

Steele County CAER Minutes

Jan 17, 2018

6:30 PM

Location:

Owatonna Firehall

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by Tom Karnauskas.

Attendees:

Iris Johnson, Tom Karnauskas, Jerry Ibberson, Mike Johnson, Bonnie Johnson, Alec Newbowers, Sandee Hardy-Hagen, Dave Purscell

Routine Approvals:

- Minutes of Nov 15, 2017 were approved. Alec Newbowers 1st & Jerry Ibberson 2nd
- Treasurer's Report - unchanged \$1802.77 & was approved. Bonnie Johnson 1st & Alec Newbowers 2nd

Old Business:

1. Credential Update:
 - a. No changes and will continue to use same procedure.
 - b. Regarding the missing 8 badge requests that have a chip, will redo applications.
2. CAER shirts for members. No change. Alec Newbowers to bring information to next meeting
3. By-Law Changes:
 - a. Motion to approve changes presented at last meeting was approved. Bonnie Johnson 1st & Alec Newbowers 2nd
4. CAER Logo:
 - a. Tom Karnauskas is working on a new CAER logo. The changes will be discussed at the March meeting.
5. Presidential Volunteer Service Awards:
 - a. Iris discussed how groups can track their members hours to include meetings and administrative duties. Groups should report their hours near the end of the year most likely early December. Groups include ARES, Skywarn, CERT & CAP.
6. Access to Firehall – the court will be out by end of January.
7. Holiday Train – People couldn't hear the radios over the music. Mike looking at ear pieces or speakers on shoulders. Also, we need to work on accountability with sign in/outs that includes where each person is assigned. We should use an ABCD map for locations.

New Business:

1. Create Crosswalks (checklists) for every type of CERT event and do an exercise for each one.
 - a. Use performance-based critique – Are you comfortable doing this? and Are we comfortable with you doing this?

- b. Do leadership training on communication and accountability first.
 - c. Mike Johnson has an Excel worksheet/template to create crosswalks with.
2. Volunteer Academy – do it in the fall.
 3. REP Grant – This is for a drill on nuclear fallout.
 4. Mike to do an EOC opening drill.
 5. 911 texting works.
 6. Owatonna has a drone.
 7. The flood gauges are working and have contact with them.
 8. Active shooter training is needed. There is a drill being planned for Feb or March at Cedarview.

Member Reports

American Red Cross

There was one fire in Owatonna on Dec 25th that Red Cross responded to and helped two families with housing, food and clothing. Red Cross is prepared to open shelters for both large and small events before and during the Super Bowl.

CAPS

Alec Newbowers is taking a small group up to Bemidji for Winter Survival Weekend on 26-28 January 2018.

CERT

CERT postponed their annual meeting due to bad weather. The shelter drill with Trinity has been moved to the spring. CERT helped with safety and security at the Holiday Train in December. Our Basic Training classes start on Feb 1st with 21 students signed up to take the training. Four team members are attending training at FEMA's Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD on Jan 28th. All are taking the Train-the-Trainer course and two are also taking the Program Manager course.

Chamber of Commerce

Full-time Director of Conventions & Tourism position in process of interviews. Former position held by Katie Godfrey.

OSCAR/ARES

Amateur Radio class is scheduled to begin 20-Feb. We will utilize the same format as in past years. This will be our 13th class.

Working with Mike J to relocate the Amateur Radio repeater. Agreement secured with OPU. Need to get approval for funding.

The ARRL is making several changes to the ARES program. Not all the information is available right now.

SCPH/MRC

To date, this influenza season is notable for the sheer volume of flu that most of the US is seeing at the same time. Flu illness is stressing our medical clinics and hospitals. The vast majority of this activity is associated with severe illness in young children and people 65 years and older. However, even "healthy"

people can contract the flu and get very sick or even die. Flu shots are still available in our community at our local medical clinic, pharmacies, and at the local public health. Steele County Public will be hosting a flu clinic on Thursday, January 18th from 1:00 to 5:30. Please bring all insurance cards with you. If you have an insurance plan with a large deductible or your plan does not cover flu shots, you can receive a flu shot for \$10 or a donation of your choice. No one is **ever** turned away because of inability to pay.

SKYWARN.

Skywarn held a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser at the VFW in December.

SKYWARN is wrapping up work on updating our “sweet spots”. Sweet spots are predetermined spotting locations. We initially started using them almost ten years ago to streamline dispatching and communication. Over the past ten years small trees have grown into large trees, highways have changed, etc. Over the past several months we have vetted existing locations and moved others. New maps will be prepared before the start of the 2018 storm season. The locations will also be available online at SteeleCountySKYWARN.org.

SKYWARN training will be held at in the third-floor meeting room at the Owatonna Fire Department at 07:00 PM on Tuesday, March 20. Glad to be home. The training is open to the public. Anyone who wants to spot or is just interested in severe weather is invited to attend.

We are also assisting the Sogn Valley SKYWARN group by providing their training on April 16. Training starts at 06:30 PM in the meeting room at the Kenyon Fire Department.

City of Ellendale

Working with United Methodist Church in Ellendale to prepare for winter sheltering needs.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Next meeting at the Owatonna Fire Hall on 03/21/17 at 6:30 pm.