

# Steele County CAER Minutes

January 16, 2019

## Location:

Owatonna Firehall

## Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Tom Karnauskas.

## Attendees:

Iris Johnson, Tom Karnauskas, Jerry Ibberson, Mike Johnson, Elizabeth Zerby, Megan Norbeck, Dale Phiefer, Susan Michels-Ricker, Dee Kirchner, Sandee Hardy-Hagen, Tim Van Engelenhoven, Bonnie Johnson

## Routine Approvals:

- Minutes of Nov 14, 2018 were approved. Susan Michels-Ricker 1<sup>st</sup> & Jerry Ibberson 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Treasurer's Report was unchanged with a balance of \$1,803.77 Dee Kirchner 1<sup>st</sup> Jamie Vogt 2<sup>nd</sup> approved.

## Old Business:

1. Training
  - a. Iris Johnson held Blood Borne Pathogen training at the firehall.
  - b. New Members CERT Classes are in process.
  - c. Skywarn Train-the-Trainer being held in February at numerous locations in the state. This is a one-day event.
  - d. MNCAER Pipeline Training and Exercise is on February 6<sup>th</sup> in Waseca. Open to everyone.
  - e. Skywarn Training on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.
  - f. Damage Assessment Training with a date to be determined.
2. CAER would like to hold training on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the even months.
3. 800 MHz Armer Radio training is required every two years.
4. The Federated Insurance Community Expo is Jan 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>. Seventeen volunteer groups are being represented and looking for new volunteers.

## New Business:

1. Mike Johnson wants to bring all volunteer groups back together to strengthen all groups.
2. A shelter agreement with Trinity Lutheran Church was signed.
3. The Tornado Outbreak on Sept. 20, 2018 caused \$568,000 of loss and is getting reimbursed to the city.
4. The Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is being reviewed with the county board.
5. The 2019 proposed Disaster Drills include Elected Officials table top, active shooter, flood, Hazmat & tornado response.

6. Mike Johnson has started planning for an Active Shooter drill with the Owatonna High School. This is a long process that could take up to 2 years to complete. A planning group of 6 is being formed with members coming from all the volunteer groups and not from the normal leadership. So far 2 people have volunteered to join this group, Megan Norbeck & Susan Michels-Ricker. We need a moulage expert so Iris Johnson will approach Barb Ruhter. FEMA has templates on their website for drill planning & evaluation, referred to as HSEEP – Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Planning. Next Mike wants to start developing a CAER Group to train as helpers at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC has a book that describes all positions at the EOC with checklists on what do to. Mike will send the PDF out for any interested volunteer to review. Training is planned for all the EOC volunteers. Once completed an Elected Officials Tabletop Drill will be held.

## **Member Reports**

### **American Red Cross**

Steele County DAT had 2 callouts for house fires in Blooming Prairie. Iris Johnson picked up supplies from Rochester and stored them in Bob Beier's storage locker. We are participating in the Federated Expo this week and next week.

### **CERT**

Is holding new member's classes at present. Iris Johnson & Jerry Ibberson attended a Credentialing Exercise in Le Center on 12/13/18.

### **MRC/SCPH**

Influenza is starting to affect our community. Remember to receive your flu shot. Vaccine is still available at SCPH, the Mayo Clinic Health System Owatonna, and local pharmacies. So far this season CDC reports that over 6 million people in the US have contracted the influenza.

Conducted annual MRC notification drill to Steele County volunteers. Five MRC volunteers assisted SCPH in administering flu shots this season.

### **Amateur Radio**

OSCAR is planning to sponsor a license class in Feb. Starting date will be announced.

ARRL is implementing a new software package called ARES Connect. It is supposed to be a more organized way of tracking volunteers.

The league is also planning a reboot of the ARES program. Preliminary proposal includes substantial training requirements at the ARES Emergency Coordinator at the county level.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 pm**

**Next Meeting at the Owatonna Fire Hall on March 20, 2019 at 6:30 pm.**