

JACKSON COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN



WHAT IS AN EOP?

- Assigns responsibility to organizations and individuals for carrying out specific actions at projected times and places in an emergency.
- Sets forth lines of authority and organizational relationships and shows how all actions will be coordinated.
- Describes how people and property will be protected in emergencies and disasters.
- Identifies personnel, equipment, facilities, supplies, and other resources available within the jurisdiction or by agreement with other jurisdictions.
- Identifies steps to address mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery activities.

The Jackson County Emergency Operations Plan was developed to address multiple hazards which threaten a jurisdiction. Through use of a functional format, the plan encourages an Integrated Emergency Management System (IEMS) approach to disasters and fosters prompt, efficient and coordinated response operations by elements of the emergency organization.

2021

Jackson County Emergency Operations Plan



Jackson County Emergency Management
8/1/2021

WHEN WAS OUR EOP LAST UPDATED?

- The Jackson County Emergency Operations Plan was last updated in 2022
- Developed in 2021 and will be approved in 2022
- The entire plan was updated in 2021
- Last presented to the board in 2018

ROLES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- The roles of the County Commissions and Chairman are clearly defined throughout the EOP
- The Board of Commissioners is responsible for the direction and control of disaster situations
- The Board works in conjunction with the Chairman to finalize decisions
- Exercises emergency responsibilities during emergencies and disasters to provide for the health and safety of the public

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESPONSIBILITIES

- Establish policy and incident guidance procedures in coordination with other officials.
- Carry out appropriate provisions of State general statutes, in addition to local ordinances, relating to emergencies.
- Issue and distribute, as appropriate, a local proclamation declaring a State of Emergency or terminating the State of Emergency.
 - Works under the NCGS 166-A -19.15.NCEMACT
- Assume or delegate direction and control of emergency operations after declaring an emergency at the county level.
- Receive confidential and public information from the EOC, and be available to distribute accurate and public information across channels
- Support county functions as requested by the EM director, Board Chair, or other points of contact

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

- Direct responsibility or organization, administration, and operation of the emergency response
- Direct command and control during an emergency event
- Authority over EOC throughout the emergency
- Ability to send request through Web EOC

COUNTY CLERK

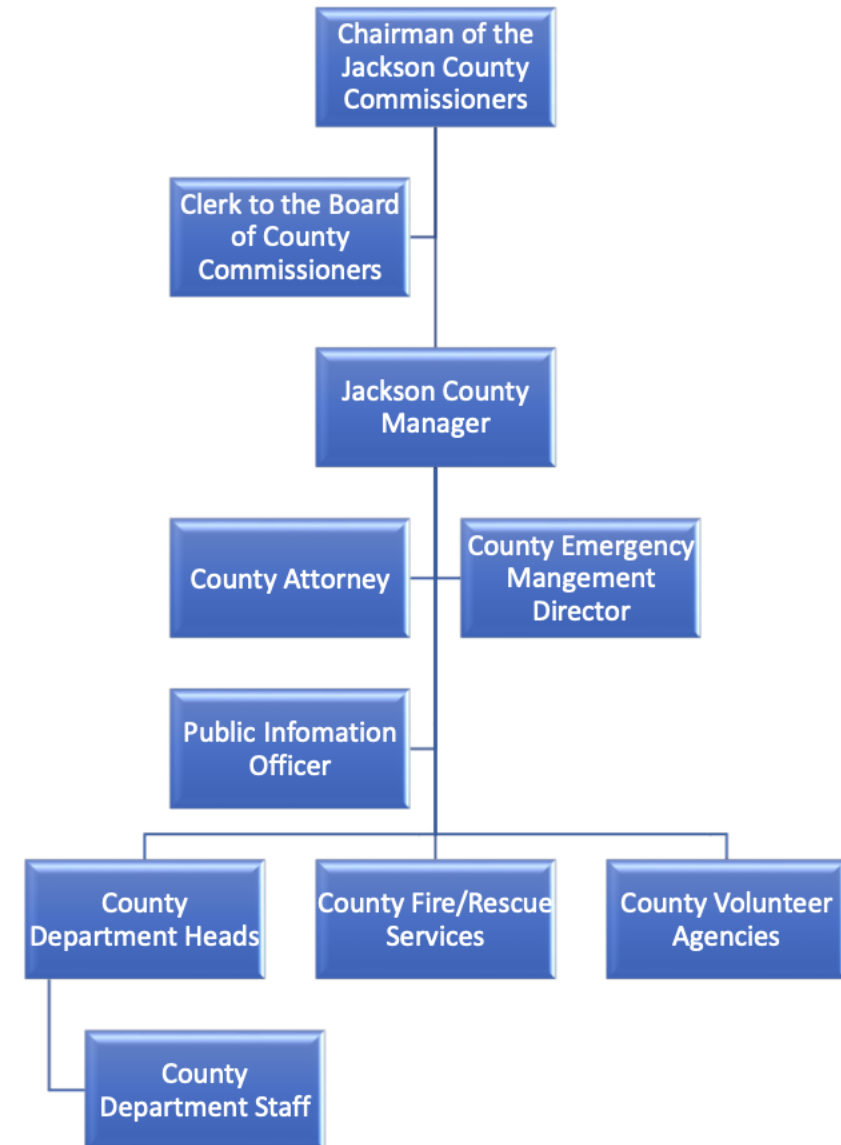
- Statutorily required to maintain county records
- The clerk is the last signature on contracts, resolutions, and declarations
- A state of Emergency is signed by the county clerk, which makes it legally binding.
- Clerks post notices of state of emergency, notify sunshine list, work with other departments for other notifications.

COUNTY MANAGER

- Overall administrative management of departments and personnel
- Ability to enter mutual aid agreements



Appendix 1 Organizational Structure



DO WE HAVE ANNUAL TRAINING?

- County Commissioners have not had annually training in the past but Key County staff regularly review the plan.
- During Covid our EOC was open for 4 months utilizing all county departments.
 - Last time EOP was used for training and practice

MUNICIPALITIES ROLES WITHIN THE EOP

- Jackson County has 4 municipalities
- Municipalities fall under the Jackson County EOP plan
- They can be included under the county's State of Emergency activation or can declare an emergency independently

HOW CAN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SUPPORT THE EOP AND PARTNERSHIPS?

- Understanding the role of Emergency Management in Jackson County and providing support
- Help provide funding to obtain crucial resources needed for preparedness of Emergency Management
- Emergency Management's main priority is the health and safety of the citizens in Jackson County

EOP PARTNERSHIPS

- Mutual Aid Agreements- County and State
- VOADS (Voluntary Organizations Assisting in Disasters)
 - Red Cross- Shelters, Feeding, and Recovery efforts
 - Salvation Army- Feeding
 - North Carolina Baptist Men- Feeding and Recovery efforts
 - United Methodist Committee of Relief- Response and Recovery assistance



**American
Red Cross**



LOCAL PARTNERS

- Jackson Counties front line responders during an emergency...
 - 7 Fire Departments
 - 2 Rescue Squads
 - 2 EMS Bases
 - Sheriff's Office and Sylva Police Department
 - North Carolina Forest Service



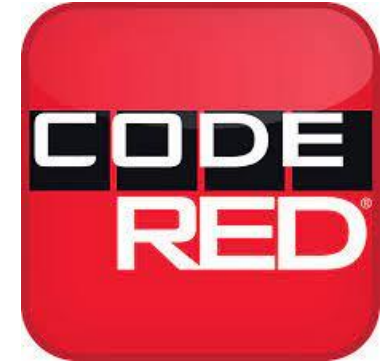
PRE-EVENT CONTRACTS

- Food Contract when opening Shelters
- Statewide Regional Prepositioned Debris Removal Contract
 - Region 13



COMMUNICATION DURING AN EMERGENCY

- Code Red / Reverse 9-1-1
- National Weather Service
- Social Media
 - Facebook (Local Alert)
 - Partnership with Facebook, mass notification

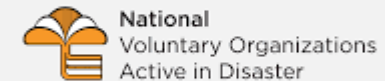


RESCUE AND RECOVERY

- We have multiple annexes within the EOP dedicated to rescue and recovery
- In these annexes, you will also find information regarding EOC, Emergency Services, Public Health and Information, Sheltering and Evacuation, Debris Management, and Donations.
- Shelters
 - Currently in the process of updating shelter surveys for all 7 locations. These locations include county facilities, public schools, and churches.
 - Two annexes that discuss this: Sheltering and Mass Care, Evacuation and Shelter

COMMUNITY COORDINATION

- Volunteer Organizations Assisted in Disaster (VOAD) is coordinated in the EOC
 - American Red Cross, NC Baptist Men, and Salvation Army are a few examples we have in Jackson County
 - American Red Cross representatives are assigned to the Human Services Branch in the EOC where they will coordinate VOAD response.



MITIGATION GRANT FUNDING

- In the process of updating the Smoky Mountain Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - Any county that has property belonging to the EBCI is a part of this plan including; Haywood, Jackson, Swain, Graham, and Cherokee counties.
 - This plan is updated every 5 years and is funded through mitigation grants

Smoky Mountain Regional
Hazard Mitigation Plan
2022 Plan Update



DRAFT - June 2022