MCPHERSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA

LOCAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Dated: October 15, 2001

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

McPherson County Emergency Management Agency

with the assistance of

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, Lincoln, Nebraska

RECORD OF CHANGES

CHANGE NUMBER	DATE OF CHANGE	DATE ENTERED	CHANGE MADE BY (SIGNATURE)

MCPHERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

PREFACE

This McPherson 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 current nationwide concept embodied in the Integrated Emergency Management System (IEMS) in that the 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 that 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 McPherson 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 # 2001-12

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

WHEREAS, it has been determined that a McPherson County Local Emergency Operations Plan has been developed in order to provide for a coordinated response to a disaster or emergency in McPherson County; and

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

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

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 15 DAY OF October, 2001.

Board of County Commissioners,
McPherson County, Nebraska

ATTEST:

Judy M. Bailey

John E. Bryan

R. Edward Saunders

Harold E. Moore

SIGNATURE PAGE

We, the undersigned, have reviewed the Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) for McPherson County. We accept the responsibilities pertaining to our organization as defined in the Plan and will respond as required in the event of an emergency, disaster, or plan implementation.

McPherson County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)	Date
McPherson County Sheriff	Date
McPherson County Rural Fire Department	Date
President, Sandhills Mutual Aid Mutual Aid Association	Date
McPherson County Assessor	Date
McPherson County Highway Superintendent	Date
Administrator, Lincoln County Office State Department of Health and Human Services	Date

SIGNATURE PAGE continued

American Red Cross Central Plains Chapter	Date
McPherson County Emergency Management Director	Date

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ACRONYMS

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

CEC - Community Emergency Coordinator: The single point of contact under SARA Title III for the community who makes determinations necessary to implement the plan.

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

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

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 Operations 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 Operations Center during disasters.

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency (Federal Agency)

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

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.

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.

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, which 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.

FSA: Farm Service 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.

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.

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.

ICU: Intensive Care Unit

In-Place Shelter: See “Shelter in Place”

Ingestion Exposure Pathway EPZ (Nuclear Power Plants Incidents): An Emergency Planning Zone which refers to exposure primarily from ingestion of 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.

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.

(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.

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

Nuclear Incident: An occurrence in which nuclear materials with consequent nuclear radiation are uncontrollably released from containment. 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).

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.

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 determine the levels of radiation or the presence 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.

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.

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

Shelter in Place: 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 shelter in place (same as 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.

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 dispatched to the site of 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. At the scene, all radiation control activities are coordinated by the Health and Human Services System, 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 clean-up.

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.

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

USDA: United States Department of Agriculture

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EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

I. PURPOSE

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

A. Prevent avoidable disasters,

B. Reduce the vulnerability of McPherson 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 81-829.74 Nebraska Emergency Management Act of 1996, as amended;

III. SITUATION

A. McPherson County, with a residential population of approximately 533 persons, (2000 Census) 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 McPherson County 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 wild fires (grassland), tornadoes, or a hazardous materials release.

B. McPherson County does have some emergency response resources and capabilities. One law enforcement agency, one fire department, and one rescue squad that provide emergency services on a day-to-day basis. During and after disaster, effective use of these emergency resources and other governmental and private response and recovery capabilities will minimize the effects of disaster on people and property.

IV. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

A. Outside assistance would be available in most major disaster situations affecting McPherson County. However, even though this Plan will define procedures for coordinating such assistance, it is essential for McPherson 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 McPherson 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.

V. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The primary responsibility for the safety and welfare of the residents of McPherson County and its communities rests with the County Board of Commissioners. To fulfill this responsibility, the various local communities 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. The affairs of McPherson County are managed by a three member Board of Commissioners. Their authority extends to all unincorporated areas of the county.

2. Tryon is an unincorporated village under the direction of the McPherson County Board of Commissioners.

C. Emergency Management

1. McPherson County Emergency Management Agency: the McPherson County Emergency Management Director, appointed by the McPherson County Board of Commissioners, will act as a disaster operations advisor to the Board. Emergency operations will be conducted by local forces, supplemented as necessary by trained auxiliaries and manpower and resources available from neighboring jurisdictions or the State. In general, the Emergency Management Director:

   a. Serves as the emergency preparedness and response advisor to the McPherson County Board of Commissioners.

   b. Directs and controls the McPherson County 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.

   f. Establishes programs to protect lives, protect property, and sustain survivors in the event of disaster.

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 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 been broken into twelve primary functional areas of responsibility (detailed in Annexes), which 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 place in this Plan. Primary and

supporting responsibility has been assigned as shown in the Functional Responsibility Chart, included in this section. See Attachment 1. Detailed tasks 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): this function is fulfilled by the Executive Group utilizing the expertise of an Emergency Operations Center staff. By statute, the conduct of all emergency operations and protective actions in McPherson County is the responsibility of the County Board. These executives constitute the Emergency Executive Group, which will be located with the Emergency Operations Staff in the Emergency Operations Center in Tryon. In general, executive direction and control responsibilities will be to assign missions and tasks, direct planning, monitor the McPherson County environment, inform the public and control emergency operations.

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 North Platte Warning Point and then 39.9 Nebraska Law Enforcement Radio Net. In the remainder of the county, warning of the public is a primary responsibility of the McPherson County Sheriff.

3. Damage Assessment (Annex C): a person assigned by the Executive Group 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 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 may, due to the severe nature of a situation, be made by the incident commander (fire or law enforcement). The McPherson Emergency Management Director, along with any other city and village Emergency Management Directors, is responsible for establishing clear and detailed procedures for carrying out complete and partial evacuation of citizens.

6. Fire Services (Annex F): the Fire District Chief is responsible for fire control and rescue activities in the fire district of McPherson County. The Fire Chief will serve as Fire Services Coordinator and as a member of the EOC staff. If more than one jurisdiction is affected, the Sandhills Mutual Aid Association or the Mid-Plains Mutual Aid Association 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 a Public Health Coordinator. 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 McPherson 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 McPherson 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 McPherson 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. The McPherson County Emergency Management Director, 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 are developing capability and procedures and directing operations for debris clearance, post-disaster safety inspections, heavy rescue, and the providing of traffic control equipment in support of evacuation. The Executive Group will assign someone to be responsible for the Public Works/Utilities functions.

12. Resource Management (Annex L): the coordination and effective utilization of personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and services during disaster response and recovery is an important function. The Executive Group will assign a person the responsibility of Resource Management who will be supported by the McPherson County Emergency Management Director and the USDA County Emergency Board (CEB).

VI. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

It is the responsibility of the government of McPherson County 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 concept 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 McPherson 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 McPherson County by the County Clerk. 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 plans which designate appropriate actions and protective shelter locations including provisions for handicapped persons.

   b. Records: essential county government records are stored at the Courthouse in Tryon.

   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, coordination and control of the McPherson County emergency response will be exercised by the Executive Group. The Chair of the McPherson County Board of Commissioners will operate from the McPherson County EOC providing overall direction and control of many emergency functions.

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 McPherson County 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 by use of an emergency response vehicle. Communications available to 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 McPherson County would normally come via citizen report to law enforcement or fire services in the affected area, notification of a release 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 McPherson County, which could affect the county could come from several sources.

1. National Weather Service (NWS): weather phenomena threatening McPherson County would normally be received from the North Platte National Weather Service Station via telephone or by use of the 39.9 radio fan-out net, followed by Weather Alert Radio.

2. Nebraska State Patrol (NSP): notification of hazardous events occurring near or in McPherson 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. Normal mode would be public service telephone through NAWAS to the North Platte Warning Point with subsequent retransmittal to McPherson County via 39.9, the Nebraska Law Enforcement fan-out net could also 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

On notification of a possible or actual emergency or disaster event, the communicator on duty will take action to notify appropriate city and county officials in accordance with their procedures. 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 decision to implement all or portions of this Plan will normally be made by the chief executive of the affected local governments on the advice of emergency response officials. 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 will take charge of all operations directed by this Plan.

1. All county and emergency response agencies 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 McPherson County 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 McPherson County and the affected communities. The effect of a local disaster declaration shall activate the response and recovery aspects of this Plan and 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 with which agreements have been established. On request, McPherson 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 McPherson County 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 is of such severity 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 such as the Nebraska State Patrol and the State Fire Marshal.

3. Under disaster conditions support by state military forces may be requested through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency at the State EOC. Requests for this support will be coordinated by the McPherson County Emergency Management Director. National Guard or military assistance will complement and not be a substitute for local participation in emergency operations. These forces will remain at all times under military command but will support and assist local government. Requests will include objectives, priorities, and other information necessary to accomplish the mission.

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 the actions necessary in McPherson 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 EAS) are in Annex B, Communications and Warning and in Annex D, Emergency Public Information.

2. Protective Shelter: the providing of shelter from the direct effects of hazards in McPherson County focuses on two major hazards, tornadoes and hazardous materials.

   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. McPherson County Schools currently have a plan of action in the event of a tornado.

3. Evacuation: when time permits or when continued presence in the vicinity of a hazard effect poses a threat to the life and safety of the citizens affected, an evacuation may be ordered. McPherson County does not have any areas designated as being within the boundaries of the 100-year flood plain. Any area of the county could be affected by toxic clouds resulting from a fire or hazardous material spill. Evacuation decisions will be made by the incident commander or, if time permits, the chief executive based on 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.

4. Indoor Protection: for some hazardous materials it is safer to keep citizens inside with doors and windows closed rather than to evacuate them. A chemical plume will frequently move quickly past homes. Because air circulation systems can easily transport airborne toxic substances, instructions will be given to shut off all circulation systems both in private and institutional settings.

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 status. 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 (Annex K): plans and procedures for the removal of debris are contained in Annex K. Debris removal will be coordinated in the county by the McPherson County Road Department. Snow emergencies will be declared by the chief executive and enforced by the McPherson County Sheriff and other law enforcement agencies. Snow removal will be in accordance with existing procedures of the county Highway Department.

2. Habitability Inspections (Annex K): subsequent to 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. Personnel assigned by the Executive Group will perform these inspections. Assistance may be requested from the State Fire Marshal's office.

3. Repair and Restoration of Essential Utilities (Annex K): the recovery of utilities to normal service will be coordinated in the county by a person assigned by the Executive Group, 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 a state disaster is proclaimed by the Governor, some costs will be reimbursable under the Governor's Emergency Fund on a matching basis. If a Presidential Disaster Declaration is obtained, matching federal assistance will be available. Because of this, all public recovery actions will be in compliance 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 Department of Environmental Quality is responsible for making decisions regarding Hazardous Waste disposal. Federal law regulates on-site disposal, transportation, and off-site disposal.

6. Assistance to Individuals and Businesses (Annex G): while their recovery from unexpected 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. Relief efforts will be coordinated by the American Red Cross and the State Department of Health and Human Services. Emphasis will be placed on assisting and supporting the aged, handicapped and infirm.

L. Mitigation

1. The County Board members should be aware of their responsibilities for maintaining an on-going program to eliminate hazards or minimize their effects. McPherson County has not been identified as having any areas within a flood plain and is not considered to be in a flood hazard area.

2. To ensure continuity of mitigation efforts, McPherson 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 Chairperson of the County Board of Commissioners 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

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. The McPherson County 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.

B. Exercises

The conduct of exercises and drills of elements of this Plan on an ongoing basis are essential to the maintenance of an emergency response capability and for ensuring the adequacy of this Plan. The McPherson County Emergency Management Director will be responsible for training an exercise design 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 critiqued and any follow-up activities conducted on a timely basis.

IX. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

A. Responsibility

This Plan is the principal source of documentation of McPherson County's emergency management activities. Almost every agency of government has responsibility for developing and maintaining some part of this Plan. Overall coordination of this process will be carried out by the McPherson County Emergency Management Director. The planning process never ends and as situations change, new hazards are identified, or capabilities improve, the Plan should also change. Major changes involving emergency management policy will be approved by the chief executives. Routine changes such as corrections, updated staffing rosters, map annotations, reporting requirements, etc. may be approved by the McPherson County Emergency Management Director.

B. Procedures

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

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 McPherson County 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 McPherson County Board of Commissioners. This would normally occur after any significant change in elected officials. The Emergency Management Director will ensure that this is accomplished.

E. Distribution

The McPherson County 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 page ix. 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 by use of control copy numbers and a distribution log maintained by the McPherson County 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 March 2000, as revised

B. Nebraska State Emergency Alert System Operational Plan, December 1996, as revised

C. 2000 North American Emergency Response Guidebook

D. Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guide, NRT-1, March 1987

E. Nebraska Radiological Emergencies Response Handbook, April 1989

EXECUTIVE GROUP

FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY CHART

P = Primary
S = Supporting

FUNCTION (ANNEX) / POSITION/ORGANIZATION	Continuity Of Government	Direction And Control (A)	Communications And Warning (B)	Damage Assessment (C)	Emergency Public Information (D)	Evacuation (E)	Fire Services (F)	Health And Medical (G)	Law Enforcement (H)	Mass Care (I)	Protective Shelter (J)	Public Works (K)	Resource Management (L)	Plan Maintenance		
Chairperson McPherson County Board of Commissioners	S	P			S											
County Commissioners	P	P			S											

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY CHART

P = Primary
S = Supporting

FUNCTION (ANNEX) / POSITION/ORGANIZATION	Continuity Of Government	Direction And Control (A)	Communications And Warning (B)	Damage Assessment (C)	Emergency Public Information (D)	Evacuation (E)	Fire Services (F)	Health And Medical (G)	Law Enforcement (H)	Mass Care (I)	Protective Shelter (J)	Public Works (K)	Resource Management (L)	Plan Maintenance	
McPherson County Emergency Management Director	S	S	S	S	S	P	S	S	S	S	S	S	P	S	
Community Emergency Management Directors	S	S	S	S	S	P	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
Public Information Officer		S			P									S	
Communications & Warning Officer		S	P	S	S									S	
Radiological Officer		S		S			S	S			S			S	
Shelter Systems Officer										S	P			S	
Medical Coordinator								P		S	S			S	
Public Health Coordinator				S				P		S	S			S	
Damage Assessment Coordinator				P											

COUNTY OFFICIALS

FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY CHART

P = Primary
S = Supporting

FUNCTION (ANNEX) / POSITION/ORGANIZATION	Continuity Of Government	Direction And Control (A)	Communications And Warning (B)	Damage Assessment (C)	Emergency Public Information (D)	Evacuation (E)	Fire Services (F)	Health And Medical (G)	Law Enforcement (H)	Mass Care (I)	Protective Shelter (J)	Public Works (K)	Resource Management (L)	Plan Maintenance	
McPherson County Sheriff			S	S		S			P					S	
County Attorney - Coroner	S	S						S							
County Assessor	S			S										S	
County Clerk	P													S	
County Treasurer	S														
Superintendent of Schools										S	S				
County Highway Superintendent			S			S			S		S	P	S	S	
Extension Agent				S				S					S		
County Emergency Board (CEB)				P			S			S	S		S		
Building Inspector				S							S				
County Engineer				S							S				

CITY OFFICIALS

FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY CHART

P = Primary
S = Supporting

FUNCTION (ANNEX) / POSITION/ORGANIZATION	Continuity Of Government	Direction And Control (A)	Communications And Warning (B)	Damage Assessment (C)	Emergency Public Information (D)	Evacuation (E)	Fire Services (F)	Health And Medical (G)	Law Enforcement (H)	Mass Care (I)	Protective Shelter (J)	Public Works (K)	Resource Management (L)	Plan Maintenance
Fire Chief			S	S			P	S	S					S
City Attorney	S	S												
City Clerk	S													
Director of Public Works		S		S		S			S			P	S	S
Utilities Commissioner		S		S								P	S	S
Building Inspector				S							S	S		
Electrical Inspector				S								S		
City Engineer				S							S	S		
Parks and Recreation Director				S								S		
Street Commissioner				S								S		
City Physician														
Superintendent of Schools										S	S		S	

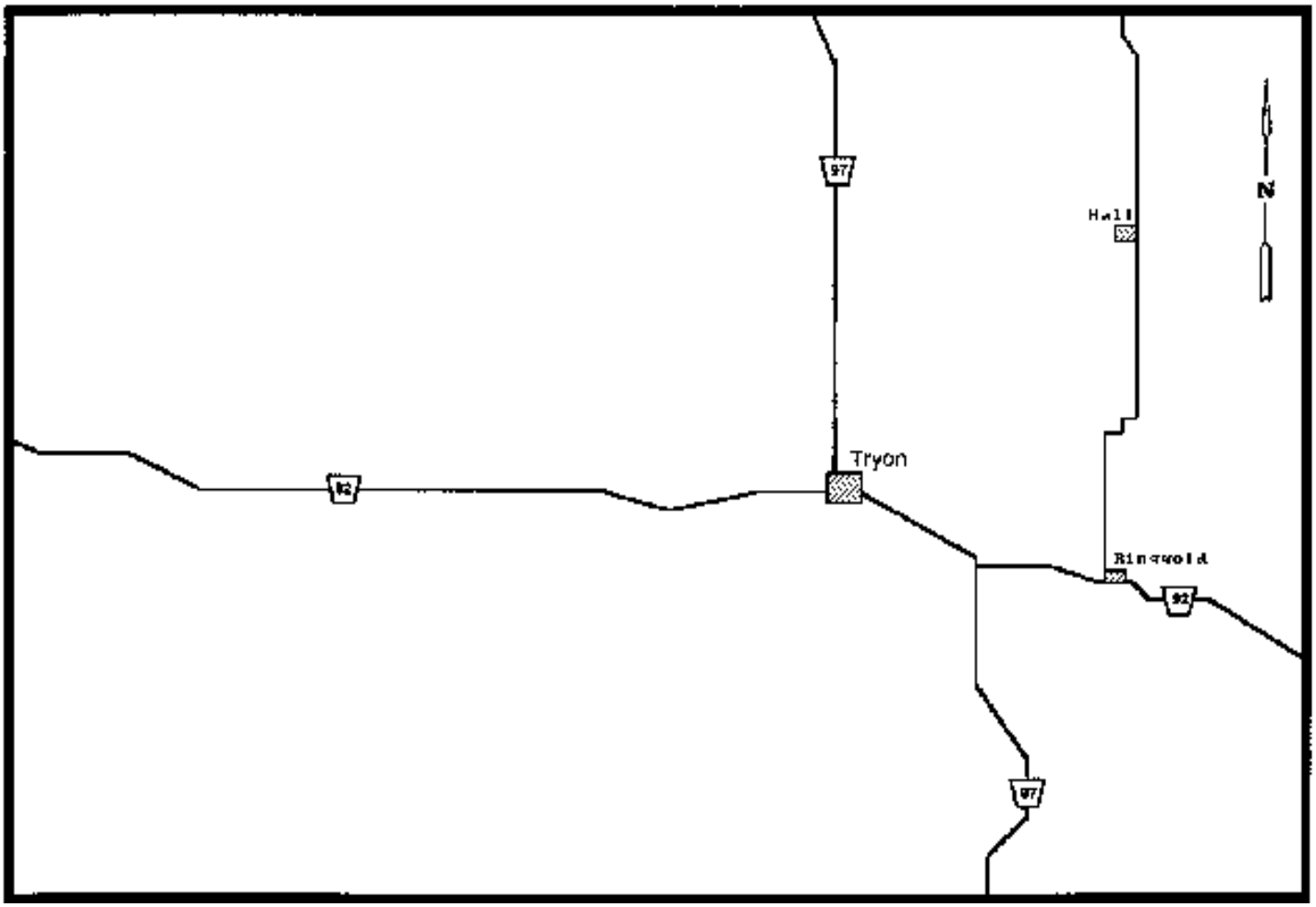
OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY CHART

P = Primary
S = Supporting

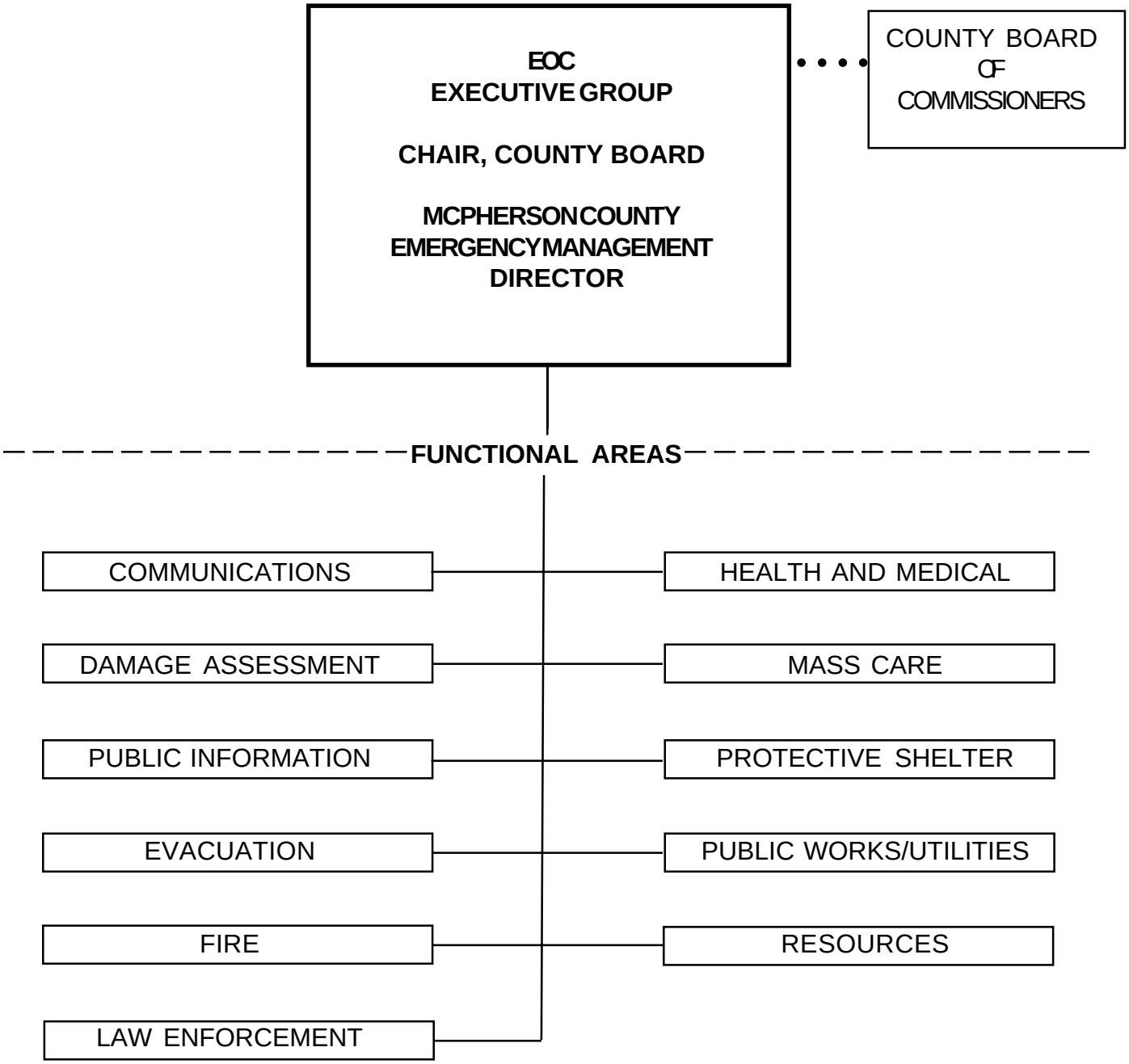
FUNCTION (ANNEX) / POSITION/ORGANIZATION	Continuity Of Government	Direction And Control (A)	Communications And Warning (B)	Damage Assessment (C)	Emergency Public Information (D)	Evacuation (E)	Fire Services (F)	Health And Medical (G)	Law Enforcement (H)	Mass Care (I)	Protective Shelter (J)	Public Works (K)	Resource Management (L)	Plan Maintenance	
Central Plains Chapter, Red Cross				S				S		P				S	
State Fire Marshal				S			P				S	S	S		
Nebraska State Patrol						S			P						
Lincoln County OfficeState Department of HHS								P		S				S	
Sandhills Mutual Aid Association							S								
Amateur Radio Club			S	S						S	S				
Great Plains Communications Co.			S	S								S			
Peoples Natural Gas				S								S			
K-N Energy Company, Inc				S								S			
Nebraska Public Power District				S								S			
Custer Public Power District				S								S			

MCPHERSON COUNTY



DIRECTION AND CONTROL

ORGANIZATION CHART



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 McPherson County.

II. SITUATION

A. The McPherson County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is located at the Firehouse in Tryon.

1. The EOC is not considered an adequate tornado shelter. It has approximately 600 square feet of operations space. Maximum staffing for this facility would be five persons.

2. Adequate auxiliary power is provided by a portable generator.

3. The EOC is equipped with radio capability to communicate with law enforcement, fire/EMS departments, and CB radio. A single telephone line is provided to the EOC.

4. The EOC is maintained in a fully operational mode. Access to the EOC can be controlled.

5. Alternate Emergency Operations Center: in the event the primary EOC is damaged or otherwise unavailable, 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.

B. The above listed EOCs would be supported by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's Mobile Command Post, as necessary.

C. First Responders will use an Incident Command System. One of the first responding disciplines will provide the initial Incident Commander; this will be determined by the nature of the disaster. 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 Response Personnel will normally function from their EOC or be on call during EOC operations.

IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The Direction and Control function is carried out by the Emergency Operations Center Staff, which is comprised of the Chief Executives of government and key officials, as required.

B. The Chairperson of the McPherson County Board of Commissioners is responsible for the county emergency operations including coordination of mutual aid and assuring effective use of resources.

C. Staff, as designated in each functional Annex, is appointed or approved by the McPherson County Board Chairperson and the McPherson County Emergency Management Director. These appointees 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 which do possess the knowledge and professional expertise to be able 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. Serve as disaster operations advisor to the Executive Group,

2. Act as liaison to neighboring and higher levels of government, as required,

3. Develop EOC operations procedures,

4. Assist 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. Manage the operations of the EOC,

6. Coordinate 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.

3. EOC Staff: as defined in each Annex to this Plan.

4. McPherson County Emergency Management

a. McPherson County Emergency Management Director,

b. Deputy Emergency Management Director,

c. _____,

d. _____.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

1. The Chairperson of the County Board, and/or the McPherson County Emergency Management Director has the authority to activate the McPherson County Emergency Operations 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director to the appropriate agency/organization.

3. The decision to activate the Emergency Operations Center will be based upon the severity of the emergency situation. The McPherson County Emergency Management Director 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, which would require increased coordination between response agencies. All emergency support services will maintain a current notification roster to ensure a timely response.

    c. The McPherson County Emergency Management Director may activate the EOC on a limited staffing basis during severe weather watches and warnings.

4. The on-scene commander may establish a field command post. The field command post will maintain close contact and coordination with the EOC.

5. The Emergency Management Director will notify the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, (1-877-297-2368), upon the occurrence of any emergency or disaster that includes multi-agency response and is beyond normal day to day response activities. Using Attachment 3 the Emergency Manager should report as much information as is known at the time of reporting. The information in bold letters is of immediate importance. The EM 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 operations hours.

B. <u>EOC Operations</u>

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. _____,

m. _____.

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 McPherson County and its cities and villages as well as status boards required for tracking significant events/actions.

5. EOC security is provided by the McPherson County Sheriff.

C. <u>EOC Coordination</u>

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 McPherson 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director, 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 local government, the Chief Executive of the jurisdiction may declare an emergency and issue directives to activate local resources required to respond to the incident. (Example: Declaration of a Snow Emergency could implement a parking ban on designated streets and activate snow removal equipment.)

E. Local Disaster Declaration

1. When it appears that response and recovery efforts will exceed normal local capabilities, a Disaster Declaration may be declared by the Chief Executive. See Attachment 4.

2. Within 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. See 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 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. McPherson 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 McPherson County Emergency Management.

   a. Request for assistance from the state must be preceded by a local Disaster Declaration. See Attachment 4.

   b. This request for assistance will be made by the County Board of Commissioners through the McPherson County 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director will advise the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency of these requests.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICS

A. Fiscal

1. McPherson 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 McPherson County 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 ensure that an annual review of this Annex is accomplished.

C. Exercises

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

D. Training

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 and/or the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #	Item	Page
1	County Officials and EOC Staff	A-10
2	City/Village Officials and EOC Staff	A-12
3	Incident Status Report	A-13
4	Sample Disaster Declaration	A-15
5	Emergency Disaster Checklist For Obtaining State/Federal Assistance	A-16

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: _____ Name _____

Call back number: _____

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:

_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____

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.

McPherson County 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 McPherson County within the disaster area

Therefore, the Chair of the McPherson County Board of Commissioners has declared a state of emergency authorized under Nebraska State Statute R.R.S. 81-829.50 on behalf of McPherson County, and will execute for and on behalf of McPherson County 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, McPherson County
Board of Commissioners
(or by appointed authorized representative)

WITNESS my hand and the seal of my office this_____day of_____, 20___.

_____
County Clerk

_____
Date

EMERGENCY/DISASTER CHECKLIST FOR OBTAINING STATE/FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

1. Is the emergency/disaster response and/or recovery requirement beyond your jurisdiction's capabilities? YES NO

2. Have you requested mutual aid? YES NO

   If NO, mutual aid resources are listed in the Annexes appropriate to the functional area. (Example: For fire, refer to Fire Services - Annex F; medical - Annex G; law enforcement - Annex H)

3. Have you made an initial assessment of damages and resource requirements? YES NO

   If NO, Damage Assessment instructions are in Annex C.

4. Has a Local Disaster Declaration been made 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 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

EMERGENCY/DISASTER CHECKLIST
FOR OBTAINING STATE/FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

If NO, notify as follows:

Call 1-877-297-2368 (toll free)

- or -

_____ NAWAS Warning Point

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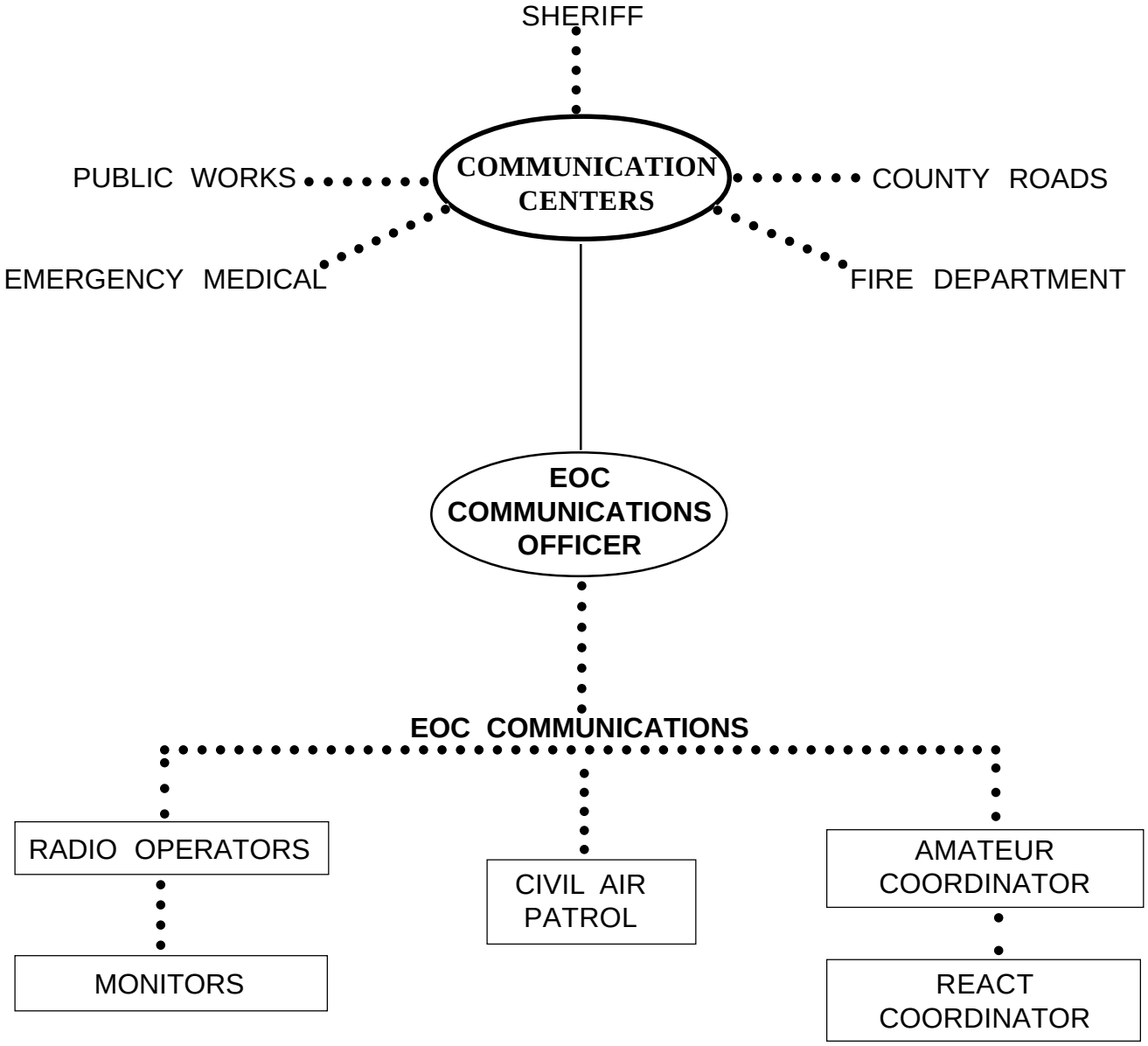
COMMUNICATIONS AND WARNING



COMMUNICATIONS AND WARNING

I. PURPOSE

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

II. SITUATION

Primary communication services are provided by the McPherson County Sheriff's office. McPherson County does not operate a 24-hour communications center. There are sufficient communications and warning equipment 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. McPherson County has some facilities such as schools, recreation areas, 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. Warning would be disseminated over the National Warning System (NAWAS) 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 McPherson County upon notification of a disaster.

IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

The communications and warning function will be under the direction and coordination of the Communications Officer of each emergency service, i.e., the McPherson County Sheriff, the McPherson County Rural 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, to include a current roster of personnel to ensure 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 Operations Center (EOC)

   a. The EOC is equipped with adequate communications equipment to transmit and receive pertinent information. (See Attachment 3 for communications capabilities.)

   b. In the event of commercial power failure, a gasoline generator will provide power for essential equipment in the EOC and communications center.

   c. Telephone service during emergency operations is accommodated through pre-installed and readily available telephone lines from the EOC to the local telephone exchange.

      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) Priority of service restoration, both cellular and non-cellular, shall be established by the Executive Group and/or the Communications Coordinator.

2. McPherson County Sheriff's Office

   a. The McPherson County Sheriff's Office is located at the Courthouse in Tryon. The frequencies used on a daily basis are listed in Attachment 3.

   b. Antennas are located by the Courthouse in Tryon.

c. The Sheriff's Office is not equipped with auxiliary power to continue operations should a power outage occur.

d. Warnings will be received by the McPherson County Sheriff via the NAWAS 39.9mHz fan out net from the North Platte Warning Point.

3. Nebraska State Patrol

a. The Nebraska State Patrol Troop headquarters is located in North Platte and provides service to McPherson County. The frequencies used on a daily basis are listed in Attachment 3.

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.

6. Other Jurisdictions

Communication capabilities exist in other jurisdictions within McPherson County and are listed in Attachment 3.

7. Amateur Radio

An Amateur Radio Club may respond to McPherson County and support McPherson County by providing additional communications to support the Emergency Management response and recovery operations in the event of a disaster. Amateur radio operators will relocate with their equipment to the designated operating location.

8. REACT (or CB Club)

During disaster situations, a REACT CB Radio Club may respond to McPherson County and provide emergency communication support to McPherson County.

9. Civil Air Patrol

During disaster situations, members of the Nebraska Wing of the Civil Air Patrol may support McPherson County disaster relief operations with VHF and HF frequency radio, as well as assist with damage assessment, disaster welfare inquiries and aerial reconnaissance/damage assessment.

10. Communication Protection

    a. Lightning will be guarded against by using standard lightning protective techniques during severe weather.

    b. Wind can damage antennas, but with sufficient planning, alternate or temporary antennas can be utilized.

B. Warning

1. The National Warning System (NAWAS): a Federal system of high priority, dedicated communications. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency Communications Officer is responsible for operation of the system. Maintenance on the NAWAS system is performed by the telephone company.

    a. The Nebraska NAWAS System is that part of the National Warning System within the State.

    b. The State Warning Point is established at the Nebraska State Patrol Headquarters, and the State Emergency Operating Center is designated as the Alternate State Warning Point.

    c. Although warning information can originate from several sources, all relevant warning information is passed via NAWAS to all warning points within the State.

    d. From the NAWAS warning points, information is disseminated to county warning points, without NAWAS, by the Sheriff's Radio Network (39.9 MHz). This system is outlined on the map of the Nebraska Emergency Management Warning Network (Attachment 6)..

2. Notification of Officials

    a. The McPherson County Sheriff will alert county officials, the McPherson County Emergency Management Director and others on the McPherson County EOC staff immediately after initiating public warning. See Attachment 1. Refer to tornado watch/warning procedures.

    b. Pagers are utilized to provide warning to local fire and rescue personnel. See Attachment 2. Pagers are activated by radio from the Fire Chief's house.

3. Warning The Public

    a. The McPherson County Emergency Management Director will provide warning to the public by notifying the McPherson County Sheriff and the McPherson County Fire and Rescue Department. They in turn will

operate vehicle sirens to notify the resident of Tryon of a impending severe storm event.

b. The authority to activate the vehicle sirens in Tryon rests with the Fire Chief and the McPherson County Sheriff.

c. Warning to the public may also be provided by immediate broadcast via KX104-FM (a local station is commonly used, not necessarily an EAS station).

4. Tornado Watch:

McPherson County has an established tornado-spotting program with assistance from trained rural spotters, local amateurs, and law enforcement personnel. Reports from REACT and amateur spotters are made to the McPherson County Sheriff who in turn contacts the local responders via radio or telephone. Reports from the public, rural spotters, and law enforcement personnel are made direct to their respective agency. In the event phone lines to Sheriff's office–are busy, the alternate agency to notify is the McPherson County Fire and Rescue Department.

5. Flood Watch/Warning

a. Emergency Preparedness Plans for the Platte River Watershed have been developed by the Twin Platte Natural Resources District. These plans include Notification Lists whereby the McPherson 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. Flood watch/warning procedures are conducted by McPherson County Emergency Management Director. During periods when the potential for severe flooding is increased, the McPherson County Emergency Management Director will obtain local stream and weather conditions and forwards the information to the National Weather Service Office in Valley and to the National Weather Service Forecast Center in Kansas City where flood watches/warnings are issued.

c. The public is notified by Radio Station KX104-FM or Television Station KNOP-TV2.

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 10 pounds 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, shall notify, immediately after the release, the Community Emergency Coordinator (CEC) identified in Annex F, IV, B, for 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.

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 3. This information should be given to the extent known at the time of notification.

d. The public is notified through Radio Station KX104-FM or Television Station KNOP-TV2.

7. The Nebraska Emergency Alert System (EAS): provides disaster information and instruction to the public through the electronic media. Local officials, have the authority to request activation of the Nebraska EAS Web 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. See Attachment 5.

8. Cable TV Access**:** there are no provisions made for Cable TV Access in the McPherson County area.

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

McPherson 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. Training

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.

C. 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.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #	Item	Page
1	Notification Chart	B-9
2	Pager Distribution List	B-10
3	County Communication Capabilities	B-11
4	Warning Siren Locations	B-12
5	Nebraska EAS Operational Areas	B-13
6	NAWAS Network (Map and Directions)	B-14

NOTIFICATION CHART
ANNEX B - ATTACHMENT 1

NAWAS WARNING POINT
North Platte, NE

NAWAS FANOUT 39.9

McPherson County Sheriff's Office
Tryon, NE

MEDIA

- Tryon Graphic - Tryon
- KODY- AM1240/KX104-FM - North Platte
- KNOP-TV2/North Platte

GOVERNMENTAL

- McPherson County Sheriff
- McPherson County Emergency Management
- County Board Members

FIRE DEPARTMENTS

- McPherson County Rural Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department

NON-GOVERNMENTAL

- McPherson County Schools

PAGER DISTRIBUTION LIST

NAME or TITLE	TYPE Radio/Phone	HOW ACTIVATED?
McPherson County Fire & Rescue	Radio	Radio From Chief's House

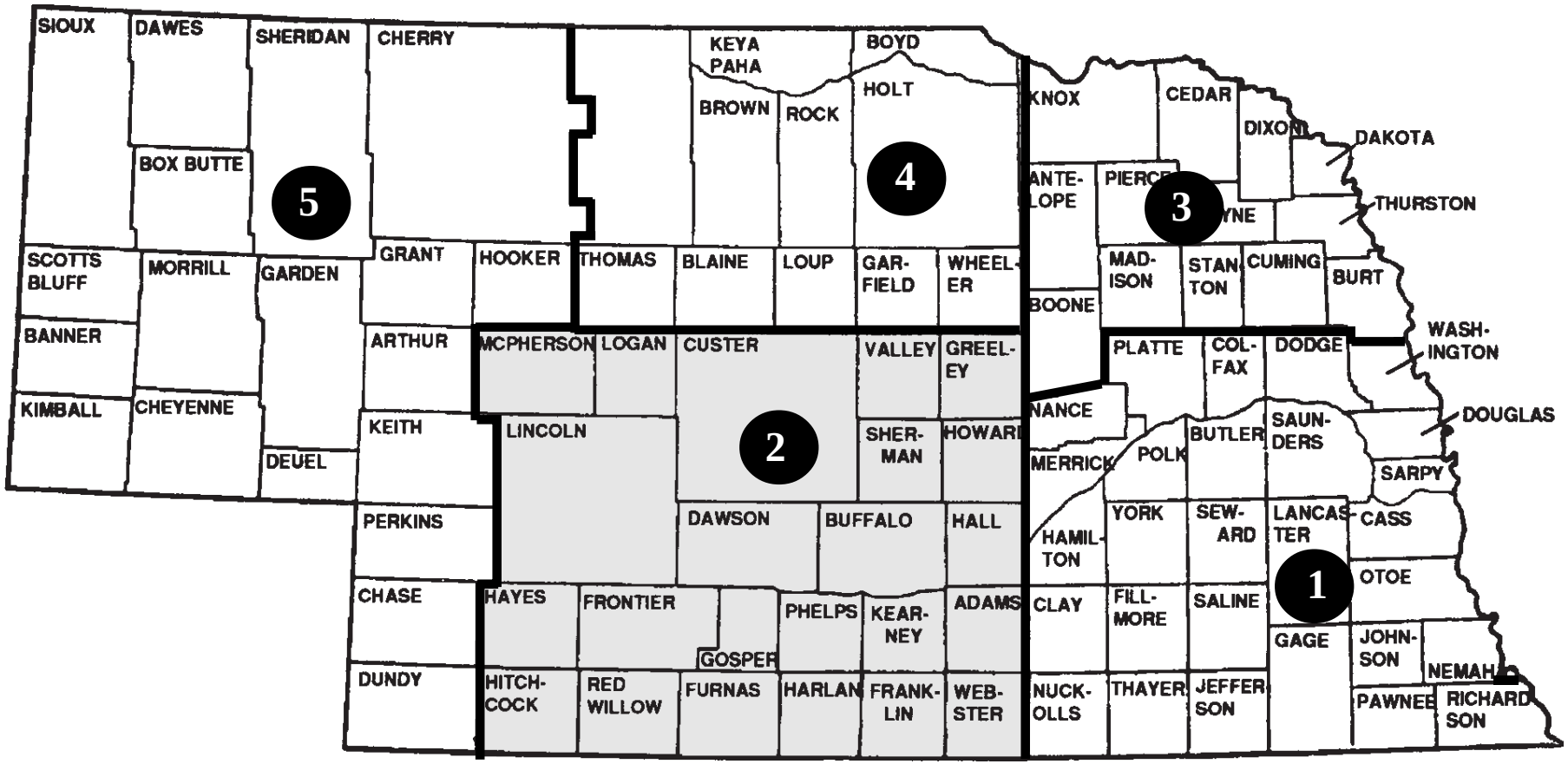
MCPHERSON COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS

AGENCY/ADDRESS	FREQUENCY/ CAPABILITY	FUNCTION
EOC	39.90 T/R	Law Enforcement/Fire
McPherson County Sheriff's Office	39.90 T/R	Law Enforcement
County Courthouse	39.98 T/R	Law Enforcement

SIREN LOCATIONS IN MCPHERSON COUNTY

There are no Outdoor Sirens in McPherson County.

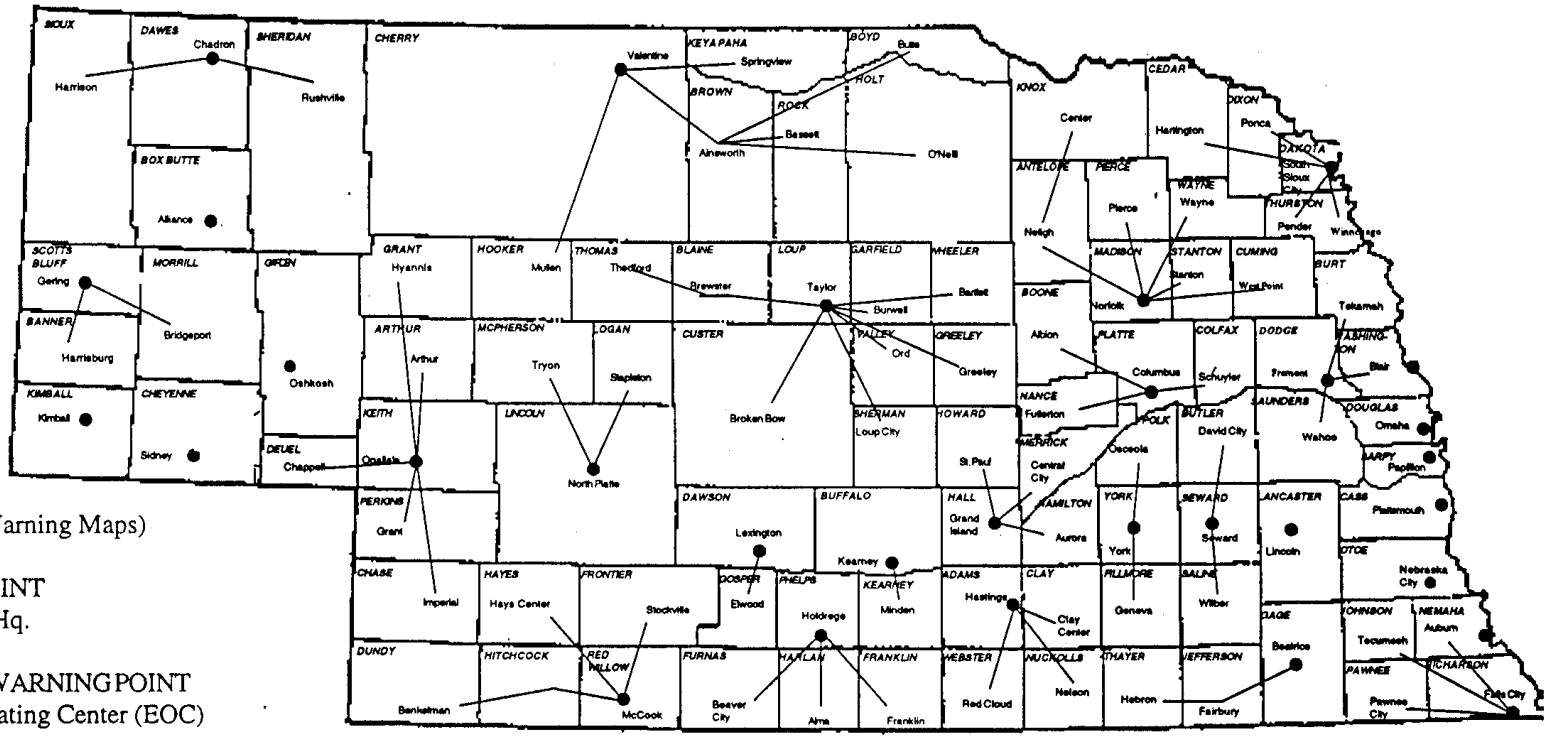
Nebraska Emergency Alert System Operational Areas



Local Stations (LP-1) in Area 2

Broken Bow KCNI-am 1280
Broken Bow KNJP-fm 92.1
Grand Island KRGI-am/fm 1430/96.5
Grand Island KGIN-TV Channel 11
Hastings KHAS-am 1230
Hastings KEZH-fm 101.5
Hastings KHAS-TV Channel 5
Kearney KGFW-am 1340
Kearney KQKY-fm 105.9
Kearney KHGI-TV Channel 13
Lexington KRVN-am/fm 880/93.1
McCook KBRL-am 1300
McCook KKYT-fm 105.3
McCook KSNK-TV Channel 8
North Platte KODY-am 1240
North Platte KJLT-fm 94.9
North Platte KNOP-TV Channel 2

Nebraska Emergency Management Warning Network



February 1999
(Supersedes previous Warning Maps)

STATE WARNING POINT
Nebraska State Patrol Hq.
Lincoln, Nebraska
ALTERNATE STATE WARNING POINT
State Emergency Operating Center (EOC)
Lincoln, Nebraska

- NAWAS - (National Warning System) Special Telephone Lines

— RADIO - (Sheriff's Net) 39.9 MHz

Each Warning Point can ascertain its area of warning responsibility by following the arrows from a Warning Point

Warning Points will relay the warning or test to its respective counties.

All persons involved in the Nebraska Warning System should be aware that the Emergency Management FAN-OUT TESTS are termed, "Test, Ten-One-Zero-One".

NEBRASKA NAWAS SERVICE POINTS

*Alliance, Police Department
*Beatrice, Police Department
*Chadron, Police Department
*Cheyenne County, Sheriff's Office
Cheyenne, Wyoming Weather
*Columbus, Police Department
Cooper Nuclear Power Station
*Dakota County, Emergency Management Agency
Ft. Calhoun Nuclear Power Station
*Fremont, Police Department
Fremont EOC
*Garden County, Sheriff's Office
Goodland, Kansas Weather
*Grand Island 911 Center
Grand Island EOC
*Hastings, Emergency Center
Hastings EOC
Hastings Weather
*Holdrege, Police Department
*Kearney Buffalo Co. CommCenter
Kearney EOC
*Kimball Consolidated Comm Ctr
Kimball EOC
*Lexington, Police Department
*Lincoln Emergency Communications
Lincoln EOC
*McCook, Police Department
Nebraska Public Power, Doniphan
*Norfolk, Police Department
*North Platte, Police Department
North Platte Weather Service
*Ogallala, Police Department
*Omaha Commo, Div., Public Safety Dept.
Omaha/Valley Weather Service
*Otoe County, Sheriff's Office
Otoe County EOC
*Papillion, Sarpy Co Sheriff's Office
*Plattsmouth, Sheriff's Office
*Richardson County, Sheriff's Office
Richardson County EOC
*Scotts Bluff County Consolidated Communications Center
*Seward, Sheriff's Office
Sioux Falls Weather, South Dakota
*Taylor, Reg 26 Communications Center
*Valentine, Cherry Co Sheriff's Office
*York, Sheriff's Office
York EOC

24 Hour Active Warning Points

Emergency Management Warning Procedures

TESTS

The State Warning Point will issue the regular twice daily tests to Warning Points Only.

Periodic tests will be conducted on a voice roll-call basis, by the Alternate State Warning Point (Emergency Operating Center, Lincoln). These tests, designated as "TEST, TEN-ONE-ZERO-ONE (10-101)", will be relayed to the counties. Each Warning Point will ascertain the counties acknowledging the test in its area of responsibility. The Warning Point will then return an "ALL CONFIRMED" or a negative report to the Alternate State Warning Point. An example of "negative report" is as follows:

Grand Island - "Grand Island to Nebraska Alternate"
Alternate State Warning Point - - "This is Nebraska Alternate, OVER"
Grand Island - "Negative copy, Howard and Merrick Counties, OVER"
Alternate State Warning Point - "ROGER, Nebraska Alternate, OUT".

Attack

STATE. Upon receipt of the warning, the operator at the State Warning Point located in Nebraska State Patrol Headquarters, Lincoln, Nebraska, will clear the NAWAS network of all traffic and obtain acknowledgement of the warning from each Warning Point within the State. An Alternate State Warning Point is located at the State Emergency Operating Center, Lincoln, Nebraska, thereby providing an alternate means of disseminating tactical warning and immediately disseminate the warning over the secondary warning network (39.9 MHz., Sheriff's radio network, see map on opposite side) thereby alerting each county in the State.

LOCAL. Due to the large number of stations involved (93 counties), counties will acknowledge receipt of Warning to their respective Warning Points (NAWAS). Thus, acknowledgement from the perspective Warning Points can then be received by the State Warning Point or Nebraska Alternate.

The dissemination of the warning and warning information within the counties and municipalities will be the responsibility of the Sheriff and/or local Police in accordance with county and municipal Emergency Management warning plans. The local governments will then alert the public by means of the public warning systems that have been devised for their respective localities.

TESTS

To test the State Warning System: A voice check will be made periodically by the State Warning Point or Alternate State Warning Point.

Attack

To disseminate the "Attack Warning", with the ultimate goal of reaching every person in the State of Nebraska in adequate time so that they may "Take Cover" or other necessary action.

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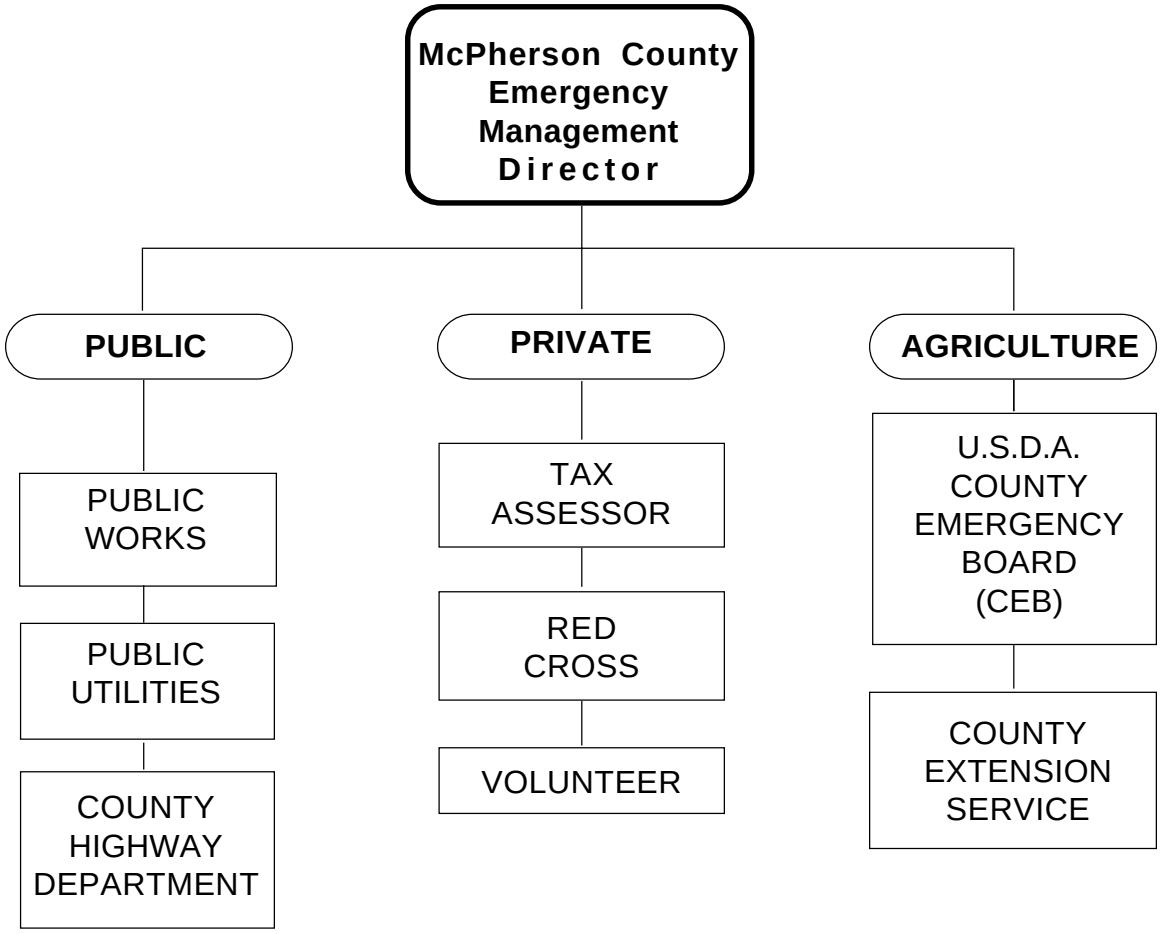
DAMAGE ASSESSMENT



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

McPherson County is situated in an area considered 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 will be of vital concern to local officials. A rapid response will have a direct bearing on the manner in which recovery is affected in McPherson County.

B. For any emergency involving radiological materials, the Nebraska Health and Human Services System Regulation and Licensure division, under RRS-71-3513 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.

C. 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director 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. Establish point of contact with officials of affected jurisdictions and determine approximate area affected.

2. Gather information from all sources, both public and private, that have been affected by the incident as quickly as it is available.

3. Provide updated information gathered from both public and private entities to the Executive Group and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency using the same Incident Status Report from Annex A used to initially report the incident. (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 accomplish assessment of agricultural damages with assistance from other USDA agencies, as needed. All information will be forwarded to the USDA State Emergency Board and may be available to the McPherson 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 Regulation and Licensure division will accomplish detailed hazard assessment to determine possible threat to population 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

Safety inspection of residences and businesses to determine habitability will be accomplished by a person designated by the Executive Group, assisted by Fire and Utility personnel. The assistance of the State Fire Marshal may be requested. Data obtained during safety inspections will be included in damage assessment reports.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Initial Assessment

1. Facilities considered critical for emergency operations, the health, welfare and safety of the people and for timely dissemination of public information are listed in Attachment 1. Survey of the facilities will be given high priority during initial damage assessment. 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 may 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. 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, 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 training and briefing to Local Officials on how they will conduct their assessment.

   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.

VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

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

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

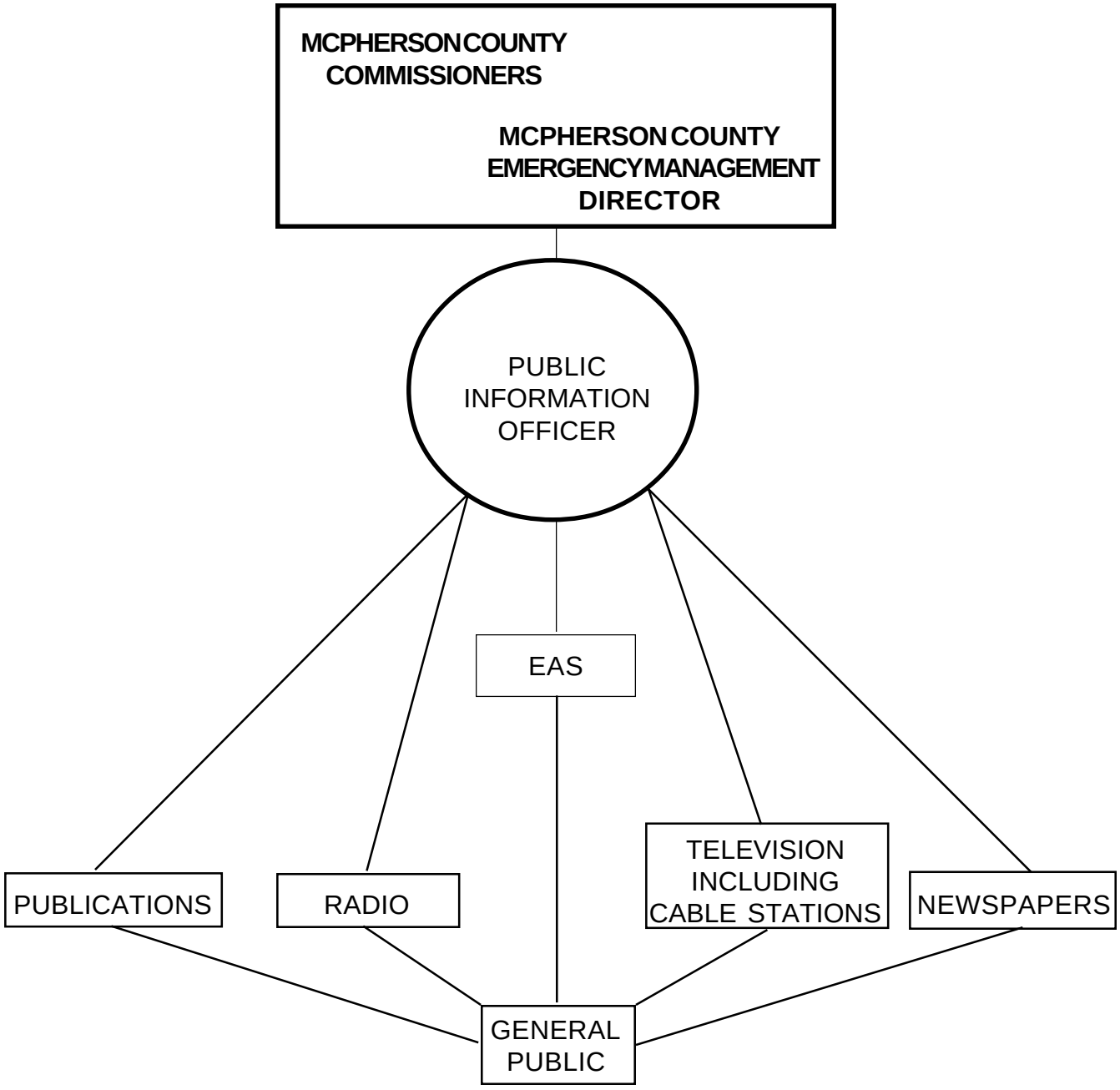
Attachment #	Title	Page
1	Key Facilities	C-6

KEY FACILITIES

Building	
Courthouse in Tryon	510 Anderson Street
County Road Department	Southwest Tryon
County High School, Dist #90	450 Platt Street
Grade School, Dist #4	541 Anderson Street

EMERGENCY

PUBLIC INFORMATION



COORDINATION — — — —

CONTROL ————

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 KODY-AM 1240 in North Platte is the primary Emergency Alert Station for Nebraska Operational Area 2, which includes McPherson County. Initial weather alerts and warnings and national emergency warnings are disseminated from this station.

B. McPherson County officials will primarily use KODY-AM1240/KX 104 FM in North Platte to broadcast emergency instructions and information directed to people within the County.

C. There is no Cable Television Service in McPherson County. As such emergency public information cannot be disseminated in McPherson County through an over-ride capability.

D. There are no daily and only one weekly newspaper in McPherson County. Newspapers will be used for disseminating written instructions to the general public.

III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

A. There are no known groups of non-English speaking people in McPherson County. Every household has members who can adequately read the newspaper and/or understand spoken English.

B. Provisions have been implemented in McPherson County 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. Public information activities are directed by the Public Information Officer (PIO). The PIO is responsible for the collection, coordination, and dissemination of emergency public information.

B. The Public Information Officer will be appointed by the Executive Group, and will be the official spokesperson for the County 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 McPherson County 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,

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 PIO,

3. Releases information concerning the state's involvement and/or activities.

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 government PIOs,

2. Releases information concerning the federal government's involvement and/or activities.

F. Volunteer and private organization 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 to ensure that only accurate information is presented see Attachment 1. This will be accomplished through:

   a. Coordination and exchange of information between 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 having 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. Telephone numbers for Rumor Control would be publicized by the media. 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, public education will be increased to use all available media resources.

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. Media Release Center (MRC/JIC)

   a. The Media Release Center is a designated point where the PIO will conduct news briefings and conferences. The Courthouse in Tryon 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. A list of local radio/television /cable stations is included in attachment 2. Routine information will be given to the media through the Media Release Center briefings.

   b. Procedures for activation of the Emergency Alert System (EAS): implementation of the EAS system will be through KODY-am 1240 (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 will designate a Public Information Officer who 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 warning 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 use of the state warning system to ensure that all methods of dissemination are available.

4. The Nebraska Education Television Network, 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 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.

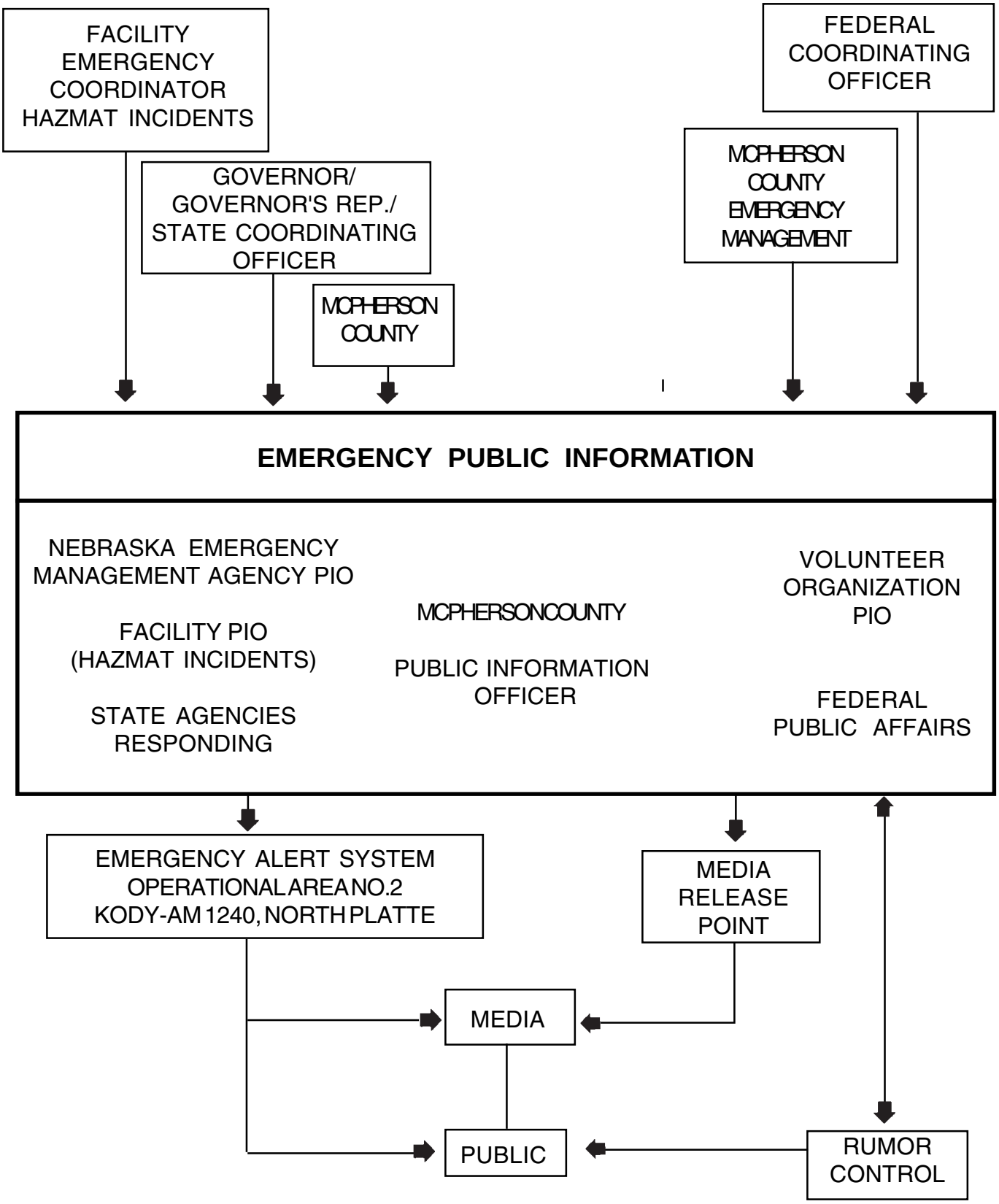
B. The Emergency Management Director will revise this Annex based upon the recommendations of the PIO.

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

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #	Item	Page
1	Information Flow Chart	D-8
2	Public Information Resources	D-9

INFORMATION FLOW



PUBLIC INFORMATION RESOURCES

RADIO

EAS PRIMARY STATION

KODY-AM 1240 KX FM 104	Phone:	532-3344
P.O. Box 1085	FAX:	
North Platte, NE 69103	Hotline:	
	Contact:	

KOOQ-AM 1410	Phone:	532-1120
KLEN-FM 97.1	FAX:	
P.O. Box 248	Hotline :	
North Platte, NE 69103	Contact:	

KRVN-AM 880/FM 93.1	Phone:	324-2371
1007 Plum Creek Parkway	FAX:	
P.O. Box 880	Hotline:	
Lexington, NE 68850	Contact:	

TELEVISION

KNOP-TV (Ch-2)	Phone:	532-2222
North HWY 83	FAX:	
P.O. Box 749	Hotline:	
North Platte, NE 69101	Contact:	

CABLE TELEVISION

Phone:	
FAX:	
Contact:	

NEWSPAPERS

Daily

North Platte Telegraph	Phone:	532-6000
621 North Chestnut	FAX:	
P.O. Box 370	Contact:	
North Platte, NE 69103		

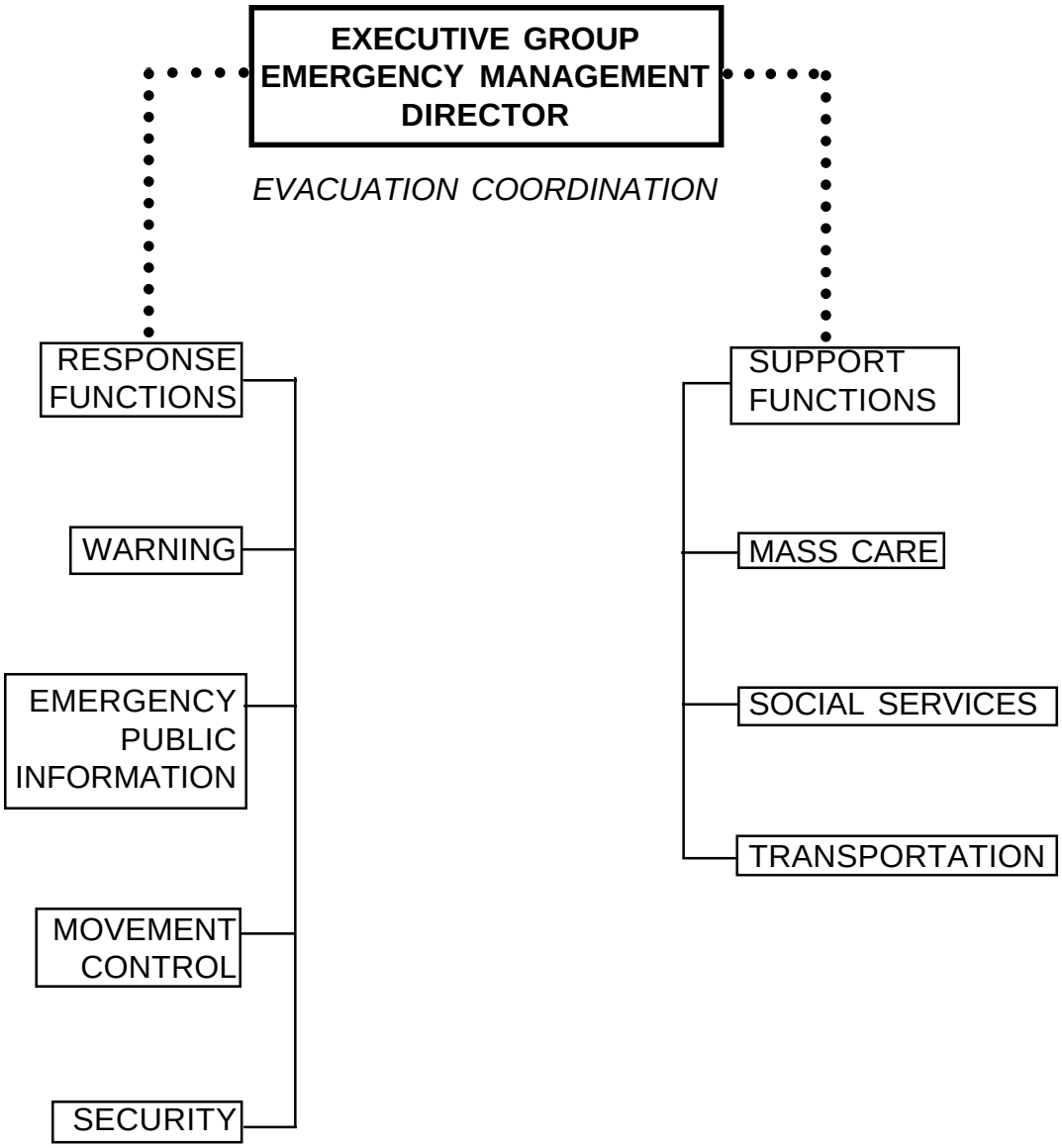
Weekly

Tryon Graphic	Phone:	587-2433
P.O. Box 8	FAX:	
Tryon, NE 69167	Contact:	

PRINTERS

Tryon Graphic	Phone:	587-2433
P.O. Box 8	FAX:	
Tryon, NE 69167	Contact:	

E V A C U A T I O N


EXECUTIVE GROUP
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
DIRECTOR
EVACUATION COORDINATION
RESPONSE FUNCTIONS
WARNING
EMERGENCY PUBLIC INFORMATION
MOVEMENT CONTROL
SECURITY
SUPPORT FUNCTIONS
MASS CARE
SOCIAL SERVICES
TRANSPORTATION

EVACUATION

I. PURPOSE

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

II. SITUATION

A. The McPherson County Emergency Management Director has identified hazards, which could result in the need to evacuate. The most probable of these are wild-land fires or a hazardous materials incident.

B. Some degree of flooding along some of the small creeks in McPherson County may occur 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. No areas of McPherson County are within a 100-year flood plain.

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 97 or 92, 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 95. Other facilities, which could pose special evacuation problems, are the local recreation areas.

III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

A. While some evacuations allow time for 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. Maximum traffic congestion should be expected.

C. There would not normally be time to obtain manpower support from outside the county. Local government resources could be severely stressed.

D. 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.

E. Reception centers may not be fully set up to handle the evacuees.

F. 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.

G. Some people will refuse to evacuate.

H. State and federal highways receive priority snow removal by the Department of Roads and may therefore be expected to be open at all times. County roads in the area are mainly graveled, and the road nets are sufficiently developed that alternate routes can be developed if temporary closures are experienced. Priority school bus routes, which receive county priority clearance, will also support 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 on-scene command authority can make a decision to evacuate. Key organizational requirements are:

A. Local Emergency Management Director

Responsible for advising the Executive Group on the evacuation decision, for coordinating evacuation support activities, providing for special transportation needs, and managing resources.

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 evacuation routes and for providing traffic control devices.

E. Public Information Officer

Responsible for 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 will be supported by the Salvation Army and other service organizations. Mass care operations are defined in Annex I.

G. Lincoln County Office, State Department of Health and Human Services

Will ensure that Social Service programs are continued and supported by other area programs, such as 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 support other law enforcement agencies.

I. Affected Facilities (Hazardous Materials Incident)

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

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Direction and Control

The Emergency Operations Center may have been 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. In situations where rapid evacuation is critical to the continued health and safety of the population, the on-scene command authority may order an evacuation. During floods, evacuation orders will generally be initiated after evaluation and recommendation of McPherson County Emergency Management Director. 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.

2. Evacuation will normally be ordered by the chief executive of the affected political subdivision.

C. Evacuation Decision Considerations

Evacuation may be only one of several protective action alternatives. Care must be exercised by decision makers 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 groups such as nursing homes or the hospital. 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 provided 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: on 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 notice. Consideration should be given to early evacuation of schools and large gatherings.

2. Evacuation Warning: Local volunteers 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 Emergency 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. Designated Emergency Responders (Fire/EMS) will sweep the evacuated area to ensure all persons have been advised and have responded. Persons who refuse 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

It is anticipated that the primary evacuation mode will be in private vehicles. Actual evacuation movement efforts will be conducted by the law enforcement agencies involved.

1. Evacuation routes will be selected by McPherson County Sheriff at the time of the evacuation decision. Movement instructions will be part of the warning and subsequent public information releases.

2. 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.

3. The McPherson County Sheriff will coordinate use of wrecker services needed to clear disabled vehicles.

4. Traffic control devices such as signs and barricades will be provided by the McPherson County Road Department with assistance from the Nebraska Department of Roads.

G. Transportation

The McPherson County 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director will make provisions for the use of government or volunteer vehicles to transport these individuals. The public will be instructed to notify the McPherson County Sheriff's Office of any special transportation problems.

3. Health Care Transportation: the evacuation of the elderly and disabled pose special transportation problems. The McPherson County Emergency Management Director will coordinate with the respective medical authorities to determine specific transportation needs. Ambulances from the fire department in McPherson 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director maintains a listing of all such resources. See 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. The McPherson County Schools does have in-place an emergency response plan in compliance with Title X.

2. The McPherson County Schools does not operate any type of bus service. Transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the student's parents.

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 the evacuation, is over,

2. If needed, ensure that homes have been inspected to determine if they are safe to return to,

3. Determine the number of persons in shelter, 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 reactivating utilities. In addition, issue proper clean-up instructions, if necessary.

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. The prevention of overcrowding, spread of disease, and development of unsanitary conditions/practices is a responsibility of this agency.

3. State Fire Marshal: this office 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. 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. 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director is responsible for annual review and update of this Annex.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #	Item	Page
1	Public Transportation Assembly Areas	E-11
Appendix 1	Flood\Dam Failure Evacuation	E-13

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSEMBLY AREAS

(NAME OF TOWN/VILLAGE)

NAME	LOCATION
1. Courthouse	Tryon
2. High School	Tryon

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. McPherson County currently does not have any areas listed under the 100-year flood plain by the Federal Flood Insurance Program. While occasionally minor flooding does occur around some of the smaller creeks, this flooding affects ranchland and does not affect any key facilities within McPherson County.

B. There are no Dams or Reservoirs within the borders of McPherson County.

FIRE SERVICES

MCPHERSON COUNTY RURAL FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

SANDHILLS MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION

and

MIDPLAINS 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. McPherson County is vulnerable to various severe weather phenomena and failure of man-made structures, which have the potential to destroy property and cause loss of life.

B. There are major vehicular transportation routes, which pass through the county. On these routes, truck traffic does transport some 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.

D. McPherson County is served by One Fire Department, which operates the Rescue Squad. See Attachment 1. The Fire Department is a member of the Sandhills County Mutual Aid Association and the Mid Plains Mutual Aid Association.

E. There are no Private/Company Fire Brigades located in McPherson 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. See Annex K.

C. Law enforcement will handle on-scene traffic and crowd control to permit access for emergency personnel and equipment.

D. In the event of a radiological incident/accident involving McPherson County, radiological response activities of local Fire Departments will be directed by the Health and Human Services System's Regulation and Licensure division.

IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The primary responsibilities of the Fire Services are: prevention and suppression of fires; rescue services; and response to hazardous material incidents.

B. The Fire Chief 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 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, coordinate with other governmental response authorities and Facility Emergency Coordinators in the event of a hazardous material incident.

D. During emergency operations, the Fire Chief, or a designated representative, will serve as a member of the EOC staff.

E. In the event of a situation, which requires that more than one Fire Department respond to an incident 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 and/or incident command system and policies of his/her department.

   b. Coordinate and direct volunteers assisting the Fire Department.

   c. Maintain current file of information submitted under Title III to include:

      1) List of reporting facilities and the Facility Emergency Coordinators (FEC).

      2) Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS), Inventory lists or Tier II reports.

   d. Preplan response to facilities where hazardous materials are produced, used, or stored.

   e. Coordinate fire inspections for homes or commercial buildings during or after a disaster to ascertain if the facility is safe for occupancy.

2. Senior Fire Officer

   a. Direct the level of response, request mutual aid or other assistance, and make all 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. See Annex G.

   d. Authorize Fire Department personnel and equipment to respond to mutual aid requests.

G. Lines of Succession

Each Fire Department's line of succession is as follows

1. Fire Chief,

2. Assistant Fire Chief/Captain(s),

3. 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director to coordinate additional support.

   b. Request assistance from 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 initial response, and, if possible, containment of hazardous material incidents within their level of training and certification. The incident commander will coordinate with law enforcement regarding

   a. Defining hazard area,

   b. Limiting access requirements,

   c. Providing advice on 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,

b. Accidents involving radioactive materials

1) Immediate notification to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure division is required. Once they have been notified, it is their responsibility to determine what radiation control actions is 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director for coordinating additional support and for notification of/reporting to 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 McPherson County 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. An adjacent Fire Department's Rescue Unit when the local Fire Department does not operate a Rescue Unit or when the Rescue Unit is unavailable. Fire Departments have signed agreements outlining Rescue Unit's jurisdictions and mutual aid agreements.

3. The Rescue Units of the individual Fire Departments have the capability to provide basic life support only. North Platte Fire/Rescue Service 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 McPherson County Mutual Aid Association Resource Directory and the McPherson 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 McPherson County may go on full time status with twelve (12) hour shifts. 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.

3. The fire district within McPherson County will maintain their normal jurisdictional responsibilities.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICS

A. Administration

Normal administrative records of utilization of personnel, equipment. and materials will be maintained by individual Fire Departments. Accurate record keeping will identify specific needs in the event of a major disaster, which can readily be provided to the Resources Coordinator. See 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. 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. _____

2. Intra-agency action will be taken to inform other emergency support agencies of the physical hazards associated with fire emergencies.

D. General

Some of the information contained in this Annex may also be found in the publication "Rural Fire Plan, Sandhills Mutual Aid Association" dated 1996 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.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

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APPENDIX 1	HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RESPONSE	F-13
Attachment		
1	Facilities and Vulnerable Areas in McPherson County	F-24
2	Hazardous Material Transportation Routes	F-27
3	Hazardous Material Incident Report Form	F-28
4	Emergency Notification/Telephone Roster	F-29
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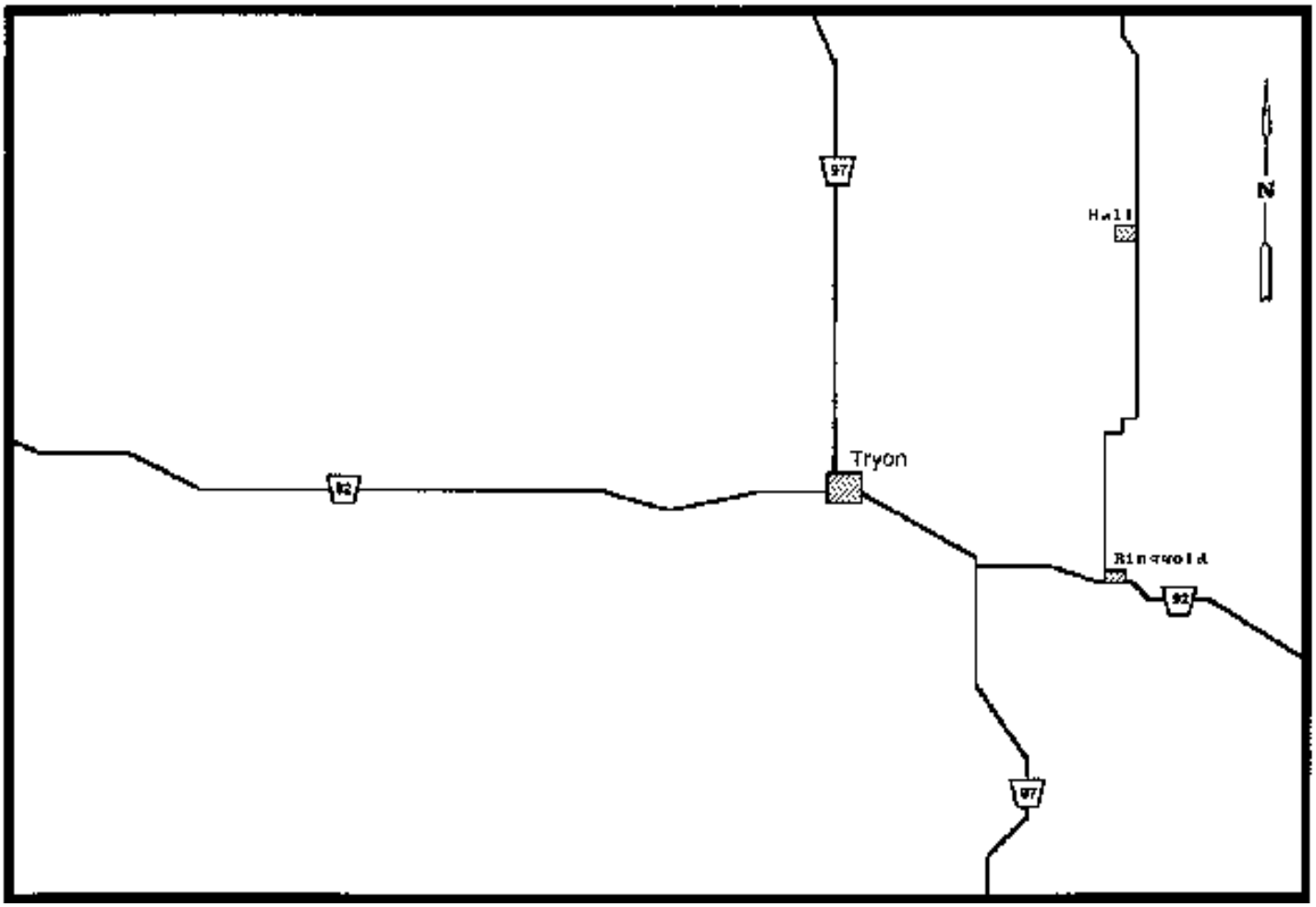
SUMMARY OF FIRE RESOURCES WITHIN MCPHERSON COUNTY

Fire Department	Phone Number	Aerials	Pumpers	Tankers	Pumper/ Tanker	Grass/ Weed Trucks	Utility Truck			Rescue
McPherson County Rural Fire Department	911 or 587-2222			1		3				1

MCPHERSON COUNTY



FIRE DISTRICTS

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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. McPherson County is vulnerable to various hazardous materials. Agricultural and industrial chemicals, explosive and combustible materials are stored in and transported throughout the county regularly.

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 Title III threshold levels. See Attachment 1 for 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 97 or 92, or aircraft could be involved in an accident causing a spill or the potential for a spill. See Attachment 2 for location of 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 population, such as schools, are subject to additional risk due to their proximity to facilities with hazardous substances. See Attachment 1.

4. Some areas of McPherson County because of sensitive environment, land use patterns or water supplies are particularly vulnerable. See 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 level of training for each person who may respond to an incident must be certified by his/her employer. Responders will not perform any function they are not trained and equipped to execute.

1. There are no HazMat Response Teams in McPherson County, trained and equipped to respond to a hazardous material spill.

2. The Fire Department has 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.

D. There are many different ways an individual can be exposed to radioactive materials. In McPherson County, highways are used for receiving and/or transporting these materials. Any peacetime radiological incident would probably be the result of a transportation accident.

E. Registered use of radioactive material in McPherson County are:

1. There are no registered users of radioactive materials in McPherson 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 McPherson 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 rupture allowing a release of the radioactive materials. In the early stages of this type incident/accident, local capabilities are usually stressed 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 from Attachment 3 as possible prior to placing the call.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The Fire Department is responsible for:

1. Coordination with the Facility Emergency Coordinator on response to hazardous substances in the facility.

2. Initial response and containment, if possible.

3. Coordination and the establishment of a command post at the scene.

4. Assuring that first responders receive sufficient direction to be able to handle the situation properly.

5. Planning for possible in-place-shelter or evacuation of buildings or areas involved.

6. Coordination with law enforcement defining the hazard area.

7. Request State Emergency Response Team (SERT) through the Nebraska State Patrol, if necessary,

8. Initiating notification of support agencies including hospitals that may receive potentially contaminated patients.

9. 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. Evacuation movement.

4. Training their personnel.

C. McPherson County Emergency Management Agency is responsible for:

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. Ensuring that an appropriate training program is developed and conducted 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 Officer (RO)

1. McPherson County does not have an assigned and trained Radiological Officer (RO).

2. The RO when appointed will work with the McPherson County Emergency Management Director, 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 will be involved in recruiting and training Radiological Monitors.

3. The RO should operate from the designated EOC, direct the radiological staff activities, assess the community radiological situation and make technical recommendations to the Emergency Management Director or the elected officials of the affected jurisdiction.

4. Local government agencies may be responsible for decontamination of their equipment and vehicles.

E. State Agencies

1. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency: coordinate state agency response and provide assistance and support as determined by the situation.

2. The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ)

   a. Provide technical assistance for determining areas likely to be affected by an on-going release.

b. Providing technical assistance relevant to the containment and cleanup of hazardous materials incidents. They are also responsible for warning downstream water users, where applicable.

c. Approve cleanup plan and notify the responsible person when satisfactory cleanup is achieved.

d. Give 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 to be taken 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/directing all safety, containment, decontamination, and clean-up actions.

b. Notify 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.

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, 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), the DOT 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 the Community Emergency Coordinator for the Local Emergency Planning Committee, the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) of any state likely to be affected by the release, the National Response Center (NRC), and 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 advise on response, evacuation and in-place shelter options.

2. Shipper: 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. DOT regulations also require him to inform the carrier of any special precautions that must be taken in the transport of his goods. If called in case of an accident, the shipper is also required to provide whatever details about his shipment that are necessary and helpful. The shipper may wish to offer assistance in confining and cleaning up any accident involving his shipment. The shipper must also provide a list of 24-hour telephone contacts of persons familiar with the technical details of the shipment.

3. Carrier: 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. 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). 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. During recovery, the carrier also has the basic responsibility to see that the cleanup/decontamination is completed.

4. Licensees: users/custodians of radioactive materials are authorized by the license authority of the NRC. 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. Radioactive materials licensees are engaged in medical, industrial, or construction activities at fixed locations and/or temporary job sites. In the event of a radiological incident, licensees must respond as required by HHS-R&L regulations. Licensees may assume the responsibilities of 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 has been designated as the Community Emergency Coordinator. The Fire Chief shall make determinations necessary to implement the plan. See Attachment 4.

    b. In the event of a transportation spill, the notification will be satisfied by dialing 911 or the operator if 911service 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 direction 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.

B. Initial Response

1. The incident commander, upon determination that a release of a hazardous substances has occurred, or is likely to occur, 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 either the placard, label, or shipping papers from the shipper/owner.

    a. In the case of a transportation accident, approach to a safe distance and do the initial survey of the scene with binoculars looking for placards or signs of leaking or spilled contents.

b. In the case of an aerial applicator accident, use the same caution and do not enter the field until the chemical is identified.

3. Contact CHEMTREC (1-800-424-9300) for information to determine the most effective handling of the incident.

4. Identify, evaluate, and assess the problem and its potential. Consider that some effects of the incident may not be noticeable for some time.

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 themselves.

1. The Public Information Officer will coordinate the dissemination of information concerning the incident with the Chief Executive Officer and McPherson County 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 McPherson County are listed in Annex D, Attachment 1.

D. Evacuation / In-place-shelter

1. The on-scene 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. Policy and procedures defined in Annex E for evacuation and Annex J for In-place –shelter will be followed.

2. Movement, reception, and care of evacuees will be as defined in Annex H and 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. Remember, by law it is the spiller's responsibility to contain or confine any threat associated with the cargo in their possession.

2. Cleanup and disposal should be accomplished by the responsible party as specified by publications and agencies depending on the material involved.

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 advise 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. Treat victims if 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 McPherson County Radiological officer will ensure that sufficient dosimeters/TLDs are charged and available at the scene and that the 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. Police, 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.

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.

THIS ATTACHMENT IS ON FILE WITH

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

AND THE

NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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 occured (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)_____
_____

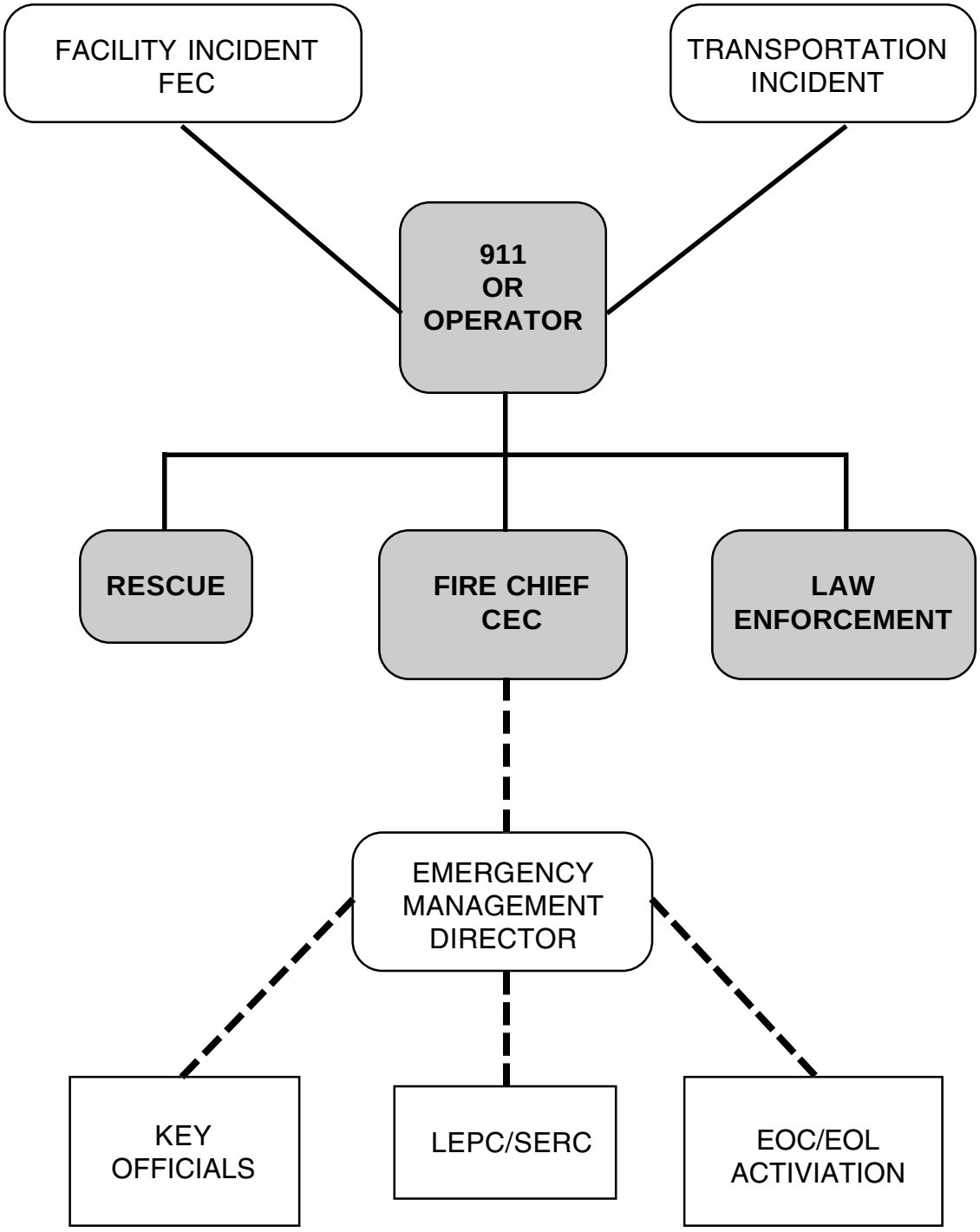
D. Report taken by: _____Agency_____

*Information that must be obtained for Federal Reporting Requirements

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION ROSTER

Groups	Phone
State Assistance	
State Emergency Response Commission	402-471-3241
State Dept. of Environmental Quality	402-471-2186
State Emergency Management Agency	402-471-7421
After Hours	1-877-297-2368
State Fire Marshal	402-471-2027
State Patrol	402-471-4545
State Department of Health and Human Services	402-471-2541
Other Emergency Assistance 24 HRS	
Chemtrec	800-424-9300
RR Bureau of Explosives	202-639-2222
National Response Center	800-424-8802
Union Pacific Railroad	800-877-0511
Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad	817-234-6164

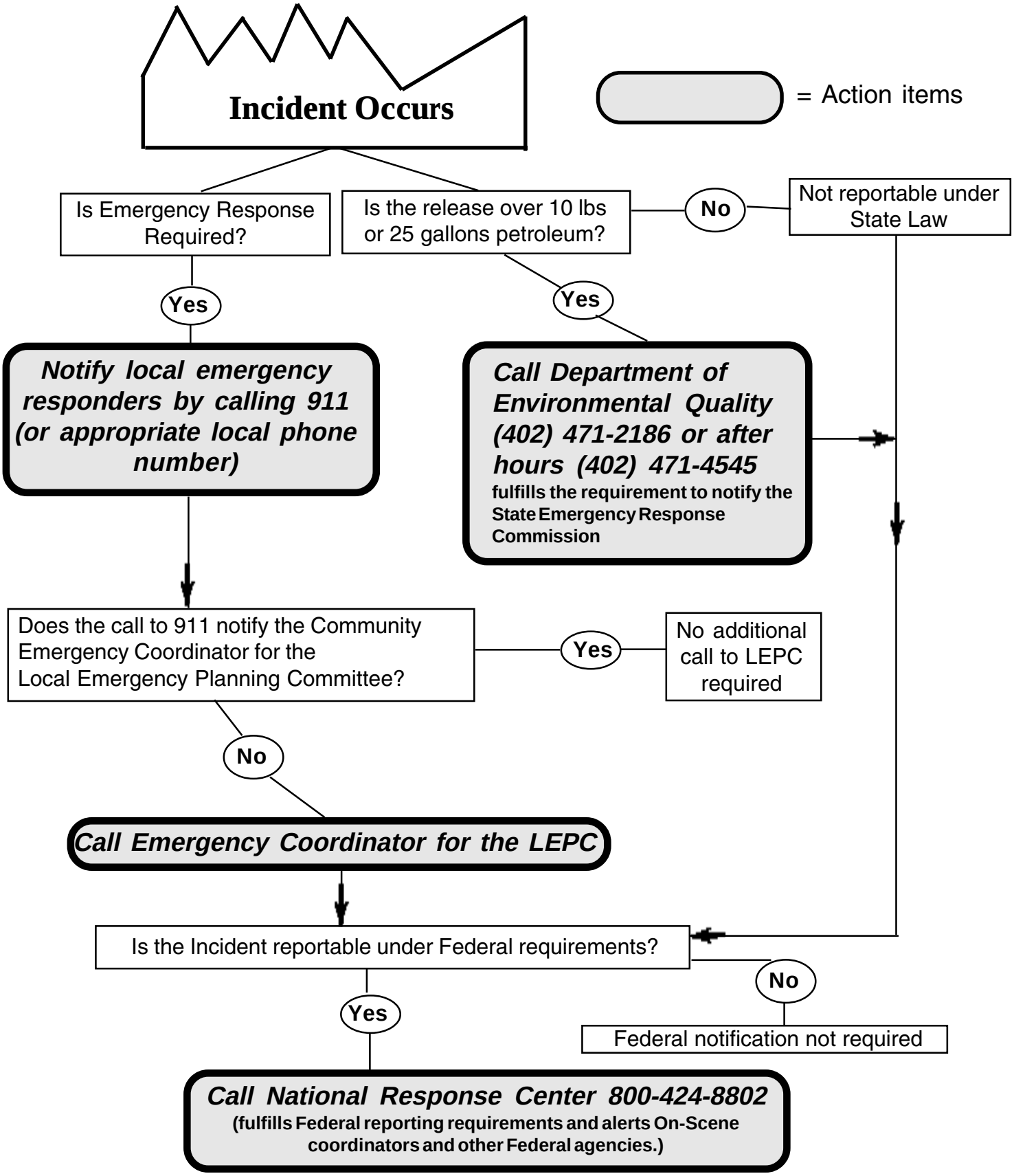
EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION



IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION
FOLLOW ON NOTIFICATION

LEVEL OF NOTIFICATION WILL DEPEND UPON THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE INCIDENT

NOTIFICATION DECISION TREE



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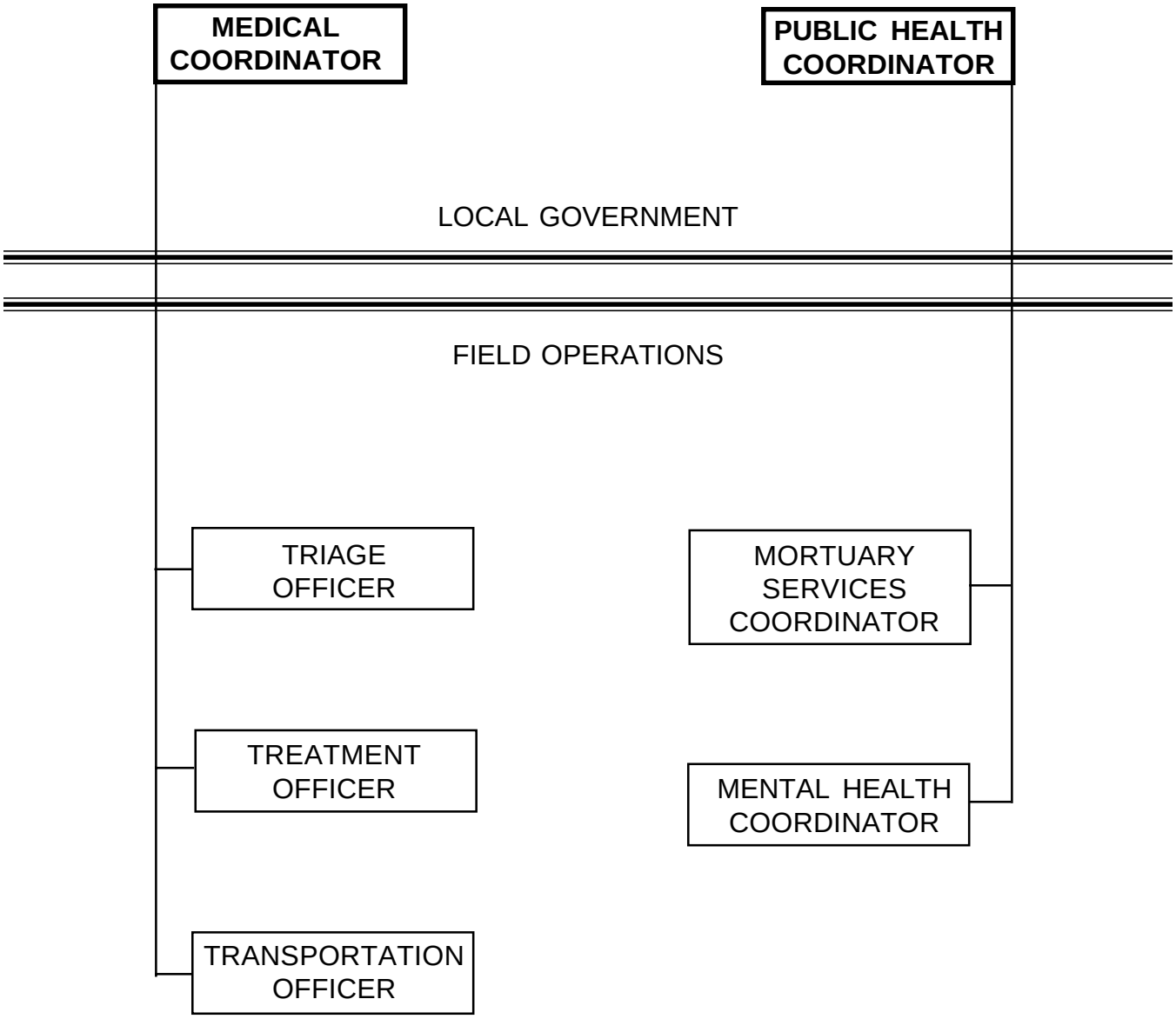
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



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 public health services during, or as a result of, disasters by instituting environmental sanitation measures, testing of public and potable water supplies, and mental health services.

C. 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 explosion, fire, bus accident, etc. which would stress emergency medical services.

B. There are no Hospitals in McPherson County. The closest Hospital is the Great Plains Regional Medical Center in North Platte.

C. There are no nursing homes in McPherson County.

D. There is one Emergency Medical Services (EMS) within McPherson County. See Attachment 2 for EMS resources.

E. There are no clinics in McPherson County.

F. The Lincoln 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 may be considered a disaster.

B. Mutual Aid and outside resources will be available to assist McPherson County in natural and technological emergencies/disasters.

C. Any hospital or nursing home evacuating patients to facilities in McPherson County will provide the medical records of patients, professional staff, and as many supplies and equipment as practical.

D. Any emergency or disaster situation can potentially lead to public health problems, depending upon the nature of the incident. Complications might include disease, sanitation problems, contamination of food and water, overload of mortuary services capabilities, and community mental health problems.

E. People not normally clients of the local Social Services agency may require some form of public assistance under disaster conditions.

IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Medical, Public 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: This entails coordinating emergency services such as law enforcement, fire, rescue, and public works, and providing logistical support where required. Both the Medical Coordinator and Public Health Coordinator represent their respective functions on the EOC Staff.

2. Field operations: While this Plan sets forth some basic requirements and staffing, Standard Operating Procedures should be developed by the health and medical professionals detailing implementing instructions and responsibilities.

B. Health and Medical responsibilities are:

1. Emergency Medical Services:

a. Basic life support is the responsibility of McPherson County Rural Fire and Rescue Department. Advanced Life Support Services (ALS) is the responsibility of North Platte Fire/Rescue.

1) The notification for emergency medical assistance comes from 911 via the local telephone tie-in.

2) The Rescue Squad Chief will coordinate field operations and transport of victims with the receiving Hospital.

3) The transporting 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 Rescue Squad 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 the receiving Hospital for directing patient transport to receiving hospitals and/or medical facilities.

b. Air ambulance support would be requested from Air Care of Kearney Nebraska.

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 obtain supplies and/or equipment to support medical operations in the event of an actual or anticipated shortage.

3. Public Health Coordination

a. The McPherson County Health Director serves as Public Health Coordinator and is responsible for coordinating activities required to

safeguard public health and minimize the spread of disease. He/She will act as 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.

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 Great Plains Regional Medical Center's Behavioral Health Service to provide help in regards to Mental Health problems.

d. The Public Health Coordinator is responsible for assessing the hazard relating to any existing or anticipated public health threats and the environmental impact of an accident. Specific responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1) Safe drinking supplies: determine and map affected area; notify population against use of contaminated water source and where to obtain safe drinking water; request help from the State Health Laboratory in Lincoln; initiate emergency water disinfection procedures if contamination is not due to chemicals; and advise that all private wells in affected area be sample tested as soon as possible and notify lab to obtain extra supply of sample containers.

2) Sanitary emergency sewage disposal: obtain portable toilets for use at disaster scene for clean-up crews and for use in public areas such as group homes, public buildings, etc. where service has been interrupted; advise public of emergency individual sewage disposal procedures.

3) Vector control: survey and map affected area; initiate cleanup of organic matter that might decay or provide for vectors; drain trapped water; utilize fogger and power spray equipment over potential breeding sites and request assistance of Weed District if additional equipment or personnel is needed.

4) Safe food supplies: notify Nebraska Department of Agriculture to report extent of involvement and request assistance to obtain emergency quarantine powers; initiate disposal of contaminated food.

5) Disease control: contact State Epidemiologist as to need for immunization of exposed persons and for possible quarantine; contact Home Health to make arrangements if immunization is deemed necessary and if quarantine is necessary.

6) Re-entry: recommend when it is safe to re-occupy an area after evacuation caused by a hazardous material incident.

4. Mortuary Services

a. The County Attorney is responsible for coordinating the interment of the dead in a disaster when normal capabilities are exceeded. This may include:

1) Assigning bodies to local funeral homes,

2) Establishing temporary morgue facilities,

3) Coordinating 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 use of a suitable building that is easily accessible to the disaster area,

2) Notify EOC of morgue location,

3) Coordinate with all area funeral homes for preservation of the bodies,

4) If conditions warrant, request refrigerated truck from local trucking company to hold bodies pending transfer to funeral homes.

5. Mental Health Coordinator:

a. The Mental Health Coordinator will work closely with the Social Services Coordinator and will coordinate crisis counseling to disaster victims and their families and to emergency workers in the field, at medical facilities, disaster recovery centers, command posts, etc. This may include:

1) Coordinating with the local ministerial association,

2) Establishing an outreach program,

3) Coordinating public education material with the Public Information Officer.

b. The Mental Health Coordinator will make recommendations and provide status reports to the Public Health Coordinator.

c. The local Ministerial Association with possible referral to the Great Plains Medical Center's Behavioral Health Service will accomplish initial crisis counseling.

d. 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 is made through the Nebraska State Patrol Troop area where the disaster/emergency situation is located.

6. Social Services Coordinator

The Administrator of the Lincoln 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.

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,

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 McPherson 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. There is no Handi-Bus Program in McPherson County to assist by providing the handicapped and elderly with transportation services.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Multiple Casualty Incident

1. Rescue Squad Chief/Lead EMT will establish a command post that is responsible for patient care operations at the scene including personnel assignment.

2. An EMT assigned by the Rescue Squad Chief 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.

6. Shortage (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 the Hospital's Emergency Plans.

C. Support to Medical Professionals

The Rescue Squad will work closely with McPherson County 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 McPherson 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 McPherson 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 Lincoln County Office of the Department of Health and Human Services, in coordination with community services and the West Central Area Agency on Aging, will identify any special needs groups and in the event of a disaster, ensure that their needs are provided for.

3. Counseling Disaster survivors will be provided emergency counseling services by mental health professionals and members of the local ministerial association. This counseling may occur at several locations and will be coordinated between the Mental Health Coordinator and the Public Health Director.

4. Evacuation Elderly, infirm and special needs groups: the Lincoln County Office of Health and Human Services, in coordination the West Central Area Agency on Aging will attempt to identify and assist any residents who may be unable to evacuate on their own. This service will be stressed in emergency public information releases and should be coordinated with the PIO.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICS

A. The McPherson County 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 involvement into the hospital's annual exercise.

2. Emergency medical professionals and volunteers will be utilized in these exercises to the maximum extent possible.

C. Training

In addition to the training required for normal operations, 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.

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2	Emergency Medical Resources	G-14

HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESOURCES

OUTSIDE MCPHERSON COUNTY

LICENSED HOSPITALS	CAPACITY	PHONE NUMBER
Great Plains Regional Medical Center 601 West Leota St. North Platte, NE 69101	97-A 12-B	535-7434

NURSING HOMES

There are no nursing homes in McPherson County.

CLINICS

There are no clinics in McPherson County.

MENTAL HEALTH

Great Plains Regional Medical Center's Behavioral Health Service 601 West Leota St. North Platte, NE 69101	535-7434

MORTUARIES

Adams and Swanson Funeral Home 421 West 4th North Platte, NE 69101	532-2044
Carpenter Memorial Chapel 1616 West B North Platte, NE 69101	534-6480
Odean Colonial Chapel 302 South Sycamore St. North Platte, NE 69101	532-1450

AMBULANCES

Ground Service

McPherson County Rural Fire/Rescue Department 911

AIR SERVICE VERIFIED PHONE NUMBERS 1/98

Kearney

Air Care 1 800 474-7911

Helicopter, Fixed Wing, Long Distance Ground Service (including out-of-state)

Scottsbluff

Air Link 1 800 252 2215

Lincoln

Star Care Five 1 800 252-4262 = Helicopter & Fixed Wing (Based at Bryan Hospital)

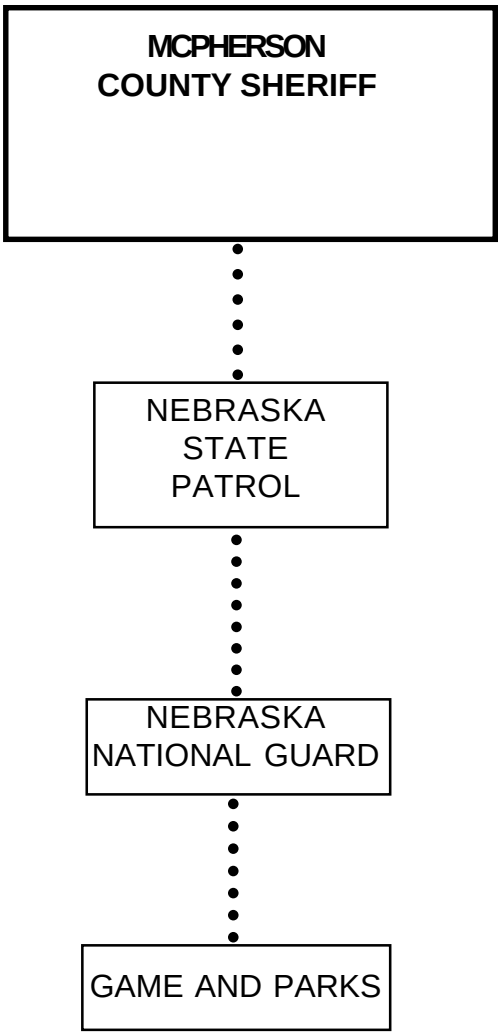
Omaha

Med Flight 1 888 481-7040 = Helicopter and Fixed Wing (Life Flight & Sky-Med)

SUMMARY OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESOURCES WITHIN McPHERSON COUNTY

RESCUE UNITS	PHONE NUMBER	RESCUE UNIT	NUMBER OF RESPONDERS	BASIC LIFE SUPPORT	ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT	NUMBER OF EMTs	NUMBER OF PARAMEDICS	JAWS OF LIFE	SERVICES PROVIDED A/D, EMT-IV, EMT-A/M
McPherson County Fire/Rescue	911 or 587-2222	1		X		12			

L A W E N F O R C E M E N T



——————— CONTROL

• • • • • • • • • COORDINATION/SUPPORT

LAW ENFORCEMENT

I. PURPOSE

This Annex assigns responsibilities and provides coordination between the law enforcement agencies operating during disasters to ensure the safety of all citizens in McPherson 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 agency in McPherson County. See Attachment 1.

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,

G. _____.

IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

The McPherson County Sheriff is responsible for law enforcement within McPherson County. 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. Law enforcement responsibilities are:

A. McPherson County Sheriff

1. Directs the McPherson 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 McPherson 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 Nebraska State Patrol operations with McPherson 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 McPherson County Sheriff does not have reserve law enforcement personnel who are qualified and will be used.

2. Volunteers: if utilized, will assist law enforcement personnel, as directed.

3. Nebraska National Guard: under disaster emergency conditions proclaimed by the Governor, 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 McPherson 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. Directives banning parking on emergency routes will be issued by the McPherson County Sheriff, or the Executive Group.

4. The broadcast of timely advice on the progress of the evacuation will be of utmost importance.

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. Upon activation of the Emergency Operations Center, a security guard may be posted to prohibit unauthorized personnel from entering the operational area.

   c. A curfew may be established by declaration of the Chief Executive.

   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 will be established for the disaster area and control points will be established to control entry into the area.

   c. Other than immediate response emergency personnel, entry into a disaster area will be controlled by the establishment of 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. Pass and Identification

   a. McPherson County Emergency Management personnel can be provided with the brown local government emergency response card by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. Possession of this card permits full-time entry into restricted disaster areas.

   b. The McPherson County Emergency Management Director will determine need and issue volunteers the brown card that automatically expires 15 days after date of issuance.

   c. Local government personnel not issued permanent identification cards will be issued the brown card on a temporary as-needed basis by the appropriate law enforcement agency in coordination with the Emergency Management Director.

   d. 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 McPherson 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 the initial definition of the disaster area and maintaining security of damaged areas and essential facilities to include cordoning of 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, 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 McPherson County is transported to and confined in North Platte, Nebraska. 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 that jurisdiction. In a situation dictating movement of prisoners, movement will be in accordance with their Jail Facility policy.

3. Transportation requirements will be coordinated through the McPherson 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 McPherson County Sheriff's Office working with an area Humane Society or local veterinary clinic. Disposition of loose animals will be the responsibility of these organizations. During sheltering situations, Red Cross disaster shelters do not accept pets because of the state's health and safety regulations. Service animals (seeing-eye dogs) that assist people with disabilities are the only animals allowed in Red Cross shelters.

VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Exercises

Law enforcement personnel will participate in exercises designed to examine the feasibility of this McPherson County Local Emergency Operating Plan.

B. Plan Maintenance

The Emergency Management Director, in coordination with law enforcement, is responsible for annual review and update of this Annex.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

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2	Pets in Shelters	H-10
Appendix 1	Terrorism	H-11

LAW ENFORCEMENT RESOURCES

RESOURCE	McPHERSON COUNTY SHERIFF	NEBRASKA STATE PATROL	_____ POLICE DEPARTMENT	_____ POLICE DEPARTMENT
Sheriff	1			
Deputies	1 (part time)			
Police Chief				
Assistant Chief				
Officers				
Troopers		4		
Reserves				
Total				
Vehicles with Radio	2	4		
Mobile Command Vehicle				

PETS IN SHELTERS

Family disaster planning should also include pets. Household pet planning should include the following steps:

1. Locate a safe place for the pets before disaster strikes. Friends or relatives outside the affected area may shelter your animals.

2. Prepare a list of boarding facilities and veterinarians who could shelter animals in an emergency; include 24 hour phone numbers.

3. 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.

4. Call local boarding kennels.

5. Assemble a Portable Pet Disaster Supplies Kit: Essential supplies will be needed, regardless of the time the family will be away. A portable pet disaster supply kit should be assembled and kept in a sturdy container in an accessible place.

   a. Medication and medical records (stored in a water proof container),

   b. A first aid kit,

   c. Current photos of the pet(s),

   d. Food, portable bowls, cat litter/pan, and can opener,

   e. Instructions on the pet(s)' feeding schedules, diet, and special circumstances (allergies, difficulty chewing/swallowing, diabetes, etc.)

   f. Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and/or carriers to transport pets.

6. Know what to do as a disaster approaches:

   a. Call ahead to confirm emergency shelter arrangements for you and your pet.

   b. Check to be sure your pet disaster supplies are ready to take at a moment's notice.

   c. Eliminate search time for your pets by sheltering them in one central place (a barn, the house, the basement, storm cellar, etc.).

   d. 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 at, 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.

TERRORISM

I. PURPOSE

A. Introduction

1. In June 1995, the White House issued Presidential Decision Directive 39, "United States Policy On Counter-terrorism," to reduce the nation's vulnerability to terrorism, to include nuclear, biological, chemical, and other weapons of mass destruction. The Directive establishes the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as the lead agency in charge of Crisis Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as the lead federal agency in charge of Consequence Management.

2. 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 McPherson 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.

B. Response and recovery to a terrorist act encompasses two areas - Crisis Management and Consequence Management, respectively.

1. Crisis Management (response): includes measures to identify, acquire, and plan the use of resources needed to anticipate, prevent, and/or resolve threats or acts of terrorism.

   a. On the local level, initial response will be by local authorities, using an Incident Management System.

   b. When the incident becomes identified as a terrorist act or there is a credible threat, Presidential Decision Directive 39 directs the FBI to become the lead agency. Local and state responders will coordinate in their functional responsibilities with the FBI.

2. Consequence Management (recovery): includes measures to protect public health and safety, restore essential government services, and provide emergency relief to governments, businesses, and individuals affected by the consequences of terrorism.

   a. On the local level, Emergency Management is responsible for the Consequence Management of the operation.

   b. When the incident is beyond local capability, the State of Nebraska will provide assistance, as required.

   c. When the incident is identified as a terrorist act, Presidential Decision Directive 39 states that the Federal Emergency Management Agency will retain federal responsibility for Consequence Management.

C. 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 response and implementation of Crisis Management as described in this Appendix. Consequence Management may be initiated to support responders and to protect health and safety of the community's citizens.

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

1. 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.

2. The overall lead agency after a terrorist act will be the FBI with primary responsibility for Crisis Management. FEMA will be the Federal Coordinating Agency for Consequence Management. In both cases, the

FBI and FEMA will work in consultation with local, state, and other federal liaisons and agencies.

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. Crisis Management - 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.

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. Consequence Management

1. 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.

2. Local representatives may be requested to serve in the Joint Operations Center structure as established by the FBI.

I. 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.

J. 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.

K. 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. Crisis Management:

There are Crisis Management procedures that are unique in responding to a terrorist act.

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. See Annex H.

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.

B. Consequence Management

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. Appendix Maintenance

The McPherson 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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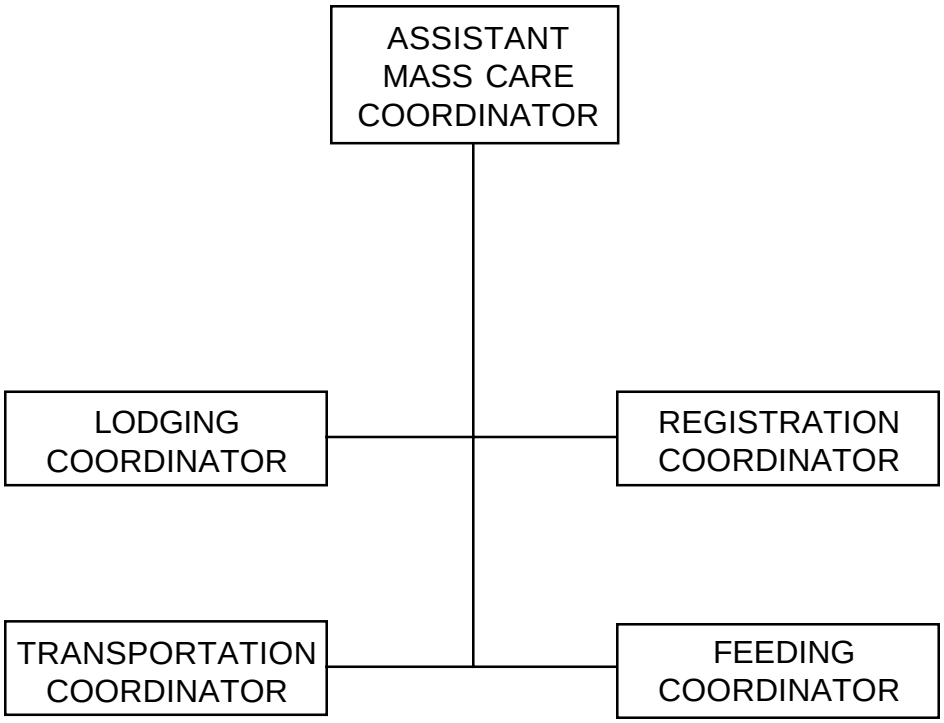
M A S S C A R E

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION



MASS CARE

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Annex is to establish plans, procedures, policy and guidelines for the providing of temporary lodging, feeding, and general welfare of persons forced to leave their homes due to any kind of emergency, disaster or precautionary evacuation.

II. SITUATION

A. The McPherson County Emergency Management Director has identified numerous hazards that could cause an evacuation of some portion of McPherson County. See Annex E. Although the county has a resident population of approximately 533, there is no conceivable hazard, which would require mass care of the full population. The most likely scenarios range from a few families to as many as 125 persons, which could result from tornado, wild fire, or hazardous materials incident.

B. Transient population needing mass care could be motorists stranded due to a sudden blizzard or other disaster situation.

C. Buildings with a capability to lodge and feed evacuees are identified by the Emergency Manager or the Red Cross. See Attachment 1.

III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

A. The Central Plains Chapter of the American Red Cross will manage and coordinate mass care operations. McPherson County and local government will support all mass care activities, particularly as the requirements becomes greater and the Red Cross, nears its limit in resources.

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 McPherson County rests with the McPherson County Board of Commissioners. In most emergencies, some level of government support will be required. The McPherson County Emergency Management Director will act for the McPherson County Board of Commissioners in coordinating mass care activities until the Red Cross can respond.

A. Emergency Management Directors

The McPherson County 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director may appoint additional mass care staff.

B. Central Plains Chapter, American Red Cross

The Central Plains Chapter of the American Red Cross, will carryout 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.

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:

   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,

   j. Establish first aid stations in reception and care facilities, as necessary.

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:

a. Select feeding sites in coordination with the McPherson County 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 accomplish registration of evacuees, and as applicable, will share numbers with appropriate government agencies concerning those evacuees who are housed in Red Cross shelters.

B. Salvation Army Functions

A Salvation Army Chapter 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 may be provided by the Salvation Army.

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: a listing of available lodging/feeding facilities is contained in Attachment 1

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: agreements for use of some facilities have been obtained by the Red Cross. 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 pre-positioned, if necessary.

2. Response Phase: In the event of a major disaster action will commence to receive evacuees. Initial action will include opening the Registration Center and selected lodging/feeding facilities.

E. Registration

Registration will be conducted at the designated lodging facilities in accordance with Red Cross procedures. If 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.

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. Welfare search missions will be carried out by local volunteer groups in McPherson County. 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 McPherson County 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 McPherson County 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. Records

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. Training

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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment	Title	Page
1	Listing Of Mass Care Facilities With Maps	I-8
2	Sample Registration Form	I-11

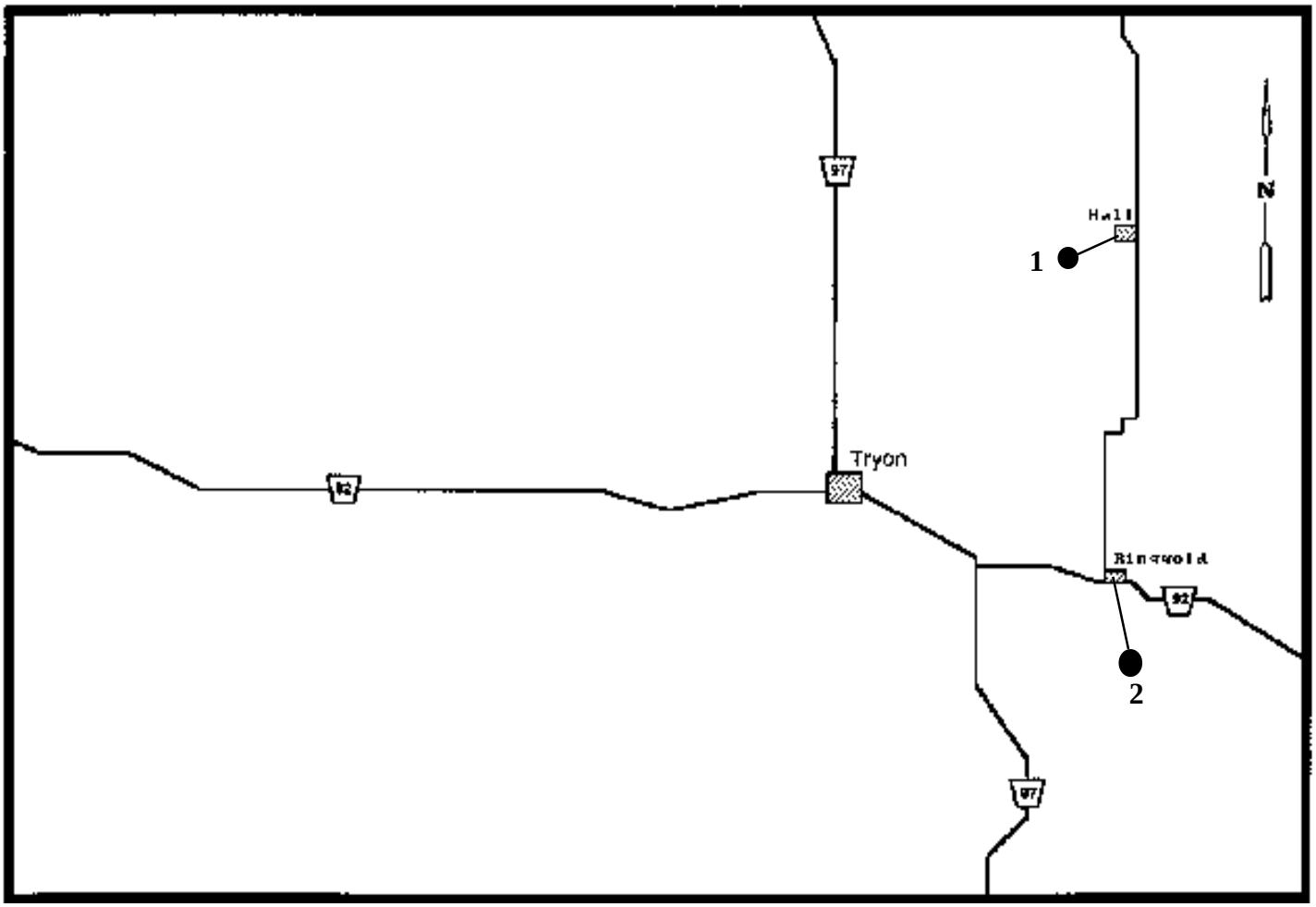
LISTING OF MASS CARE FACILITIES

Map Location	Facility	Address	Lodging Capacity	Feeding Capability
Hall				
1	Hall Church	1000 McPherson Rd	77	Yes
Total Capacity of listed facilities in Hall: 77				
Ringgold				
2	Methodist Church	1000 St. Hwy 92	75	Yes
Total Capacity of listed facilities in Ringgold: 75				
Tryon				
3	McPherson High School	450 Platt St.	250	Yes
4	Methodist Church	361 Anderson St.	64	Yes
5	Lodge Hall	4th and Newberry	50	Yes
Total Capacity of listed facilities in Tryon: 364				
Total Capacity of listed facilities in McPherson County: 516				

***** Handicapped Accessible

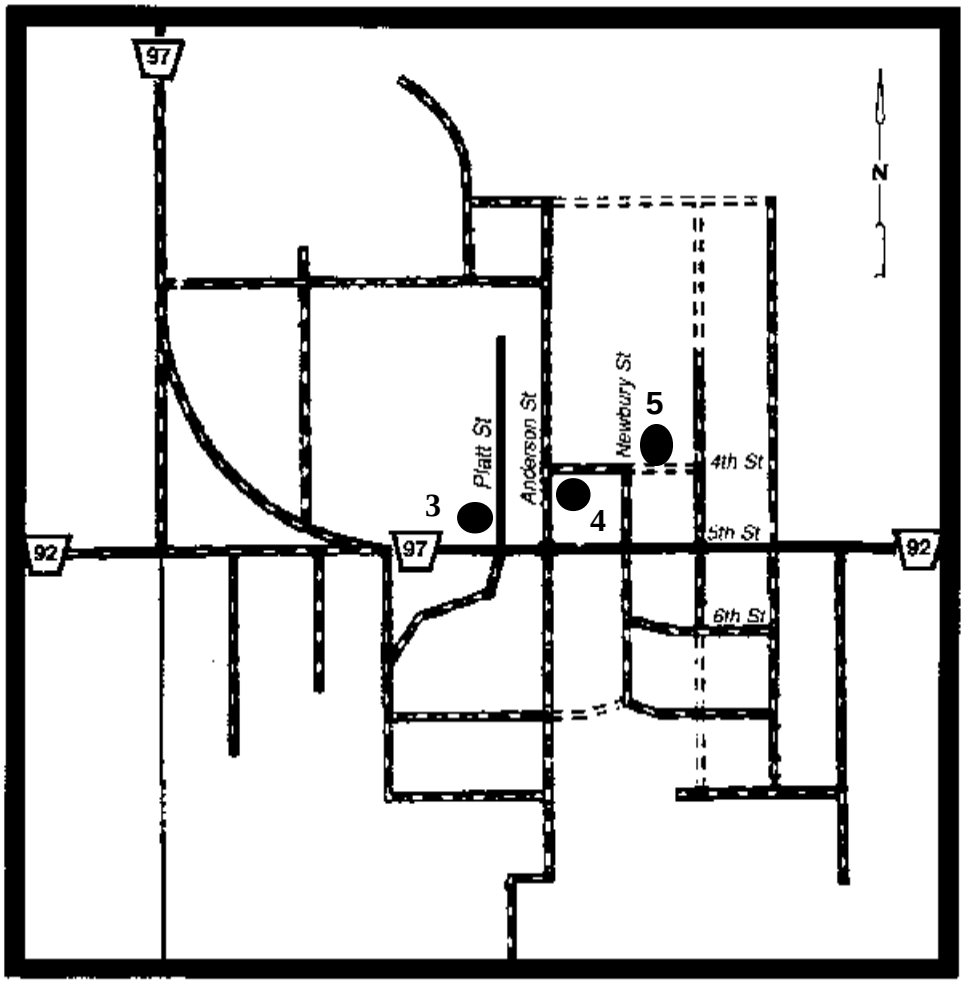
^ Primary Choices For Feeding Facility

MCPHERSON COUNTY



Mass Care Facilities

TRYON



Mass Care Facilities

American Red Cross

DISASTER SHELTER REGISTRATION

Family Last Name

Names	Age	Medical Problem • Killed • Injured • Hospitalized	Referred to Nurse
Man			
Woman (Include Maiden Name)			
Children In Home			
Family Member not in Shelter (Location if Known)			

Shelter Location

Shelter Telephone No. Date of Arrival

Predisaster Address and Telephone No.

I ☐ do, ☐ do not, authorize release of the above information concerning my whereabouts or general condition.

Signature

Date Left Shelter _____

Time Left Shelter _____

Postdisaster Address and Telephone Number

AMERICAN RED CROSS FORM 5972 (5-79)

American Red Cross

DISASTER SHELTER REGISTRATION

Family Last Name

Names	Age	Medical Problem • Killed • Injured • Hospitalized	Referred to Nurse
Man			
Woman (Include Maiden Name)			
Children in Home			
Family Member not in Shelter (Location if Known)			

Shelter Location

Shelter Telephone No. Date of Arrival

Predisaster Address and Telephone No.

I ☐ do, ☐ do not, authorize release of the above information concerning my whereabouts or general condition.

Signature

Date Left Shelter _____

Time Left Shelter _____

Postdisaster Address and Telephone Number

AMERICAN RED CROSS FORM 5972 (5-79)

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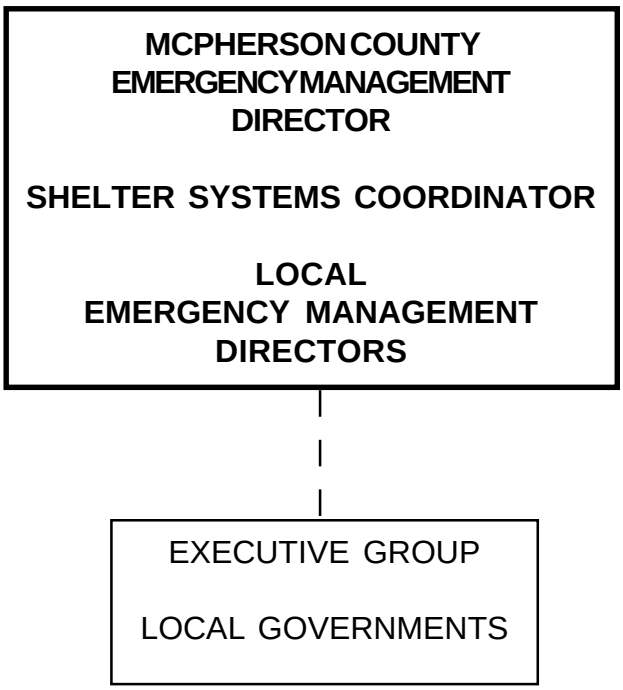


PROTECTIVE SHELTER

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Annex is to outline procedures necessary for the protective sheltering of McPherson County citizens and transients if severe weather, nuclear crisis, or other hazardous events make it necessary.

II. SITUATION

A. The single most severe natural phenomena that McPherson County and its communities are susceptible to requiring the use of protective shelter is the destructive effects of tornadoes.

B. There are no buildings presently in McPherson County that have been identified as tornado shelters. (See Attachment 1.) There are some buildings that are considered to have the best capability to provide protection and are easily accessible to the public and will generally be open during normal working hours.

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 a number of other natural phenomena identified in the hazard analysis which, while posing a potentially severe threat, would require minimal, if any, protective shelter.

III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

A. If the need arises, sufficient warning time will exist to enable residents to go into protective shelter.

B. Buildings planned for use as protective shelter will be available at the time of need.

C. Protective shelter actions in the event of severe weather 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director assisted by local residents.

B. Responsibilities

Some general activities, which should be accomplished on a continuing basis, are:

1. Maintain current listing of shelter facilities,

2. Maintain current listing of shelter resources needed (i.e., supplies, equipment, material).

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Tornado Warning

In providing for the protection of the population from tornadoes or any other violent weather phenomena, there are a number of actions, which should be taken.

1. In general, climatological conditions, which are conducive to the formation of tornadoes, can be recognized. When these conditions exist, the National Weather Service will issue a tornado WATCH. If the WATCH area includes McPherson 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, 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 in which it is moving,

   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

Basic policies should be established governing public actions in the event of a tornado warning or strike. The McPherson County Emergency Management Director in coordination with the Public Information Officer will ensure that the public is made aware of the policies. The policies are:

1. People in public buildings when a tornado WARNING is issued will remain in the building seeking shelter in the safest area of the building. Generally, the basement will provide the best overall protection. If there is no basement, small span rooms close to the center of the building on the lowest floor will provide the best protection.

2. People outdoors on foot or in vehicles should immediately go to the nearest building perceived 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. If a severe weather situation arises dictating taking protective shelter actions, mobile home residents who are at home will immediately take shelter in the tornado shelter facility nearest their park.

5. People living in rural areas should seek shelter in their homes or storm cellars if available. 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.

6. People congregated in large open area activities should, if during the daytime, proceed to the nearest building area for protection, or, if at night, go to buildings, which are open or to their homes.

7. 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 ascertained 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.

8. During night time hours, people in public buildings, such as theaters, restaurants, recreational facilities, auditoriums, and schools for sporting or social events should remain in the building and seek protection in what is perceived to be the safest area of the building. Generally, a basement will provide the best overall protection. If there is no basement, small span rooms close to the center of the building on the main floor will provide the best protection. Large, wide span rooms, corridors with exterior doors, and rooms with many windows should be avoided.

9. Special Population Groups

   a. School children: when schools are in session, school children, teachers, and staff should respond as directed by an existing school disaster/tornado plan for protection during a tornado. If a specific plan does not exist, teachers will gather the students in the most solid area of the school structure such as rest rooms or interior corridors without exterior openings. Large span rooms such as auditoriums, gymnasiums, or corridors that do have exterior openings and rooms with windows should not be used. If the school structure does not have protective capability and time permits, school children should be moved to the nearest structure, which would provide protection.

   b. Elderly and Disabled persons: ambulatory residents should move to the area of the building providing the best protection such as the basement or a small span, interior room on the main floor. Residents who cannot be moved should take measures that will protect them in their homes by the best method available.

   C. Recreation Areas: visitors to area recreational 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 by the McPherson County Emergency Management Director to:

1. Move inside,

2. Close all doors, windows, dampers, fans,

3. Shut off all ventilation 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 Shelter: The McPherson 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director may assist school officials, and others in determining the safest area in their facility or, of the nearest protective facility. The McPherson County 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 (Reference: Annex L).

C. Training

The McPherson County Emergency Management Director will encourage the development of training exercises and drills for the various public institutions. Upon request, the Director will conduct briefings and will advise and assist in developing emergency plans and conducting exercises (drills).

D. Public Education

The McPherson County Emergency Management Director will work directly with the Public Information Officer to provide:

1. Periodic spot announcements to the public on pertinent aspects of the protective shelter program.

2. Ensure availability and currency of information to be provided the public in the event a protective shelter situation arises.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

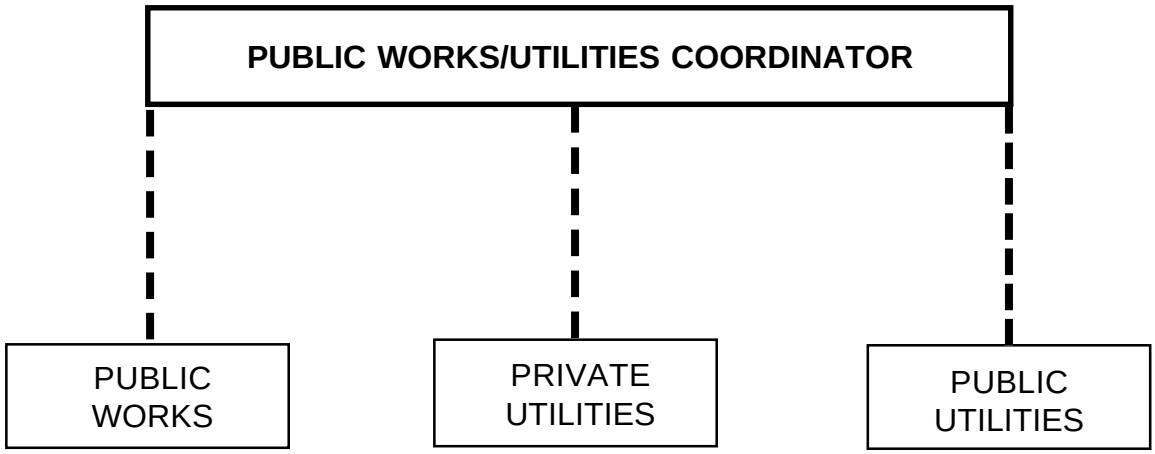
Attachment #	Item	Page
1	Tornado Shelters	J-8

TORNADO SHELTERS

Class	Name of Location	Location

Currently there are no buildings in McPherson County identified as TORNADO SHELTERS

PUBLIC WORKS / UTILITIES



STREETS AND ROADS
DEBRIS CLEARANCE

NATURAL GAS
TELEPHONE
TV CABLE SYSTEM

ELECTRICITY
WATER
SEWER

- - - - 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 and restoration of public access.

II. SITUATION

McPherson 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 deterring effect on the safety and welfare of the people.

III. ASSUMPTION AND PLANNING FACTORS

A. The continued operation of public works and utility services throughout McPherson County is essential for effective and efficient response and recovery actions to any disaster situation.

B. The primary responsibilities of both 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 will 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. A person assigned by the Executive Group 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 Guidelines (SOG).

C. Mutual aid resource support will be coordinated by each department.

D. Private utilities are responsible for restoration of their services.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Generally, department heads will continue to operate from their daily location, but their primary action 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. Coordinate with the head of affected organizations, both public and private.

2. May assist departments in determining staging areas for incoming assistance and coordinating mutual aid support.

3. Gather information on damage in the public works/utilities area:

a. Assess 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. Ensure 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. Alert departments to track disaster operation expenses. Examples of fiscal expenditures, which 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.

4. Attachment 1 to this Annex lists the providers of public works and utilities services in each community in McPherson County. If needed, the Public Works/Utilities Coordinator may work with department heads and the EOC in prioritizing restoration service.

5. Subsequent to a situation, which has caused general structural damage, in coordination with inspectors, ensure that all affected structures, public and private, are inspected for safety and habitability.

6. Attend EOC briefings.

7. Departments under the various public works/utility functions that are not directly involved in disaster operations may be asked by the Public Works/Utilities Coordinator to provide support in restoration/recovery activities.

B. Restoration of Services

The Public Works/Utilities Coordinator will ensure that the following is accomplished, as applicable to disaster recovery:

1. Public Works

a. Roads and Street Departments

1) Assess damage to streets and roads.

2) May assist in establishing detour routings; provide barricades for traffic control.

3) Provide 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, early implementation of existing snow removal plans will be accomplished. Planning for snow removal will include expanding snow removal activity to facilitate 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.

2. Utilities

The Public Works/Utilities Coordinator will ensure timely restoration of interrupted community power, natural gas, water/sewer, and telephone service. This may include, but is not limited to, the following:

a. Ensure utility repairs are made, as prioritized, to key facilities necessary for disaster operations.

b. Provide 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 at least the key facilities listed in Annex C, Attachment 1, if electricity cannot be restored to all of the community.

c. Provide adequate supplies of potable water and identify sources of additional supplies, if needed.

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, AND TRAINING

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. Training

The individuals responsible for disaster public works/utilities functions will participate in training exercises conducted for the Emergency Operations Center Staff.

C. 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 McPherson County 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.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

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1	Public Works/Utility Services	K-7

PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITY SERVICES

McPherson County (unincorporated Tryon)

A. Custer Public Power District (East)/Panhandle Public Power (West)
B. Individual
C. Individual
D. Individual
E. Great Plains Communications
F. McPherson County Roads Department
G. No TV Cable service is provided to McPherson County

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 SERVICE PROVIDED BY:

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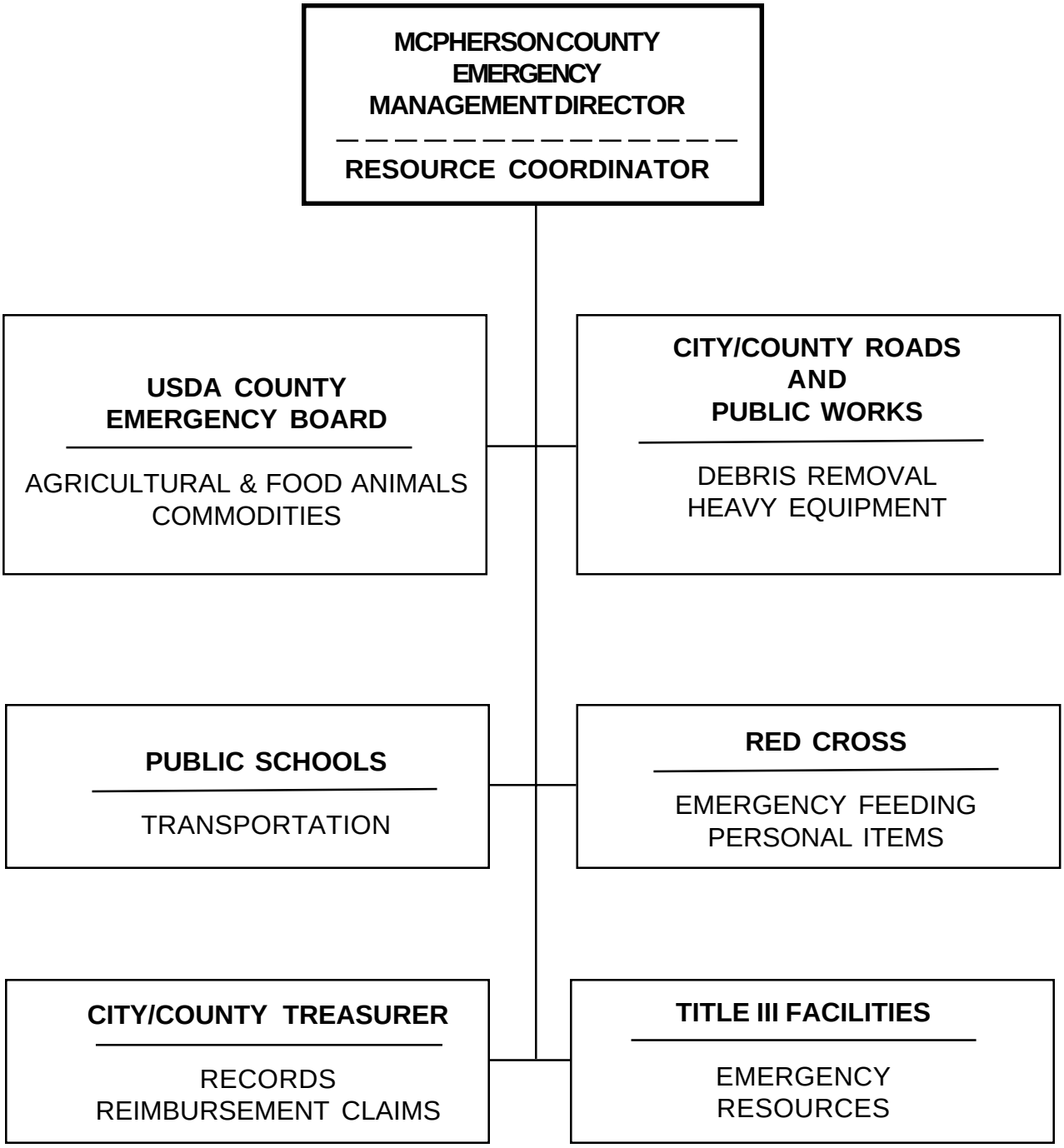
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



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 McPherson County.

II. SITUATION

A. The McPherson County 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. McPherson County, its communities, agencies, and businesses have sufficient resources to support activities associated with most emergency or disaster operations. A resource listing is maintained by the McPherson County Emergency Management Director.

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. County, cities, and villages will support resource actions as needed.

C. Para-professional and volunteer agencies will provide resource support (equipment and manpower) within their capabilities.

D. 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.

E. Assistance will be available from other counties through mutual aid agreements.

F. Citizens within McPherson 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.

G. Following a local declaration of emergency, support may be available through state emergency resources to supplement local deficiencies, critical requirements, and replacement of expended emergency resources.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The Executive Group will assign a person to act as the Resource Coordinator and be 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.

3. Coordinate the actions of the various agencies, offices, groups, and individuals involved with 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. On direction of the Executive Group, assume direct control of resources identified as critical items to assure most efficient utilization.

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 for carrying out this responsibility are in Attachment 3 to 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, 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 McPherson County 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 Clerk's Office will assist the Resource Coordinator in developing and implementing a system of records for evaluating status of resources and supplies and completing reports and procedures to verify and obtain reimbursement claims from local, state, and federal governments.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

The accomplishment of Resource Management will require full support from governmental and private sectors. Some resource categories and local sources are:

A. Food products will be obtained from local food retail and wholesale sources.

B. Manual labor materials and hardware items will be obtained from local hardware stores and lumberyards.

C. Transportation needs will primarily be obtained from local sources. A transportation resource listing is maintained by the McPherson County Emergency Management Director. 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. Movement of supplies and materials: includes tractor-trailers, vans, pickups, and trucks.

D. 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.

E. 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. Private citizens wishing to volunteer will register with a Volunteer Coordinator. Procedures for managing a volunteer work force are discussed in Attachment 3 to this Annex.

F. Heavy equipment resources will come primarily from government agencies such as the McPherson 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 Clerk 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 McPherson County Emergency Management Director.

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2	Heavy Equipment Resources	L-7
3	Procedures For Volunteer Coordination	L-8

TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES

AVAILABLE SCHOOL BUSES/VANS

School District	Buses	Vans (*W/Tommy Lift)

There are no school buses in McPherson County. Vehicles needed for emergency evacuation will have to be provided by local citizens.

McPherson County Totals

TOTAL BUSES

TOTAL VANS

TOTAL CAPACITY

HEAVY EQUIPMENT RESOURCES

COMPANY	ADDRESS	TYPE OF EQUIPMENT
McPherson County Roads Department		1 Loader 3 Road Graders 2 Dump Trucks 1 Mack Tractor and Gravel Trailer 1 4 X 4 Pickup 1 4630 John Deere Tractor

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.

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
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. Signing a liability statement before receiving a work assignment,

4. Giving the volunteer a pass/identification card to the disaster area. It is recommended these cards be reissued daily.

E. In registering the volunteers, the Volunteer Coordinator must ensure that volunteers return to the registration desk after completing their work assignment to notify the Coordinator that the work has, in fact, been completed. 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.