

EVACUATION

I. PURPOSE

To provide for the orderly and expeditious evacuation of all or any part of the population of Lyon County if it is determined that such action is the most effective means available for protecting the population from the effects of any disaster.

II. SITUATION

A. The County Hazard Identification identifies numerous hazards which could result in the need to evacuate.

III. ASSUMPTIONS AND PLANNING FACTORS

A. While some disaster events are slow moving providing ample reaction time, the worst case assumption is that there will be little or no warning of the need to evacuate.

B. The decision to evacuate could occur day or night, and there would be little control over the start time.

C. Because most evacuations cannot be staged or stretched out, maximum traffic congestion should be expected. 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.

D. There would not normally be time to obtain manpower support from the State. Local government resources could be severely stressed.

E. Some people will refuse to evacuate.

F. Designated evacuation routes should utilize only hard surface all-weather roads.

IV. ORGANIZATION/RESPONSIBILITIES

All of the emergency functions detailed in this plan could play a role in successfully carrying out an evacuation in the County. The overall responsibility for issuing

evacuation orders rests with the chief elected executives of the affected political subdivisions or their designee. However,

the on-scene command authority can make a decision to evacuate when there is an immediate need in order to protect lives and provide for public safety. Key organizational participants are:

- A. Law enforcement
- B. Fire Departments/EMS
- C. Public Information Officer
- D. Public Works Director/County Engineer
- E. Siouxland County Chapter - American Red Cross
- F. Lyon County Office, State Department of Human Services
- G. County Emergency Management Coordinator
- H. Superintendent Lyon County School District

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Command and Control

The Emergency Operating Center will normally have been activated because of the primary hazard event. Overall, executive direction and control of the incident and any ensuing evacuation will be conducted from the EOC as outlined in Annex A. The County Emergency Management Coordinator will assist with coordination of all evacuation support activities.

B. Transportation

1. Assembly Area - refer to checklist and glossary
2. Special Needs and Health Care 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 County Emergency Management Coordinator, or their designee, will coordinate the use of government or volunteer vehicles to transport these individuals. The public will be instructed to notify the EOC of any special transportation problems.

C. 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 State EMD. Assistance includes manpower, transportation, supplies, and technical advice. The

following agencies may become involved in the emergency evacuation of the area:

1. Department of Transportation (DOT): 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. Department of Public Health: if an evacuation is initiated, maintenance of the health standards in reception areas will be closely monitored. This agency is responsible for the prevention or control of such conditions as:
 - a. overcrowding,
 - b. spread of disease, and
 - c. development of unsanitary conditions/practices.
3. State Fire Marshal: this office is responsible for insuring that adequate safety standards, including fire safety, are met.
4. Iowa State Patrol: the Iowa State Patrol may establish control points for traffic control, assist in maintaining order, obtain medical help and direct emergency vehicles to the proper destination within and around the disaster area.
5. Iowa National Guard: the Iowa National Guard may provide support to the civil authorities when authorized by the Governor. They may provide manpower, and equipment in support of an evacuation.
6. Department of Natural Resources: the department field personnel may be able to provide information on local conditions, act as guides along evacuation routes or to augment other law enforcement personnel in traffic control. The department also has boats available to assist in evacuation during floods.
7. Iowa Department of Public Safety: will maintain a road conditions/closures hotline for services for public and emergency access. Also provided will be a teletype service for law enforcement agencies for road closure and detour information. Routes of travel may be identified.

LIST OF ADDENDA

| <u>ITEM</u> | <u>TITLE</u> | <u>PAGE</u> |
|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>ANNEX E</u> | | |
| Attachment 1 | Emergency Response Checklist | E-5 |

**EVACUATION
EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHECKLIST**

Position/Organization

PREPAREDNESS PHASE

EOC STAFF

- _____ Activate EOC as necessary
- _____ Assemble necessary required EOC Staff
- _____ Alert all supporting groups
- _____ Advise State EOC of evacuation preparation status
- _____ Prepare to augment EOC Staff as necessary
- _____ Assist in definition of the potential evacuation area
- _____ Make sure that critical facilities and institutions in the potential evacuation area have been alerted
- _____ Determine how many residents would be affected
- _____ Identify population groups that may require special assistance during evacuation (senior citizens, disabled, hospital, nursing homes)
- _____ Coordinate with officials of Shelter Areas (if other jurisdiction)
- _____ Correlate information needed to make the evacuation decision and brief the Executive Group
- _____ Evaluate all alternatives for protective action
- _____ Make evacuation decision based on recommendations of on-scene command authority
- _____ Prepare for possible relocation of government services
- _____ Obtain bus resources from school systems and street departments

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

- _____ Prepare pre-evacuation notice to residents
- _____ Issue an Emergency Proclamation (if not already accomplished)
- _____ Issue pre-evacuation notice to media

**EVACUATION
EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHECKLIST**

Position/Organization

PREPAREDNESS PHASE (continued)

LAW ENFORCEMENT

_____ Determine evacuation routes

_____ Prepare resources necessary to control traffic and to assist in warning residents

ON-SCENE COMMANDER

_____ Recommend evacuation to the Executive Group, if necessary and time permits

RESPONSE PHASE

EXECUTIVE GROUP

_____ Make decision to evacuate and issue evacuation order

_____ Increase staff as necessary

COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR OR DESIGNEE

_____ Advise State EMD and request support as needed

EOC STAFF

_____ Notify key critical facilities in evacuation area of evacuation order

_____ Coordinate public transportation for evacuees

_____ Monitor support operations and advise all services/organizations of situation

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

_____ Make announcement of public transportation assembly area

_____ Establish rumor control center

_____ Continue providing evacuation information to the public

**EVACUATION
EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHECKLIST**

Position/Organization

PREPAREDNESS PHASE (continued)

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

- _____ Disseminate evacuation order to residents of the affected area and transient population
- _____ Establish perimeter security
- _____ Establish traffic control on evacuation routes
- _____ Coordinate road service and use of wreckers during movement
- _____ Sweep evacuated area to ensure all persons have left
- _____ Provide reports of traffic movement and other related problems to EOC
- _____ Implement access pass system for entry into evacuated area

PUBLIC WORKS/COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

- _____ Provide necessary traffic control devices
- _____ Assist in keeping evacuation routes open

FIRE CHIEF

- _____ Order evacuation when required by the situation (immediate hazard to public safety)
- _____ Establish and maintain fire security of evacuated area

SHELTER MANAGERS

- _____ Establish Registration Center; implement mass care procedures
- _____ Open lodging facilities
- _____ Begin emergency feeding operations
- _____ Implement human services and crisis counseling actions

**EVACUATION
EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHECKLIST**

Position/Organization

RECOVERY PHASE

EXECUTIVE GROUP

- _____ Make decision to reenter evacuated area
- _____ Issue return order

COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR OR DESIGNEE

- _____ Gather information concerning the safety of the evacuation area
- _____ Brief Executive Group and make recommendations concerning reentry
- _____ Advise State of reentry decision
- _____ Arrange for transportation of special needs groups and individuals back to their residences

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

- _____ Disseminate public announcement of return order
- _____ Inform public of proper re-entry actions regarding utilities and cleanup, if necessary

PUBLIC WORKS/SECONDARY ROADS

- _____ Clear debris as necessary
- _____ Inspect evacuation area for safety

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC HEALTH COORDINATOR

- _____ Perform inspections of the evacuated area to ensure it is safe to return

SHELTER MANAGER

- _____ Notify evacuees in lodging facilities of clearance to return to evacuated area
- _____ Terminate lodging and feeding operations

**EVACUATION
EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHECKLIST**

Position/Organization

RECOVERY PHASE

HUMAN SERVICES

_____ Determine long term housing needs of evacuees

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

_____ Provide traffic control for movement back to evacuated area,
when area is determined to be safe

E V A C U A T I O N

