McHenry County Goes to EMI!

McHenry County EMA

What is the Integrated Emergency Management Course?

- Community-specific to reflect the hazards or events facing our jurisdiction.
- Utilized the type of EOC used (or intended to by used) by McHenry County.
- With most of the organizations included in the McHenry County emergency plans
- A focus on the transition to recovery.

How did we get there?

Formal selection process exists due to very high demand for the course.

EMA presented the concept and grant request to Law and Justice

Board Chairperson submits request and application to State EMA (IEMA)

State EMA supports and endorses, if it meets state objectives

FEMA regional supports and forwards to the Emergency Management Institute (EMI)

EMI reviews and accepts. Develops community specific course.

The Prelude:

- **Skilled EMI exercise specialists conducted a pre-course analysis with the jurisdiction in order to collect location information, identify critical infrastructure, study transportation systems, and analyze current response plans.**

The special request…

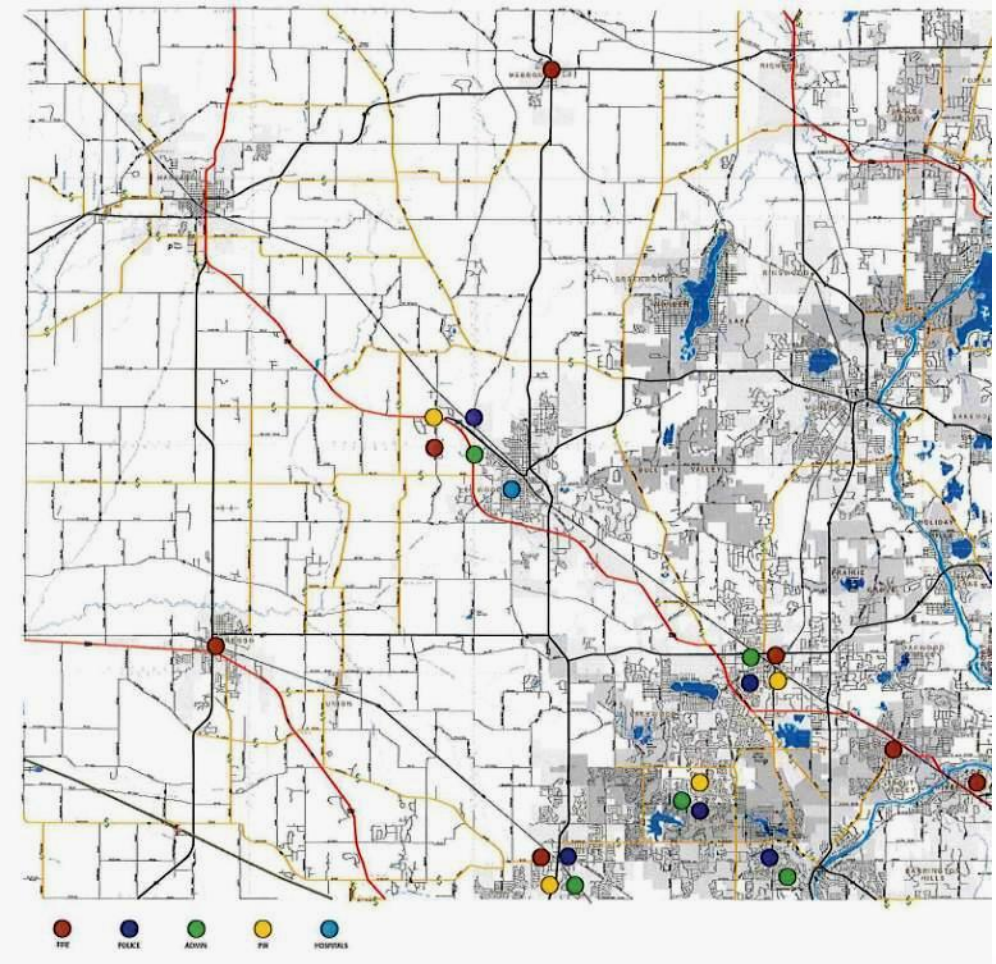
We challenged EMI to:

- **Assist us in evolving our EOC.**
- **Foster inter-jurisdictional understanding and cooperation.**
- **Challenge our coordination of multiple responder needs.**
- **Present the policy level decisions and coordination issues.**
- **Help us to improve, not test to a standard.**

EMI Instructors

- World class instructors from around the country, presented on fire, law enforcement, public works, government, and administration.
- All lectures related to real life issues with McHenry County as the centerpiece. Each instructor had studied our plans, our demographics, our political structure, and our plans.

County Wide participation.



McHenry County Team:

ALGONQUIN:	POLICE, PIO, PUBLIC WORKS
CARY	FIRE
CENTEGRA	EMS EDUCATOR
CRYSTAL LAKE:	CITY MANAGER, FIRE, POLICE, PUBLIC WORKS
FOX RIVER GROVE	FIRE
HEBRON	FIRE
HUNTLEY	FIRE, HR, POLICE, PUBLIC WORKS
LAKE IN THE HILLS	COMMUNICATIONS, POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR, POLICE, PUBLIC PROPERTIES, PUBLIC WORKS, VILLAGE ADMIN / TRUSTEE
MABAS	PRESIDENT, FIRE ADMINISTRATIVE LIAISON

McHenry County Team:

MARENGO	FIRE
MCHENRY COUNTY	911 COORDINATOR, ADMINSTRATION, AUDITOR, COMMUNICATIONS, CORONER, CORRECTIONS, SHERIFF, COUNTY BOARD, DOT, EMA, FACILITIES, GIS, HEALTH DEPT., IT, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, STATE'S ATTY
MCHENRY HS DIST 156	FACILITIES MANAGER
RED CROSS	MASS CARE, PLANNING MANAGER
SEECOM	COMMUNICATIONS

Prep class arranged

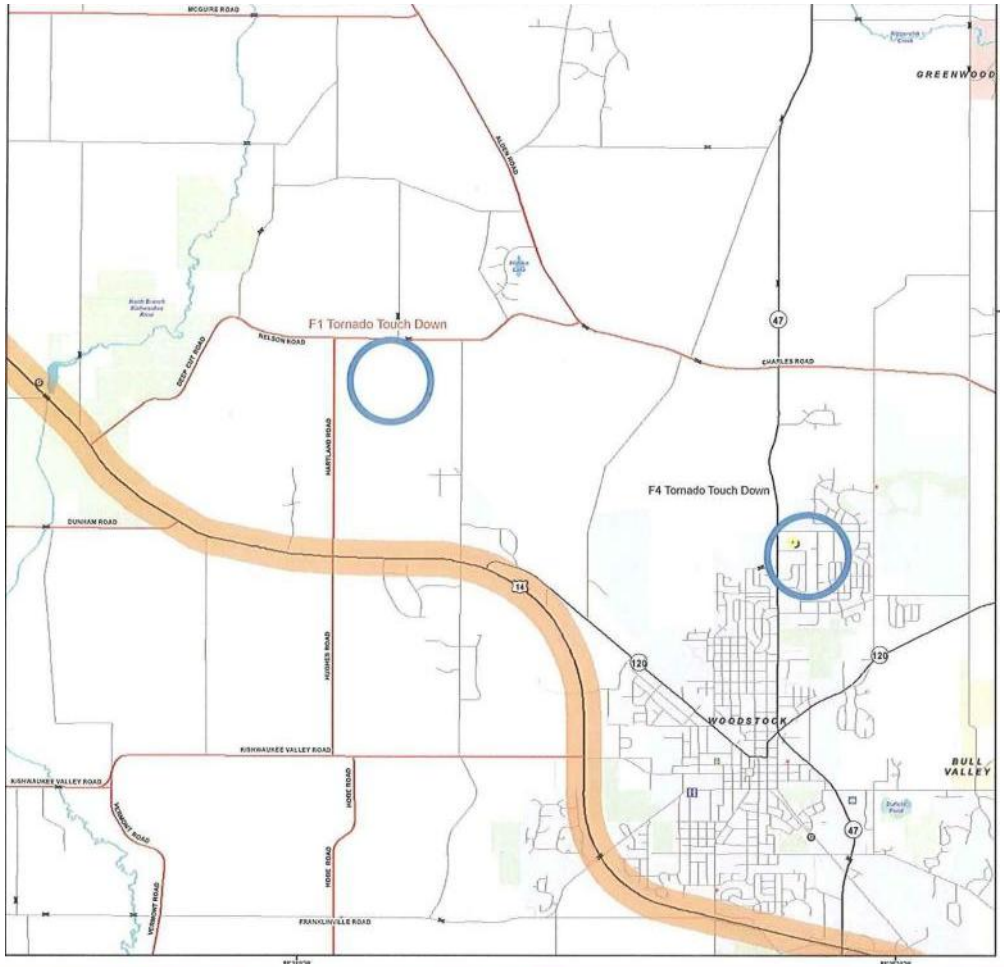
Pre-EMI class

Working the exercises

Classroom & EOC

McHenry County participants

First trouble reports…



Emergency Management Agency
McHenry County, IL

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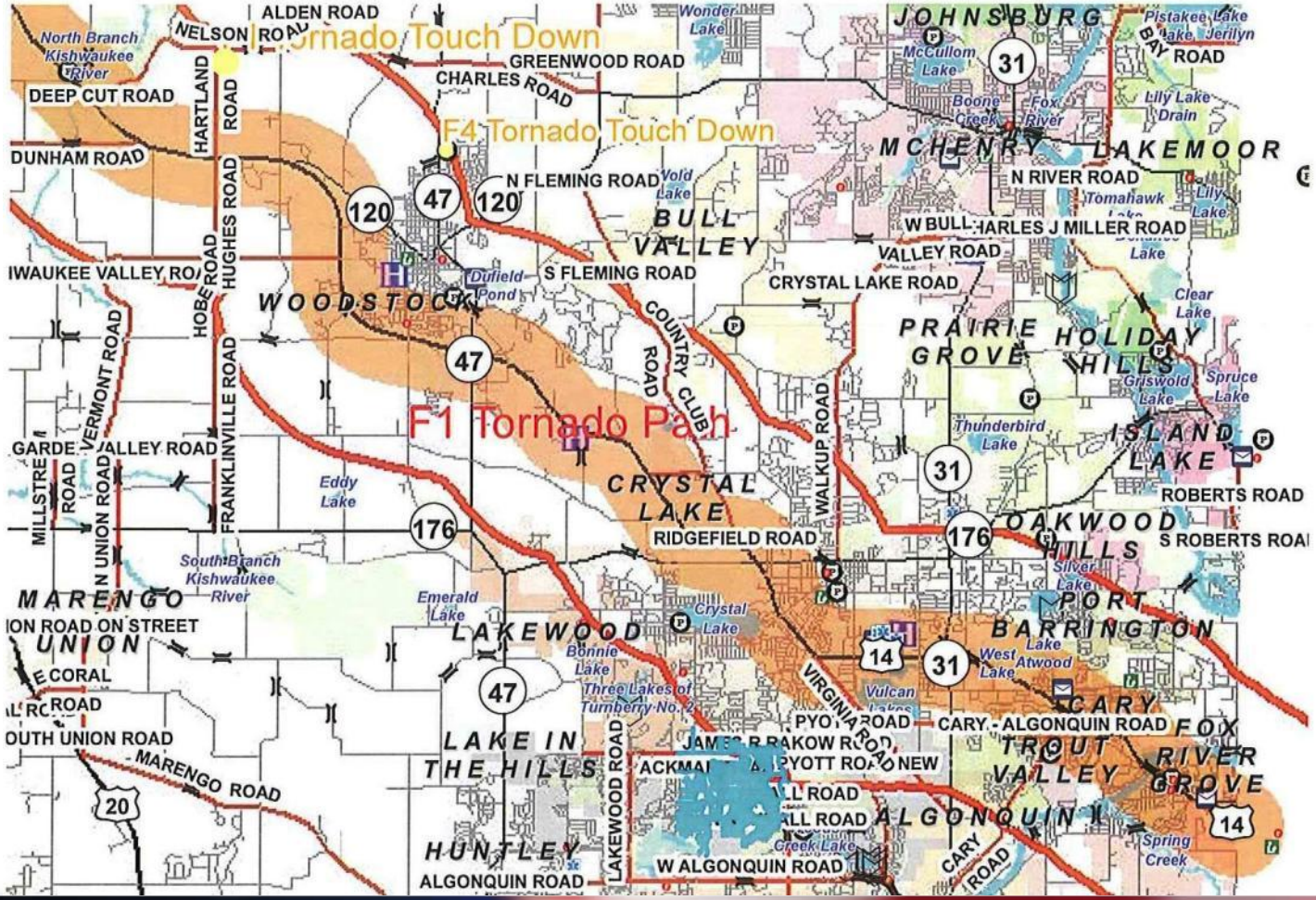
McHenry County, IL

Valley Hi

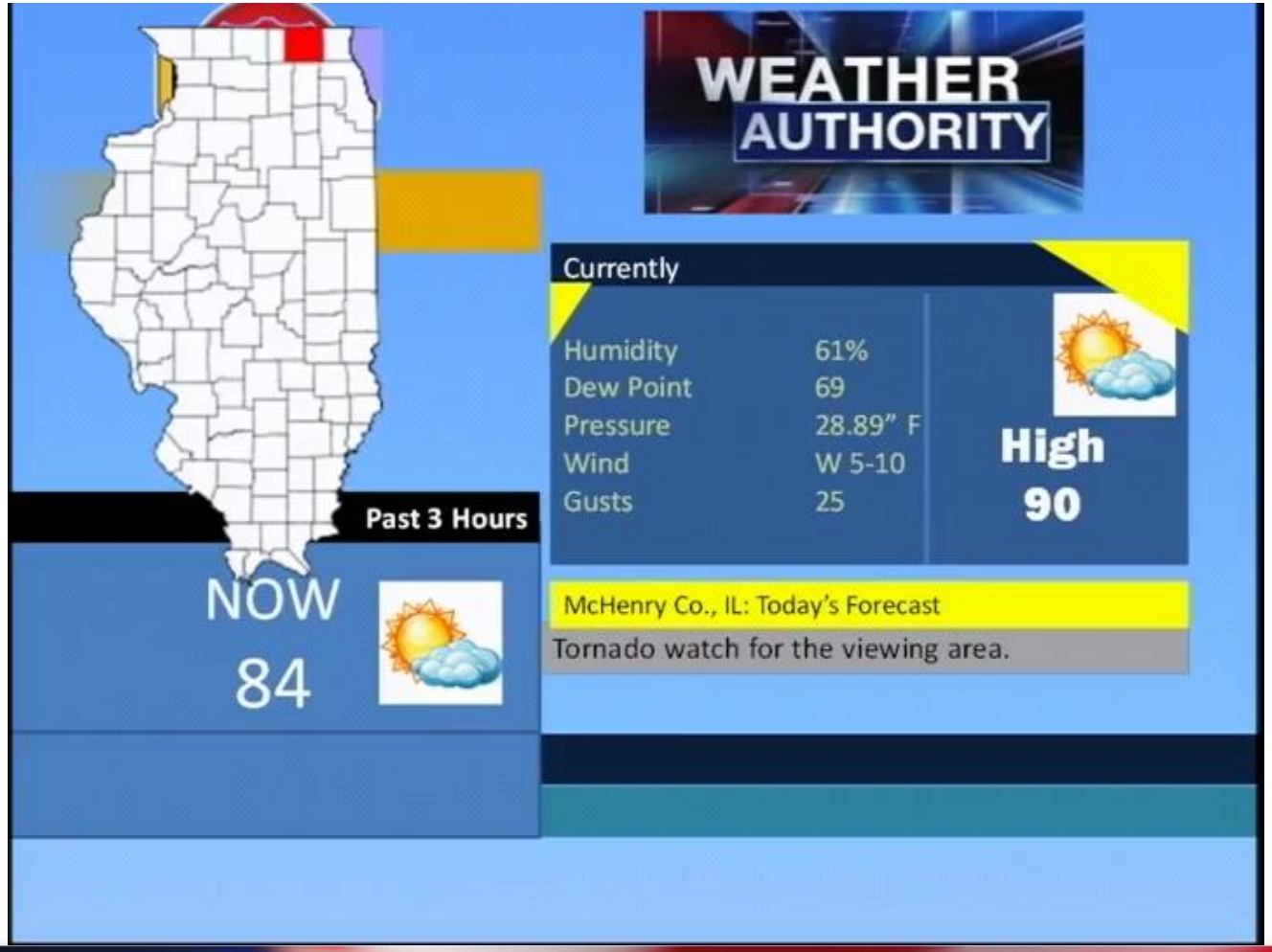
As the picture became clearer with GIS...



Note, this drawing was compiled from scattered reports and logical deduction.

In the end, it was determined there were two tornados. An F1 (northwest), and an F4 (southeast).

McHenry County at EMI



Next steps:

- Expand recovery planning.
- Functional Standard Operating Guides needed for EOC functions.
- Incident management software requires upgrade.
- Items requiring extensive review:
  - Staging / reception and an alternate EOC.
  - Staffing (including succession) in the EOC.
  - Situational Awareness (utilizing GIS)
  - Increased PIO staffing.

Primary participant feedback:

- **Continued multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency exercising and review.**

Questions

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