

Madison County
Commissioner Emergency Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2018



An emergency meeting was called for sheet flooding which has damaged portions of approximately 200 miles of Madison County roadway at 8:30 a.m., on March 23, 2018.

Attendees:

Jon Weber, Chairman
Todd Smith, Commissioner
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner
Corey Child, Chief of Emergency Services
Mike Clements, Bureau of Homeland Security
Troyce Miskin, Emergency Services
Dave Davis, Emergency Services
Kim Muir, Madison County Clerk
Cindy Roberson, Road and Bridge

The meeting was via teleconference with EOC Manager Mia Green appearing via teleconference. Brent Larsen of EOC is the decision maker.

The meeting was to discuss excessive flooding located on the bench areas of Madison County.

The Web EOC Events Log will reflect 210 miles of roadway in Madison County, Idaho, of which 200 miles have sustained various portions of damage thus far, and the continuing damage has taken out all of the work we have done in the past week, as far as placing gravel to stop erosion. The gravel has run-off into farmers' fields, which will entail removal at some point.

EOC asked what State assistance is needed from the State at the present time. Cindy Roberson answered that barricades and signs "water over roadway" are needed as the County has used their entire inventory of these thus far. The County has all equipment operators necessary, as well as fine aggregate and sand bags. Chief Child was asked to put in an RFA for barricades and signs for the County.

When asked about County infrastructure damage or threatened, Cindy stated the wells on farmland flooded, homes have been blocked and canals have washed out. Some potato cellars flooded and farmers cannot get farm to market access. There is some jeopardy of transporting students to/from school, but alternate routes can be used for now.

The following points were noted:

- Mike Clements commented that Clark County is now affected and he assisted with a verbal declaration last night. Bonneville is assessing. There is no word from Fremont County.
- Madison County is close to half a million spent on repairs.
- The following planning process assignments were made:
 - Incident commander: Cindy Roberson/Reo Jensen
 - Planning for finance: Kim Muir
 - Operation/Logistics: Reo Jensen
- Emergency Management will continue to support, but can't make decisions.
- Commissioners are allowed to meet and discuss the emergency without notice.

- The contact person can make financial decisions without discussing with other Commissioners.
- Cindy stated that every road is impassable on the bench.
- This incident will stabilize as weather warms up.

Cindy's greatest concerns are out of 210 miles of dirt roads in Madison County, 200 are affected, a canal has been breached on Baker Oil causing more problems, and the grounds are so saturated that they can't get on the roads to begin repair until Monday. She said they will get the road passable so school busses can get through. The Canal District is responsible for flooding along the roadways if we can find contact personnel. We will need to ask what the damage is to the canals and add to our report. The State will help financially with a 50/50 match. If the situation grows worse and other Counties get involved, we can get a Presidential Declaration, wherein canals and any other damage can be taken care of.

Mike commented if the road is saturated and the base is affected, we can track those monies also. The EOC will need impact reports, not just damage reports. It was suggested Chief Child contact news outlets to let them know County roads are closed and trespassers will be cited for moving or driving past barriers.

When asked what was needed financially in the next 5 - 10 days, Cindy replied barricades to close roads for next few days until the County can get on the roads to begin repairs. The gravel that was placed in the past few days has completely washed off. Cindy will ensure everyone has another way out. Farmers are upset they can't haul potatoes out and they are tearing up roads. The roads are not repairable at this time. Road & Bridge is going to be putting culverts in, but the road will wash in a different area next year. Culverts are currently washing out that were replaced.

Funds needed to meet the current needs were discussed. On Monday, March 19, 2018, \$175,000 of match was requested. Cindy's rough estimate just to get the road open would be \$475,000 total, including the amount from March 19, 2018. This would just cover emergency work to get the road open.

Commissioners will have to at some point say; we don't have the funds to cover the situation.

Keith Davidson, City of Rexburg Public Works, came into the meeting and reported that Quail Hollow was fine, but there were some sandbags put in near North Hill Road and along Barney Dairy. There are concerns about the homes in Hidden Valley.

Bart Quayle, from the Sheriff's Office also came into the meeting and was asked to have the roads being closed patrolled over the weekend for trespassers.

Damage from the City will be included with the County damage. All were asked to track time, equipment and material used. Canal companies will need to be identified and damage sustained by them.

Maryanne Nielsen from the Madison School District Transportation was asked to join the meeting. She has concerns with Hidden Valley. Her driver heard kids were not coming because homes were flooded. The Sugar Salem School District transportation will be notified by Maryanne.

Chief Child will update the preliminary damage worksheet. Damage evaluations are currently being assessed by Richard and Reo with the County Road and Bridge Department.

All calls and information will be directed to Chief Child. If a helicopter trip to assess the damage is required, it can be arranged. A drone can also be used.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Approved:
Jon O. Weber, Commission Chairman
Todd Smith, Commissioner
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner