

Steele County CAER Minutes

Nov 18, 2015

6:30 PM

Location:

Owatonna Fire Hall

Call To Order:

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

Attendees:

Iris Johnson, Tom Karnauskas, Mike Johnson, Jerry Ibberson, Roger Wencil, Barb Ruhter, Alec Newbowers, Jill Bondhus, Gina Shepherd, Dee Kuchner

Routine Approvals:

- Minutes of Sept 16, 2015 were approved.
- No Treasurer's Report

Old Business:

1. Credential Update:
 - a. Working on form updates.
2. CSER Display Board – Tom is still working on this.

New Business:

1. Elections – Tom Karnauskas was elected President and Sandee Hardy-Hagen was elected Treasurer.
2. Meeting Frequency – After much discussion the board voted to keep the meetings bimonthly starting at 6:30pm. Also we will try to hold training on the opposite months of the board meetings except August and December.

Member Reports

Allina Hospital

John King shared information on FEMA Training he attended in Alabama at the Center for Domestic Preparedness. He will pass on information.

American Red Cross

The Red Cross trailer parked at the armory is being pulled to Mankato so the inventory can be checked and needed items added. It will be pulled back to Owatonna when done.

CERT

Held a CERT class. Need a new president. Elections coming soon.

Chamber of Commerce

Hometown Holiday Lighted Parade, Thursday, November 16th, 6 – 8 pm.

Business After Hours, Tuesday, November 17th, 5:30 pm; Hosted by: Hy-Vee & Steele County History Center, Location: Steele County History Center.

Hometown Holiday Breakfast, Saturday, December 5th – VFW Hall - \$6.00 in advance, \$6.50 at door – Bring a toy for Toy for Tots and get your picture taken with Santa.

Small Business Saturday, Saturday, November 28th – Shop local small businesses in Owatonna.

Hardees will open in December, looking for workers.

Clothesline

Civil Air Patrol

Alec sked if CAP could use the county mobile trailer. Mike said he could use it anytime.

EMS

Food Shelf

MN/VOAD

RACES/ARES

The ARES side participated in an exercise with the Military Amateur Radio Service (MARS) in early November. MARS is an auxiliary group for the military to support communications with Amateur Radio. The exercise scenario was a mass coronal ejection (CME) that interrupted electrical services and communication across a wide area. Situation Reports were passed from individual counties to ARES districts across the state. The district then passed the reports up to the Twin Cities. Multiple communication modes were used including HF, VHF, and digital modes.

SKYWARN

They are having radar and internet connections problems.

RSC 911

Salvation Army

Preparing bell ringing. Hot line phone # 413-6700. Need lots of bell ringer volunteers.

SCPH/MRC

Two MRC volunteers assisted at our public influenza vaccination clinics. Steele County Public Health still has influenza (flu) vaccine on hand if anyone still needs to receive their annual flu vaccination. We have vaccine available for persons who are on Medicare or have private insurance, and for individuals who have a high deductible or no insurance that pays for influenza vaccinations. People can come to our office anytime M-F from 8-4. No appointment is necessary. MRC funding will be decreased next year. We have received \$3,500 previously to assist us with the MRC coordination, but this grant money will be eliminated next year.

Steele County Emergency Manager

The Holiday Train is stopping here on Dec 6th at 4pm. All volunteers meet at the water tower at 3pm. Park in Wenger's lot.

MNDOT I35 road closers – The Armory is closed for the winter due to renovations. Instead we will use the Community Center at the Fairgrounds.

Training - Mike suggested emergency management classes for CAER members.

Mike suggested that it could be beneficial for the CERT Board to join the CAER Board for their meetings then meet before or after separately.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm followed by a drill after action review.

Next meeting is on Jan 20th at 6:30 pm at the Medford City Hall.