

CITY OF ANTIGO
AD HOC WEATHER WARNING SYSTEM COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
OCTOBER 31, 2023

Ad Hoc Weather Warning System of the City of Antigo met in Regular Meeting on the above date at 4:30 PM in the Multi-Purpose Room, City Hall, Chairperson Glenn Bugni presiding.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Glenn Bugni	Chairperson	Present	
Barb Rebstock	Ward 1	Present	
Joel Wagner	Ward 6	Present	
AJ Jansen	Member	Present	
Terence Brand	Mayor	Present	
Jeff Geiger	Member	Absent	
Hank Bie	Member	Absent	

Others in attendance: Daniel Duley, Police Chief; Travis Krueger, Langlade County Emergency Management Director; Mark Desotell, Director of Administrative Services; Corey Smith, Fire Chief; and Cheryl Barta, Administrative Assistant.

Siren Vendors Contacted

1. Vendor Questions and Information Provided by Alderperson/Chairperson Bugni

Alderperson Bugni reported that Mayor Brand has done a lot of work on preparing information. Mayor Brand noted that Ms. Mauk put the information together for him.

A handout of different vendors and systems, as well as a list of systems used by a number of State municipalities was distributed.

Alderperson Bugni went over some of the questions to be asked of vendors and inquired if anyone had any other questions that should be added to the list. Police Chief Duley inquired if there is a power outage prior to the siren going off, if there would be a battery backup to fire up the siren? Alderperson Bugni reported several of the systems listed on the handout do run on batteries.

There was a discussion on the different vendors and the information provided on each of the systems the different vendors offer.

Alderperson Bugni noted one of the companies he was interested in contacting was Sentry Siren as they offered a free consultation. He noted the features he liked about the system and the services the company provides. He also noted the company assists in writing grants and reported there are grants out there.

Upon Alderperson Bugni's inquiry of Mayor Brand on where he was in contacting companies, Mayor Brand explained he thought they would want to identify the minimum requirements of what the committee would be looking for in a system and narrow down the companies they would want to contact before reaching out to anyone.

Alderperson Bugni noted some communities that are using some of the systems and reported a site check might be a good option to see how the equipment works.

Upon Alderperson Wagner's inquiry if the system were hit by lightning would the system be covered by insurance, Mark Desotell reported he did not have an answer at what level the insurance company would cover the sirens under a capital investment. Mr. Desotell reported the siren would be destroyed if there was a lightning hit.

Mayor Brand and Alderperson Bugni agreed if the sirens would be susceptible to lightning strikes would be a good question to be asked of the vendors.

Travis Krueger, Langlade County Emergency Manager, reported he was looking at his emails. He reported originally when he first started looking into grants there was nothing available but he stated it seems there are a few that are available, at least one in an email notification he just received.

Mr. Krueger reported the notification is from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the Building Resilience Infrastructure in Communities Program (BRIC). He noted it is a competitive grant and applications are open now.

Upon Alderperson Bugni's inquiry of which companies the committee would like to ask questions of, Mr. Desotell cautioned that companies eventually tire of questions if they do not know that the municipality will be looking for a proposal.

Mr. Krueger reported there is a grant deadline of November 30, 2023 for 2024 and that it would probably not be possible for a 2024 installation.

Mr. Desotell reported the numbers of the grant would have to be looked at and that matching funds are not included for the weather warning system in the City's 2024 budget, but if matching funds are low it might be something that Council may be able to agree to.

Mr. Krueger reported he found instead of one grant there potentially may be three grants available for weather systems, one being the BRIC Grant, the Hazard Mitigation Program Grant and another one.

There was a discussion of the process of what would need to be done before attempting to apply for the grant. Mr. Desotell reported the Committee should have an idea of the amount they are looking to write the grant for.

Upon Alderperson Rebstock's inquiry if the grant can be written now, Mayor Brand noted that is what is going to need to be determined.

It was determined the cap for the grant should be around \$250,000.

Mr. Desotell reported if the Committee wants to pursue the grant it would need to be in front of Council at the November 8, 2023 meeting. Alderperson Bugni reported it could be put on the Council agenda and removed if it is found not to be feasible.

Mr. Desotell reported an item could be added to the special Finance, Personnel and Legislative Committee meeting agenda that is scheduled before the Council meeting on November 8, 2023.

Motion to pursue Building Resilience Infrastructure in Communities (BRIC) Program Grant.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Barb Rebstock, Ward 1
SECONDER:	Joel Wagner, Ward 6
AYES:	Bugni, Rebstock, Wagner, Jansen, Brand
ABSENT:	Jeff Geiger, Hank Bie

Siren Vendor Web Addresses

Features We Want to Consider in a Warning System

Siren Systems Other Communities are Using

Malfunction of Siren System in Merrill

Schedule of Siren Company Visits

Other Business

None.


Adjournment

- 1. **Motion to:** adjourn at 5:43 PM

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Barb Rebstock, Ward 1
SECONDER:	Joel Wagner, Ward 6
AYES:	Bugni, Rebstock, Wagner, Jansen, Brand
ABSENT:	Jeff Geiger, Hank Bie



Glenn Bugni, Chairperson



Date