

Steele County CAER Minutes

July 17, 2019

Location:

Owatonna Firehall

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm by Tom Karnauskas.

Attendees:

Iris Johnson, Tom Karnauskas, Mike Johnson, Lois Nelson, Bonnie Johnson, Tim Johnson, Jamie Vogt, Rick Hager

Routine Approvals:

- Minutes of May 15, 2019 were approved. Lois Nelson 1st & James Vogt 2nd
- Treasurer's Report was unchanged with a balance of \$1,803.77 Rick Hager 1st Iris Johnson 2nd approved.

Old Business:

1. CERT is holding meetings bimonthly on the 3rd Wednesday of odd months. At present a core group attends the meetings to work on organizational topics.
2. Training
 - a. CERT Class coming in the fall at Trinity Lutheran Church and is opened to everyone. No date set yet. We have new manuals.
 - b. (HERT) Hostile Emergency Response Training upcoming. Mike Johnson has funding for it. No location or date set yet. A tabletop is planned before the drill. Mike wants to use the CERT moulage team for the drill.
 - c. Reunification training after the HERT Training. No plans for this yet.
 - d. EOC Management Class being headed by Scott Reiten. Preliminary dates are Oct 15 -17. This course is open nationally with a limit of participants. Attendees must register to attend. More information to follow.

New Business:

1. CERT Search & Rescue Exercise held June 19th combined successful training and socializing. 28 members attended. Cross functional training included 2 ham radio operators.
2. There's an upcoming Skywarn Class on Saturday 7/27.
3. Night to Unite is on 8/6. Please promote Everbridge.
4. Mike Johnson suggested CERT have a mascot like other organizations and thinks a TURTLE is a perfect choice.

Winter Storm After Action Review Improvement Plan Implementation

1. Communication Delay corrected. There was a mix up with state government officials. Give the local Armory a heads up in the future.

2. Opening Shelters in other cities. Coordinate with the Red Cross and the EOC. Blooming Prairie not set up, but Ellendale and Medford are.
3. The Everbridge callout list need updating. Tom Karnauskas and Bonnie Johnson are working on them.
4. Mike stated that Ice/Winter Storm damage in the county that was reported before the cutoff date was \$320,000 and will be reimbursed.

CERT Search & Rescue Drill Review

1. Need better instructions
2. Don't use names over the radios.
3. Worked on leadership skills.
4. USNG app available in app store for free. Used it to report locations.
5. Used both ham radios and 800 mhz.
6. Create a search & rescue go kit and add magnetic compass to it.
7. Worked on how to maintain lines after crossing obstacles.
8. Need to develop a crosswalk (check list) for search & rescue.
9. Mark found items, don't touch them & report their location to headquarters.

Member Reports

American Red Cross

SE MN Red Cross region provided cots and blankets to Medford for use when sheltering. Owatonna DAT distributed smoke alarms. No callouts in the county.

CERT

Search and Rescue training was held on 6/19 at the Izaak Walton League Environmental Education Center. It was followed by social time that included a campfire for roasting hot dogs and smores. There were 28 CERT members in attendance.

RACES

Participated with the CERT S&R exercise in June.

Held the annual Field Day Event Jun 22-23. Had 20 participants and 20 visitors. Great event up until it rained during take down.

SKYWARN

We have had several callouts this summer. Nothing serious to report. Sheriff Lon Thiele did record a brief land spout tornado June 17th south of Owatonna. No damage reported.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 pm

Next Meeting to be announced.