

Steele County CAER Minutes

March 21, 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, Mike Johnson, Alec Newbowers, Sandee Hardy-Hagen, Dave Purscell, Dee Kirchner, Thad Rosenberg, Jamie Vogt, Roger Wencil

Routine Approvals:

- Minutes of Jan 17, 2018 were approved. Alec Newbowers 1st & Sandee Hardy-Hagen 2nd
- Treasurer's Report - Balance \$1803.77, no expenses & was approved. Dee Kirchner 1st & Alec Newbowers 2nd

Old Business:

1. Credential Update:
 - a. No changes and will continue to use same procedure. Badges are being processed efficiently.
 - b. The missing 8 badge requests that have a chip were resubmitted and are now completed.
2. CAER shirts for members. Alec Newbowers brought information about still and pricing. Tom Karnauskas shared some sample logos. We agreed to use a simpler design so that it can be embroidered. Alec will check with local businesses for pricing. Each person will order and pay for their own shirt.
3. The CAER November meeting was changed to Nov 14th and Tom reserved the 3rd floor for the meeting.
4. Business representatives Jamie Vogt (Federated) and Thad Rosenberg (Wenger) attended our meeting. We discussed how hard it can be for some members from our volunteer groups to take off work to respond during a disaster. Thad suggested coming up with a list of people and their skills to help facilitate their requests for time off from work during a call out. Some businesses will let workers off with pay and others will require employees to use vacation or no pay. All volunteers are required to sign in when reporting to help at a call out. This could be shared with businesses to verify the hours spent volunteering.

New Business:

1. Crosswalks (checklists) for every type of event – Any group wanting the template for the checklists can stop by Mike Johnson's office to get it.

Member Reports

American Red Cross

Steele County DAT responded to 2 house fires, One in Claremont and one in Owatonna. So far in March the Red Cross has responded to 26 incidents statewide and 55 in February.

CERT

On Jan 22nd CERT opened a shelter at the Armory due to a road closure. There were 5 CERT who went to Emmitsburg for training in February. CERT held a new members class with 7 graduating in February. On March 12th CERT held a shelter drill at Trinity Lutheran Church. We had a chance to check out the 2 Red Cross trailers and to get a good look at the Armory.

RACES/ARES

Completed the 2018 Technician Class with 7 participants. Four individuals passed exams on 15-Mar. Received approval from the Steele County Board for funding to relocate the Amateur Radio repeater.

SKYWARN

We are holding Skywarn spotter training classes March 20th in Owatonna, April 2nd in Ellendale and April 16th in Kenyon. Our new sweet spot map is almost ready to be released in paper format. The electronic version is already for use.

We are gearing up for the severe weather season.

Many spotters will be attending the severe weather conference in Minneapolis April 7th.

Ellendale Emergency Manager

We are Hosting Skywarn spotter classes. We are also getting ready to reopen our Tornado shelter at the Lutheran Church.

Steele County Emergency Manager

1. The Owatonna Volunteer Recognition is on April 3rd at 5:30 pm at the Owatonna Arts Center.
2. Citizen Academy – Mike is working on setting this up. Citizens can learn about various volunteer groups.
3. Mitigation Plan – Is going through the approval process in the county. It's already approved by the state and FEMA.
4. HERT training for 1st responders is scheduled for April 21st.
5. The sheltering contract with Trinity Lutheran Church is in process.
6. The state is doing a Nuclear Drill in April and will not announce a date in advance.
7. Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) – Tracking the resources needs to be redone because the format used is no longer available. Also, the resources need to be inventoried and updated.
8. A EOC Activation Drill will be scheduled for later this year.
9. The state AG Dept is planning a drill with the date unannounced.
10. Mike Johnson attended cultural awareness training at Mystic Lake held by the Tribe. It included learning about what's important to each group and that everyone has a different perspective.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 pm

Next Meeting at the Owatonna Fire Hall on May 16th at 6:30 pm.