

# Steele County CAER Minutes

July 19, 2017

6:00 PM

## **Location:**

Owatonna  
Steele County Administrative Building  
638 Florence Ave  
County Board Room

## **Business Meeting:**

CAER did not have a routine business meeting this night. All CAER business action items carried over to the next scheduled General Meeting on 20-Sep-2017 at 6:30 PM in Blooming Prairie.

## **Attendees:**

Jerry Ibberson, Bonnie Johnson, Iris Johnson, Mike Johnson,  
Tom Karnauskas, Alec Newbowers

## **Mitigation Planning:**

The July CAER meeting was devoted to updating the County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mike Johnson provided an overall explanation of the most recent draft (all 272 pages). The full plan can be downloaded (a 30MB file size) for review at:

[https://drive.google.com/a/d.umn.edu/file/d/0BwF\\_wdvsBVxnbVBUB0wtS1NSWWc/view?usp=drive\\_web](https://drive.google.com/a/d.umn.edu/file/d/0BwF_wdvsBVxnbVBUB0wtS1NSWWc/view?usp=drive_web)

The plan addresses the natural hazards that face Steele County and will result in mitigation actions for implementation that will reduce or eliminate loss of life or damage to property as a result of natural hazard events. Topics discussed included:

- Natural hazards that face our county.
- Mitigation actions to include in the plan.
- Funding that is available from FEMA for eligible mitigation projects.

## **Member Reports**

### **American Red Cross**

Steele County DAT now has 9 members. We will have a booth downtown during Crazy Days. We've had several callouts both in county and outside the county.

### **CERT**

CERT will have a booth downtown for Crazy Days. We are preparing for the SCFF by gathering supplies, organizing shifts and writing up instructions. We are looking for a new Vice President. Iris & Bonnie worked on organizing CERT Base.

### **RACES/ARES**

Held annual Field Day event on Jun 24/25 at Willow Creek School. Field Day is a combination emergency communication exercise and contest. Operated 5 transmitters with a multitude of different antennas erected. High point was getting several individuals actively making contacts for the first time.

Working with SCEM, OPU, OSCAR, and MN Repeater Council on a proposal to relocate the Amateur Radio repeater from OPU Tower 9 on 26th St. We have preliminary agreement from all parties involved. Need to finalize agreements for all involved.

### **SKYWARN**

Steele County SKYWARN had 2 severe weather activations. June 12th 2:05 pm, this was a damage assessment called for by the National weather service to check for any post storm damage. The second was July 9th at 9:41 pm. A severe Thunder storm was passing through Steele County.

Jerry I. and Dave P. are devoting time to reassessing Spotter locations and developing a new sweet spot map for 2018 and a web based sweet spot information page. It will include maps, GPS locations and extensive photos of every sweet spot. We hope this will make it easier for spotters to find the correct locations and have better escape routes during severe weather.

### **Salvation Army**

No report.

## **SCPH/MRC**

The Minnesota Department of Health confirmed an additional case of measles last week. This new case is associated with an outbreak that has been occurring primarily in Hennepin County since late March. This new case is a good reminder that we all need to keep our measles vaccinations up to date. The measles vaccine is part of a vaccination called MMR. It is a good idea to check with your medical provider to determine if you are up to date on your vaccinations. Information about measles (rubella) can be found at this site:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/measles/measlesfacts.pdf>

## **Ellendale Emergency Manager**

Another power outage after the July 9th Storm. City Maintenance and Emergency Management responded to get emergency generators running for the four-hour outage.

## **Steele County Emergency Management**

### **SCEM – Badges**

Refined the process for processing Volunteer Registration Forms for badges. Revision will provide more accountability for Registration Forms in process. Badges were printed for the most recent CERT class graduates. About 11 forms are going through background checks now. Provided group leaders a listing of individuals previously issued badges that have not renewed them.

### **SCEM – Development**

Tom Karnauskas completed the MNHSEM requirements for the Emergency Management Director/Practitioner certificate. Steele County now has four individuals with Amateur Radio licenses that have completed various levels of certification with MNHSEM:

- Mike Johnson KC0WQQ, Director - Steele County Emergency Management
- Chris Gannon N0CPG, Deputy Director - Steele County Emergency Management
- Jerry Ibberson KC0KRY, Emergency Manager – City of Ellendale
- Tom Karnauskas N0UW.