



Camden County, MO
Emergency Management Agency

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Winter Storm
February 17, 2022
AFTER ACTION REPORT

Prepared by

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February 17, 2022

Executive Summary - On Wednesday, February 16 2022, the Camden County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) began tracking a winter storm system expected to impact the NWS Springfield viewing area by Thursday, February 17 2022. Members of the Camden County Road and Bridge District (R&B), the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), the American Red Cross (ARC), the Lake Area Storm Spotters (LASS), the Camden County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), local municipalities, and the National Weather Service (NWS) contacted the EMA directly to ensure communications in case anything came of the storm. The EMA and R&B met regarding operations for snow clearance and removal during and after the winter storm. The Camden County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated on Thursday, February 17 2022 at 9:00 am at Level 4 to observe the storm's movement and coordinate with Camden County R&B. The EOC released joint statements with R&B for the duration of the event. The EOC was demobilized on Thursday, February 17 2022 at 4:00 pm. See below for further information.

Project Overview

Project Name:	02012022WS
Date:	February 17, 2022
Duration:	~1 operational time period
Location:	Camden County, MO
Planning Team:	Sam Henley, Pat Wolf, Bill Berry, Andy Bayerl, Camden County Commission, Judge Matt Hamner, Jenny Solomon, Steve Runnels, Eric Hoover, Ernest Venis, and Brenda Gerlach in addition to local first responder partners and municipalities
Number of Participants:	Numerous
Oversight:	Camden County EOC

Overall Assessment

Objective 1: Provide weather warnings and EOC activation/demobilization messages using Camden County's mass notification system, Everbridge Nixle.

Activities: Alerts and messages were sent via the mass notification system before and during the winter storm to the visitors and residents of Camden County to keep them apprised of weather conditions and to the EOC Activation List to keep them apprised of EOC activation, level, and demobilization.

Assessment: The mass notification system performed adequately.

The following individuals and organizations responded to the Nixle test alerts on Thursday, February 17 2022:

- American Red Cross via Jenny Solomon
- Camden County 9-1-1 Dispatch Center via Maggie Rector
- Camden County Amateur Radio Emergency Service via Ernie Venis
- Camden County Commission via Don Williams
- Camden County Community Emergency Response Team via Ranita Jones and Tim Giedd
- Camden County Emergency Management Agency via Samantha Henley
- Camden County Health Department via Stephanie Dake
- Camden County Road and Bridge via Bill Berry
- Camdenton City Hall via Jeff Hooker
- Camdenton Police Department via Jeff Beauchamp
- Gravois Mills Fire Protection District via Ed Hancock
- Lake Ozark Fire Protection District via Mark Amsinger
- Lake Regional Hospital via Todd Farley
- Linn Creek City Hall via Jeff Davis
- Sleeper/Stoutland Fire Protection District via James Vaughn
- Southwest Fire Protection District via Mike Hufferd
- Sunrise Beach Emergency Management via Ronda Stehle
- Sunrise Beach Fire Protection District via Joseph LaPlant
- Sunrise Beach Police Department via Jeff Campbell

Objective 2: Observe and assess the effectiveness of communications with partners.

Activities: WebEOC, email, and phone contact were all utilized before, during, and after the winter storm event to enable communication between a multitude of partners. Camden County EOC also monitored county, MOSWIN, and amateur radio frequencies for the duration of the activation.

Assessment: The Camden County EMA alerted SEMA that the Camden County EOC was activated on Thursday, February 17 2022 via WebEOC. Initial activation included contact with partners, activation and utilization of mass notifications systems, social media, and monitoring of the NWS partner collaboration call and NWSChat Live. LASS members in Camden County reported information regarding storm intensity, snowfall readings, and temperature from their home locations. No widespread power outages were reported to the EOC during its activation.

Objective 3: Clearing county roads to ensure safe driving conditions.

Activities: Camden County R&B worked in a combined seventeen-hour operational time period to continually clear the roads of snow and ice and treat the roads to help prevent additional accumulation. There were two wrecker calls.

Assessment: Roads were cleared. There were minor breakdowns of equipment, such as hydraulic lines, bearings, spreader chains, and a few chain/pin breakages. R&B was understaffed for this winter storm. R&B needs to be able to store more pea gravel and salt mix for future winter storms.

Conclusion - The effectiveness of using the mass notification system, along with traditional forms of communication, continues to rate very high. The Camden County EMA suggests further tests, exercises, training, and utilization of the mass notification system to familiarize people with how to respond to notifications and to exercise the other possible ways the system can be used.

In regards to the communications and interoperability between the Camden County EMA and our partnering agencies, the meetings and planning that took place prior to the winter storm moving through the area were absolutely paramount. The Camden County EMA has received overwhelmingly positive feedback from the public in regards to the communications efforts in coordination with our partners throughout the duration of the storm.

Recommendations

The recommendations for correction are as follows:

1. New mass notification system (pending-this is a correction and update following the EF-1 Tornado on Sunday, October 24 2021).
2. Training and exercises so our partners will know how to respond to EOC activations in Camden County.
3. Training for the Camden County CERT on EOC activation and response to notifications.
4. R&B requires more space to store pea gravel and salt mix and more personnel.