

Steele County CAER Minutes

May 20, 2015

6:30 PM

Location:

Ellendale

Call To Order:

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

Attendees:

Iris Johnson, Tom Karnauskas, Mike Johnson, Chris Gannon, Emily Heimerl, Roger Wencil, Rick Hager, Sandee Hardy-Hagen, Jerry Ibberson, Alec Newbowers, Mark Skyoch, Jill Bonhus

Routine Approvals:

- Minutes of March 18, 2015 were approved.
- The Treasurer's Report was unchanged and had no expenses with a balance of \$1,800.77 and was approved.

Old Business:

1. **CAER Display Board** – Tom shared a demo board. Jill stated that technical colleges do projects for free and we could see if they might help.
2. **Training Opportunities** - We would like more training opportunities to train groups from all organizations. We need to have a spreadsheet to track volunteer training. Email Tom with ideas for training.
3. **Drills** –
 - a. Public Utilities is planning a table top drill.
 - b. Law Enforcement – Working on a 3 Echo Drill with Fire Dept. More training is needed within these groups first.
 - c. RACES/ARES Field Day is On June 27th.
 - d. Possibly do a walk thru of opening the EOC.

New Business:

1. Badge Meeting – Mike said we are aligning with the region on badge design. Volunteer badges are aqua colored with their discipline displayed. There is a QR code. Kristy Blume at Steele County is managing badges. The badges are good for 3 years. A background check is required. We should be able to go online in a couple weeks to order badges.
2. CERT was asked if any members would like to participate in a Wisconsin Drill on 7/20 - 7/23 and would be paid to work as victims.

3. Mary Fink is no longer with the Clothesline. Tom cannot contact her. There was a motion to remove Mary as treasurer and it passed.
4. There was a motion to elect Sandee Hardy Hagen as treasurer and it passed.

Member Reports

Allina Hospital

American Red Cross

No call outs in the past 2 months. Did some training with the disaster team. Toured the RSC 911 center.

CERT

Here are the highlights of our latest CERT Annual Meeting held May 7.

CERT was chosen as a Steele County Safety Council recipient at the year -end of 2014, and received over \$2,000 of gifts through the generosity of local companies and individuals.

Open house for the new 911 Dispatch Center invitation.

Ken Hannem , the CERT Coordinator from Mankato, discussed the challenges in starting up a CERT team in Mankato. Steele County CERT members may be helping with the setup of the Mankato CERT team or helping coordinate the training in the Fall of 2015.

Mike Johnson provided great insight for starting a CERT team and being assimilated into the local police, fire, and EMS service when the need is realized.

Nancy Lageson, Waseca County Emergency Management, is also trying to establish a local CERT team in Waseca.

Chamber of Commerce

Hired a new Director of Conventions & Tourism – November 2014 (Katie Godfrey, email: kgodfrey@owatonna.org) Any tourism related questions please direct to her.

Hired an Office Support Manager (Trina Ephraim, email: tephraim@owatonna.org) for 35 hours per week instead of previous job-share position to provide continuity both internally/externally.

Marketing/MainStreet Director, Melanie Sunnarborg will be on maternity leave from June 1 – approximately after Labor Day. Any questions on Main Street or Crazy Days event, contact Rhonda Guthier, rguthier@owatonna.org.

Any community events being held, make sure to provide poster/information to Chamber to get on Calendar of Events.

Legislative Session will end on Monday, May 18th @ Midnight unless a special session is called.

Locally, Chamber continues to educate members on School District Facilities, County Maintenance Building and Highway 14 progress

Clothesline

Civil Air Patrol

Just finished ES Training Weekend on 1-3 May. This was held between Redwing, Rochester and Owatonna Squadrons at Whitewater State Park. It went well, we had three cadets and myself from Owatonna attend, and they got most of the tasks they needed to get Ground Team Member 3 qualified, including the opportunity to take a basic First Aid and CPR course.

The next ES event currently on the docket is Ground Team Academy hosted by MN Wing Civil Air Patrol at the end of July at Camp Ripley, which provides members the opportunity to work towards their next qualification from Ground Team Member 3 up through Incident Commander.

5K Fun Run at the Airport on 8/29.

Fly In Breakfast on 8/30. French Toast being served.

EMS

Food Shelf

MN/VOAD

RACES/ARES

RACES/ARES is planning the annual Field Day exercise for emergency communications. It will take place at Willow Creek School, beginning on Saturday (27-Jun) at 1:00PM. We will operate for 24 hours.

SKYWARN

RSC 911

Pearl Street Open House was on 5/13 and had 85 people come through. Jill has a presentation she can share with any interested group.

Everbridge – Mass notification changes are being considered that would have better variety of choices to sign up for.

Salvation Army

Gina Shepard, Jan Karas, Lori Heslep and Roger Wencil and the Mankato Salvation Army Canteen helped feed the searchers in Le Seur. They were looking for Moriah Zwart who had disappeared in the Minnesota River. She was found later in the week.

SCPH/MRC

-Held measles response tabletop exercise on May 18 with healthcare partners and Jacob Zdon, MDH Regional Epidemiologist

-Working on scheduling an MRC advisory board meeting in early June

-Collaborated with MN Extension, Steele County EM, and Steele County Administrator to get Avian Influenza information posted on Steele County homepage, also in contact with MRC Behavioral Health Coordinators at state and local level

Steele County Emergency Manager

Mike finished his elected official training for the county.

Mike is working on a shelter class for anyone interested in attending. More information to follow.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Next meeting is July 15, 2015 at 6:30 pm in Owatonna at the fire hall.