
ASCE September Meeting Minutes

Speaker: Rick Lanzrath – Director of Public Works & Utilities, City of Andover
Topic: City of Andover Tornado Response Efforts
Date: Wednesday, September 7, 2022
Location: Advanced Learning Library
711 West 2nd Street North
Wichita, KS 67203

President Lindebak called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm and opened with announcements.

Announcements

- Macee Roemer is the new secretary for the 2022-2023 year
- Meeting will be held next month on Wednesday, October 5th, speaker TBD
- The fall Adopt-A-Highway is coming up next month and is tentatively scheduled for October 20th. More information will be available later
- John Oswald will still be the chairman for the Wichita branch Scholarship of \$1,500. Students from KSU, KU, & Benedictine are all encouraged to apply.
- PDH's are available at the end of the meeting
- Daniel Mealiff is the new Hands on Engineering Chair. Occurs the first Saturday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in volunteering, talk to Daniel.

Vice President Layla McDaniel introduced the guest speaker, Rick Lanzrath.

Rick, the director of Public Works & Utilities for the City of Andover, discusses the events during and surrounding the tornado that passed through the City of Andover on April 29th, 2022.

The timeline of the tornado events happened very quickly. A severe thunderstorm warning was issued for Sedgwick County & Butler County at 8:07 p.m. and by 8:17 p.m. the first reports were received from storm spotters of tornado damage.

The path of the tornado seemed to travel close to the Andover wastewater treatment plant, so that was the first stop on the way into the city. The plant had lost Evergy power, but they are on dual energy, so luckily the plan was up and running with minimal damage. Traffic on Kellogg was shut down, so traffic on the side streets was very backed up.



The fire Chief and street managers wanted to get equipment out to clear streets, but there was overhead power down on some streets. It was important to make sure the power lines were dead or turned off before they sent anyone out there to clear the streets. Clearing roads took about 9-10 hours before all the roads were cleared and safe for travel. It took a while to get clearance from Evergy to go in and clear certain roads.

The path of the tornado is difficult to see from above, but there was a lot of tree removal that had to be done. The storm went right through central park with the lodge & amphitheater sustaining substantial damage. Most damage to City Hall was on the backside from debris.

Butler County Public Works arrived that night and KTA arrived the next morning. Both groups were there everyday for 2 weeks except for the first Sunday. Many other city agencies, contractors, counties, etc. showed up to volunteer their time and help out with cleanup efforts.

Many different agencies (Butler County, Sedgwick County, City of Andover, etc.) all showed up at various times that night to put out barricades, but no one was tracking whose barricades were going where. There were multiple assets (e.g. light towers) being brought in without coordinating with the other agencies, and they got mixed up after. Many battery backups on traffic signals failed, and batteries started to run out over the next few days. One of the biggest struggles in this process was the delay in getting roadways cleared due to power lines being down. Many of the City of Andover's public works equipment was damaged from the storm, and with lead times and cost of replacement, it has been difficult to replace everything.

The city is grateful for all the volunteers, but there were issues with managing the different volunteers & volunteer groups.

There were no major injuries in Andover that resulted from the tornado, and almost all of the storm debris was removed from public right of way & the park within 10 days. While the coordination of agencies bringing in assets & equipment could have been better, the duplicate assets were nice to have as backups.

The current status of the tornado cleanup Efforts:

- Still needing more than a half million dollars in repairs to City Hall
- Lodge needs replaced (Andover's highest used rental building)
- Staff Burnout
- Very large tree pile to burn
- Still working on vehicle replacement (18 Public Works vehicles totaled)
- Still working on building claims



CIVIL ENGINEERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE. THEY BUILD THE QUALITY OF LIFE.

Meeting Attendees

1	Mike	Armour	24	Steve	Lackey
2	Eric	Armstrong	25	Scott	Lindebak
3	Debra	Ary	26	Dmitry	Lomachenko
4	Allison	Atkinson	27	Suzanne	Loomis
5	Michael	Bailey	28	Layla	McDaniel
6	Scott	Bernhardt	29	Daniel	Mealiff
7	Alfred	Blanco	30	Shawn	Mellies
8	Eric	Broce	31	Logan	Mills
9	Mark	Buckingham	32	John	Oswald
10	Paul	Cater	33	Rohith	Panthangi
11	Caleb	Coltrane	34	Shivraj	Patil
12	Colin	Costley	35	Macee	Roemer
13	Steve	Degenhardt	36	Larry	Shaler
14	Harlan	Foraker	37	James	Shimp
15	Nicole	Franken	38	Jessica	Slavik
16	Paul	Garrett	39	Dan	Squires
17	Josh	Golka	40	Anne	Stephens
18	Brian	Haberly	41	Rick	Stone
19	Derek	Hake	42	Michelle	Strait
20	Abdul	Hamada	43	Ks	Thompson
21	Matt	Haug	44	Samantha	Warkins
22	John	Heinz	45	Jim	Weber
23	Kyle	Kerns	46	Amy	Wegner

Meeting adjourned by President Scott Lindebak at 12:55 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Macee Roemer.



CIVIL ENGINEERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE. THEY BUILD THE QUALITY OF LIFE.