programs with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Scheduled at the end of the month, was a FEMA evaluated exercise with an expected participation of nearly a hundred local, regional, state and federal partners. Followed by another exercise with similar attendance, the Columbia Regional Airport Triennial Drill, in August.

OEM didn’t skip a beat in ensuring these projects and planned events would continue successfully. I should not have been surprised at their ability to act in the midst of crisis. It is their personal traits, skillsets, and sometimes quirks that enable them to perform their daily jobs to the quality which I have observed.

Later in the year, I was honored to accept the role permanently as the Emergency Communications Center Director to oversee both Joint Communications and OEM. I am confident OEM will continue to meet challenges head-on. As we enter the new year, we are more dedicated than ever to continue building an effective emergency management program for the County and its citizens for long-term resiliency.

Sincerely,
Chad Martin
Director
BOONE COUNTY COMMISSION

Emergency Communications Center Director

- Administrative Coordinator
- Office of Emergency Management Deputy Director
  - Administrative Assistant
  - Planning & Preparedness Specialist
  - Mitigation & Recovery Specialist
  - Training & Exercise Specialist

MISSION STATEMENT
Our Mission is to provide a comprehensive and integrated emergency management system that coordinates community resources to protect lives, property and the environment through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery from all natural and man made hazards that may impact our county.
The Emergency Communications Center (ECC) is an asset to the community. The building not only houses the Office of Emergency Management, and Emergency Operations Center (EOC), but Joint Communications, including the 911 Dispatch Center as well. The building is utilized by many public safety entities within the County as well as affiliate groups for trainings and meetings. This year the ECC hosted 297 meetings, and 39 trainings with a total of 2,296 visitors.
**Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)**

The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) is the largest grant received by OEM. This grant program is integral to supporting the National Preparedness System and achieving the National Preparedness Goal by ensuring state and local governments have access to the resources required to prepare for all-hazards. EMPG funding in Boone County is used to cover 50% payroll and benefits of EMPG eligible personnel and 50% siren maintenance.

**State Homeland Security Program (SHSP)**

The State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant is one of the three grant programs provided by the Homeland Security Grant Program created to support the National Preparedness System. Funding is utilized for deployable equipment and resources to support our county, our region, or nationally. This year SHSP funds were used to purchased generator accessories and provide annual generator load testing.

**Chemical Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF)**

Missouri established the Chemical Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) to help the Missouri Emergency Response Commission (MERC) and Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) meet the guidelines established by the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act and related state and federal statutes regarding hazardous materials. Funding is used to provide chemical accident prevention activities such as planning and training.

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### 2019 Awarded Grants

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<td>SHSP Awarded Funds</td>
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<td>CEPF Awarded Funds</td>
<td>$8,626.71</td>
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Grants

- EMPG
- SHSP
- CEPF
Outdoor Warning Sirens are the most effective method to warn people who are outside to incoming severe weather, a chemical incident or other emergency. If you hear an outdoor warning siren you should seek shelter inside immediately. Once inside, you should turn on the television or radio to find out further information.

Boone County maintains 85 sirens to ensure adequate and effective coverage. In 2019 OEM replaced two sirens, #76 located at 3203 Oak Lawn Dr., and #77 located at 1101 Parkridge Dr. both in Columbia. It is important that all sirens are verified to be functioning correctly. For this reason, Boone County tests the sirens the first Wednesday each month. In the event of severe weather, the test may be postponed.

The siren wail sound can be heard for an approximate distance of ½ mile. Sounds can travel different distances depending on weather and other atmospheric conditions, so please remember these distances are just estimates. The primary function of the siren system is to warn people who are outdoors of imminent danger.

For a full list of Boone county’s siren locations visit:

https://www.showmeboone.com/oem/resources/sirens.asp
Boone County faced near historic flooding along the Missouri River from April to July. Boone County was approved for the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Individual Assistance and Public Assistance.

**Individual Assistance** – provides financial assistance and direct services to individuals who have been affected by a federally declared disaster.

**Public Assistance (PA)** – the purpose of the PA Grant Program is to support communities’ recovery from major disasters by providing them with grant assistance for debris removal, lifesaving emergency protective measures, and restoring public infrastructure.

The recovery process was kicked off in July with the establishment of the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center. You may have seen us, or FEMA officials, going door to door in affected areas to make sure everyone had all the information needed to file a claim. This was a great resource for community members and highlighted who individuals might contact for assistance.

Though the window for Individual Assistance has passed, the Public Assistance process is currently underway.

FEMA provides an updated Per Capita Indicator each year that is multiplied by the official census population to calculate the monetary damage threshold for each county. This number must be met to receive federal PA. When met, the county becomes eligible for up to 75% reimbursement from FEMA and a possible 10% reimbursement from the State.

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**Population**

162,642

**Per Capita Impact Indicator**

$3.78

**County Damages**

$393,885.61

**DNR & Katy Trail Damages**

$564,264.00

**Damage Threshold**

$614,786.96

**Total Damages**

$958,149.61

**Potential FEMA Reimbursement**

$718,612.21

**Potential State Reimbursement**

$95,814.96

*Public Assistance Numbers*
Individuals & Households Program (IHP)

*Volunteers fill and place sandbags along the Katy Trail in Rocheport*
Hazard mitigation is the process of identifying hazards and developing measures to reduce or eliminate the effects of these hazards before they occur.

Every five years, Boone County reviews the Boone County Hazard Mitigation Plan with the help of the Mid-MO Regional Planning Commission and community stakeholders. The 2020 edition of the Boone County Hazard Mitigation Plan is in the process of being reviewed and is set to be completed on time.

Several changes have been made to the 2020 edition, including projects completed from the last plan. Every project completed is a step towards community resilience.

We have also identified new areas of focus to better protect lives and property.

**Completed Projects:**

- Investigate tools for automated notification system to be used collaboratively throughout Boone County and its jurisdictions. This action has been completed through the implementation and roll-out of Smart911 and the RAVE notification system.
- Acquire generators and power transfer hookup equipment.
- Promote Ready-in-3 materials in-house at the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services and at public events.

**Projects in Progress:**

- Conduct a phased flow study along major highway routes to help determine quantities of hazardous materials being transported through Boone County. The Local Emergency Planning Committee is planning to conduct a Flow Study in the near future.
- Continue monthly testing of outdoor warning sirens in compliance with procedures set by the Office of Emergency Management.
- Continue to educate the public on all hazards. OEM staff continue to attend public events and conduct trainings to increase the preparedness of the community members.
Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

After the annual review process, the EOP underwent updates and approval by our Emergency Support Function stakeholder partners and is now available for public consumption on the Boone County Government website at

https://www.showmeboone.com/oem/common/pdf/BooneCountyEOP.pdf

EMAP, COOP and Strategic Planning

Also in 2019, the Planning and Preparedness Specialist attended Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) training to become the OEM EMAP Program Coordinator, and to determine OEM’s next steps on the road to accreditation. Further preparation for accreditation will include completion of the OEM Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) and the OEM Multi-Year Strategic Plan, both of which are in advanced stages of development.

The Boone County Hearnes Center Reception, Care and Decontamination Center (RCDC) Radiological Emergency Plan - A Boone County Addendum to The Missouri Nuclear Power Plant Accident Plan (MONAP)

A key planning activity of 2019 involved the complete rewrite of the Hearnes Center Reception, Care and Decontamination Center (RCDC) Radiological Emergency Plan in conjunction with the required 8-year FEMA evaluation. Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Radiation Emergency Planning officials teamed with Boone County stakeholders to prepare for the July event at which FEMA officials evaluated the readiness for the Hearnes Center to function as a reception, care and decontamination center in the event of a Callaway Nuclear plant release. Key stakeholders who cooperated with OEM for the plan rewrite and evaluation included the University of Missouri (MU) Intercollegiate Athletics, MU Campus Facilities, MU Police Department, MU Environmental Health and Safety, Columbia Fire Department, Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services, the American Red Cross, MO Department of Social Services – Family Support Division, and SEMA.
Faith-Based Engagement

Boone County OEM continued through 2019 to engage our faith-based communities by offering preparedness presentations, providing planning tools and facility readiness guidance, facilitating after-action development, and sharing information. 2019 included planning for ongoing preparedness workshops in 2020 in partnership with Boone County houses of worship and local community organizations.

National Weather Service Integrated Warning Team Workshop

The National Weather Service (NWS) St. Louis Office hosted the inaugural Integrated Warning Team Workshop for partners in Central Missouri at the Emergency Communications Center on October 9, 2019. This workshop serves to bring emergency management, law enforcement, broadcast media, academia, and operational meteorologists together to discuss impactful weather events, decision support, practices, new/changing products, and improve collaboration and communication between each entity. The goal of these workshops is for all partners to have a better mutual understanding of needs during impactful weather to better serve the public. Topics reviewed this year included the Jefferson City Tornado panel discussion, Flash Flood Warnings, Significant Weather Advisories, NWSChat, and new services such as probability snow reports, event weather support, and HazMat support services.
WebEOC Operator Training

In January, OEM hosted SEMA WebEOC Administrator, Sebastian Gely to deliver a WebEOC Operator Training to first responders from around the county. WebEOC is a virtual incident management software used to enhance communications, coordination and resource sharing across Missouri during a disaster.

Basic Life Support (BLS) Training

Two OEM employees became American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support (BLS) certified instructors to provide training to County employees and affiliates on CPR and the use of AEDs. They trained 56 individuals in the lifesaving skills throughout the year.

NWS Storm Spotter Training

This year OEM partnered with the University of Missouri Safe Mizzou Coalition to host their third NWS Storm Spotter training. The event was held at Memorial Student Union on the MU campus on February 21, 2019 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The event was a huge success with over 100 attendees! OEM looks forward to continuing this valuable partnership in 2020.

Sport and Special Event Evacuation Training

OEM hosted the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service October 29th and 30th to conduct the SEMA sponsored Sport and Event Evacuation training course. This course provides training for sport and special event venue managers to prepare and/or enhance evacuation planning capabilities and assist emergency responders in implementing flexible and scalable evacuation activities. This course is highly innovative in that it builds multi-agency collaboration by delivering critical evacuation planning information. This course had 23 participants from all over the state of Missouri, with 12 participants from Boone County. The course culminated with an exercise based on an incident at the Mizzou Memorial Stadium.
The Boone County CERT is a volunteer program which educates citizens about disaster preparedness and basic response skills such as:

- Fire Safety
- Light Search and Rescue
- Team Organization & Incident Command
- Disaster Medical Operations
- Disaster Psychology

In the event of a major emergency or disaster within the County, public safety resources may be overwhelmed. CERT education is intended to lessen the impact of disaster on participating individuals, and enable them to aid family members, neighbors or coworkers immediately following an emergency until responders arrive.

Each year OEM offers CERT Basic Training to recruit new members. Basic Training is a 24-hour training course in which participants learn how to help themselves, their families, friends, coworkers and neighbors during a disaster.

CERT Basic Training consists of four 4-hour evening sessions and one 8-hour weekend session over the course of four to five weeks. Participants will receive a completion certificate and an opportunity to become a Boone County CERT member. In 2019, CERT welcomed 8 new members.

For more information on the Boone County CERT Program visit:

https://www.showmeboone.com/oem/training/cert/
Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Functional Exercise

On March 27th, OEM conducted an EOC Activation Functional Exercise in the Emergency Communications Center EOC from 9:00am-3:00pm.

There were 39 total participants in this exercise from 20 different agencies ranging from regional to local partners. This exercise focused specifically on the incident management planning process and examined how partners represented in the EOC can utilize the “Planning P” (short for “Planning Process”) tool to coordinate response efforts during a disaster situation.

Columbia Regional Airport (COU) Full-Scale Exercise

The Columbia Regional Airport Full-Scale Exercise was held on Wednesday August 14th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Columbia Regional Airport. This exercise is conducted per Federal Aviation Administration requirements every three years.

This triennial event is a whole community opportunity to exercise coordinated response by Boone County fire agencies, public safety and law enforcement agencies, emergency medical services, and hospitals. There were 186 participants who attended this exercise, including: 76 players, 7 controllers, 6 evaluators, 60 actors/volunteers, 24 support staff and 13 observers.
Hearnes Reception, Care and Decontamination Center (RCDC) Drill

The Hearnes Center Reception, Care and Decontamination Center (RCDC) Drill was conducted on July 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. as part of a larger Callaway Energy Center exercise. The drill was developed collaboratively by SEMA Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Division, OEM, the University of Missouri, and other stakeholders as identified within the Boone County Hearnes RCDC Radiological Emergency Plan. The drill included participants from the local, state and Federal levels, as well as, private and non-governmental agencies, and volunteer organizations. In total there were 46 individuals who participated in the drill.

Columbia College Severe Weather Tabletop Exercise

The Columbia College Severe Weather Tabletop Exercise was conducted on October 22nd from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the Columbia College campus in New Hall. The exercise focused specifically on Columbia College’s ability to respond to and recover from a tornado utilizing their Crisis Response Plan (CRP). There were 25 Columbia College representatives who participated in the exercise.

Crisis Leadership Tabletop Exercise

The Crisis Leadership Tabletop Exercise was planned collaboratively between OEM, Boone County Road and Bridge, Boone County Fire Protection District, Boone Hospital, the Columbia Fire Department, the University of Missouri and University of Missouri Health Care. The exercise was conducted on September 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Boone County EOC. There were 43 individuals who participated in the exercise.
Boone County began the Smart911 and Rave Alerts program in 2016. Each year we continue to see an increase in new users, and new safety profile creation — indicating the citizens of Boone County also see the programs value in increasing individual awareness and community resilience.

Boone County provides citizens access to Smart911 and Rave Alerts at no cost. Smart911 enables citizens to create a safety profile that will provide first responders with important and specific information during an emergency to better protect the lives of our citizens.

Boone County OEM and Joint Communications use Rave Alerts to notify citizens via text message, email and/or voice call of weather advisories, watches, and warnings, traffic alerts, and emergency messaging.

In 2019, Smart911 had 823 new subscribers, a 55% increase from 2018. Rave Alerts also saw an increase in new subscribers with 127 new users, a 53% increase.
The Boone County Office of Emergency Management has been growing its social media presence through the utilization of Facebook and Twitter. The use of social networking accounts is important to emergency management because it allows a fast, efficient way of communicating important information to a large group of people. Social media is a valuable tool to connect with the community and other response agencies.

Engagement is defined as the number of people who interact with your page by clicking on posts or watching stories.

Reach is defined as the number of unique users that had any BCOEM content appear on their screen.

Impressions are the number of times any content from the BCOEM page appeared on someone’s screen. This is similar to reach, but impressions are a total count whereas reach is specifically for unique or new users.
OEM attended 19 community outreach events to promote Smart911, Rave Alerts, and emergency planning. Events included the Hartsburg Pumpkin Festival, the Mid-MO Home Show, multiple Safe Mizzou Coalition Safety fairs, the Columbia College Health Fair, the Columbia Parks and Rec Family Fun Fest series, and many more!

Our office enjoys every opportunity to interact with Boone County's citizens face-to-face. This past year we were able to make 1,638 community contacts through 106 engagement hours. We look forward to engaging even more in 2020.
On November 14, 2019 the Boone County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) held a memorial tree planting and plaque dedication ceremony to honor CERT Program Manager, late OEM Director, Tom Hurley. DC Smith, CERT member, read a letter about Tom’s dedication to, and leadership of, CERT before presenting the plaque to Tom’s parents, Tom & Margaret (Peg) Hurley.

Our office would like to thank CERT for honoring Tom in such a thoughtful and fitting manner, and everyone else who made this event possible: Robert Hemmelgarn, a Boone County Fire Protection District firefighter with the Missouri Department of Conservation for procuring the beautiful tree, and the Boone County Sheriff’s Department for providing lighting during the event.
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CONNECT WITH US!

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