

Steele County CAER Minutes

Sept. 19, 2018

6:30 PM

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, Karen Fontaine, Jamie Vogt, Bonnie Johnson, Lois Nelson, Roger Wencl, Tim Van Engelenhoven

Routine Approvals:

- Minutes of July 18, 2018 were approved. Bonnie Johnson 1st & Jamie Vogt 2nd
- Treasurer's Report none

Old Business:

1. CAER shirts for members. All shirts were picked up from Corporate Recognition. One shirt was ordered due to a mix up in ordering. Possibly do another order in three months.
2. Bloodborne Pathogen Training:
 - a. All CAER members can take a class together using a PPT that includes a test. The test can be a verbal group effort. A signup sheet must be used to track who took the training. The training must be taken annually. Iris Johnson is organizing a group class for Oct. 17th at the firehall. All CAER members and anyone else interested may take the class. Each group please find out who in your group wants to attend and let Iris know so she can plan accordingly. This class covers which bloodborne pathogens are of greatest risk, how they can enter the body, importance of handwashing, practices that can reduce the transmission of bloodborne pathogens, and what you should do if you are exposed to a bloodborne pathogen.
3. Disaster Assessment Training is scheduled for February and open to all CAER members. Bonnie Johnson and Iris Johnson are co-instructors for the class.
4. The shelter contract was completed and given to Trinity, but we don't know if they signed it.

New Business:

1. The CAER Annual Meeting is Nov. 14th. Iris Johnson VP/Secretary term expires. Anyone interested in the position can contact Tom Karnauskas. Iris is willing to continue but doesn't want to stop someone else that wants to serve.

2. URL for River Gauges:

Bridge Street

<https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=mpx&gage=owtm5>

Dane Road

<https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=mpx&gage=owmm5>

Member Reports

American Red Cross

Steele County DAT attended a joint meeting with Rice/Le Sueur/Waseca DAT in Faribault. We will continue to hold joint meetings. A mini institute in Rochester on Oct 5th & 6th for training will be held. There are at present 61 Minnesota Red Cross volunteers deployed to Hurricane Florence operations.

CERT

Volunteers manned a booth at Crazy Days and the Steele County Free Fair. Two members attended block parties during Night to Unite. We're planning a new members class starting in late October. Iris Johnson will provide Blood Borne Pathogen training to all CAER members on Oct 17th.

Chamber of Commerce

Karen Pehrson, Director of Conventions & Tourism replaced Katie Godfrey in May 2018.

Emily Volkmer, Tourism Associate will be starting on Friday, September 21, 2018. This is a 20 hour per week position handling group tours, visitor guide distribution and working with Karen.

The Chamber 3-Year Strategic Plan (2018-2020) will focus on Develop Talent, Restore the Core (MainStreet), Strengthen Economy and Attract Tourism.

As a point of reference, the Chamber staff consists of:

Brad Meier, President/CEO

Rhonda Guthier, Director of Operations

Craig Thompson, Director of Membership

Karen Pehrson, Director of Conventions & Tourism

Shirley Schultz, Director of MainStreet

Dodie Ellingson, Office Support Manager

Emily Volkmer, Tourism Associate

RACES/ARES

The ARRL is developing recommendations to revamp the ARES program. The current proposal has some significant raining requirements for ARES Emergency Coordinators.

OSCAR will schedule a license class in the spring after we know what the plans are for the CERT class.

Salvation Army

Completed the Back to School back pack giveaway program.

Planning for the start in November of their Bell Ringers.

SCPH/MRC

Are working on flu shots. Attending an exercise of opening the EOC at the firehall.

SKYWARN

One unexpected activation due to the radar indicated rotation near Claremont. No visual observation on the ground or reported damage.

Ellendale Emergency Manager

Ellendale participated in the National Night Out August 1st. There was good community participation.

Steele County Emergency Manager

Mike is out on medical leave.

Tom attended the AMEM conference.

A training session was held with the Public Health group on EOC activation.

Tom is updating the SCEM web site. There will not be any immediate significant changes

Meeting Adjourned at 7:10 pm

Next Meeting at the Owatonna Fire Hall on Nov. 14 at 6:30 pm.