



Steele County CAER Minutes

March 17, 2021

Location:

Online Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Call to Order:

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

Attendees: Jerry Ibberson, Iris Johnson, Tom Karnauskas, Mike Johnson, Bonnie Johnson, Roger Wencil, Jill Bondhus, Sandee Hardy-Hagen, Sherry Segal, Thad Rosenberg

Routine Approvals:

Meeting Minutes of 20210120 1st Sherry Segal 2nd Roger Wencil approved

Treasurer Report balance of \$1,805.77 1st Iris Johnson 2nd Bonnie Johnson approved

Old Business

1. Tom Karnauskas stated he is hopeful we can meet in person by July depending on the state of the pandemic.
2. The winter storm checklists are still in process.
3. The badges for the Trinity Church shelter Team are still not processed due to the church not holding in person events.
4. We need to check with the new Medford Mayor to see if they still want to proceed with shelter training for volunteers.
5. CERT Search & Rescue plans are in limbo.
6. Tom Karnauskas is still trying to update all groups county badges and have a mixed result.
7. Skywarn held its annual training on March 16th. There were 57 who logged onto the virtual training site and 40 that completed the training. The training was recorded and uploaded to you tube so that others can view it.

New Business:

1. Mike Johnson is retiring on May 28th, 2021. There will be a retirement celebration on that day at the firehall from 3:30 – 5:30pm. Everyone is invited to come give Mike a well done and happy retirement. The county is hiring a fulltime Emergency Manager who most likely will have an office at the Steele County building. Tom Karnauskas and Megan Norbeck will continue in their positions as Assistant Emergency Managers.
2. April 12-16th is *Severe Weather Awareness Week*. The state will hold tornado drills. The state is already getting tornado warnings. Get prepared at home and have a kit. Make sure you teach children what to do.

Updates

1. *Mike Johnson* shared that Public Health can do 1 vaccination per minute. CERT is assisting and it is now doing clinics on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Many groups within the county since the beginning of the pandemic are meeting on MS Teams and staying active. He applauded Jerry Ibberson on the great job he did with organizing the Skywarn training. At present Covid cases are on the rise in the county. The county has vaccinated 76% of people 65 and older. Some schools in the state are doing good and others are not.
2. *Jill Bondhus* from the 911 Center shared their redundancy and mobile project can work away from the center. They would like to join any future training to practice the new skills.
3. *Roger Wencil* with Salvation Army shared that they have a new outreach director and services are available.
4. *Jerry Ibberson* organized Ellendale's emergency supplies in the ambulance bay. They have flood kits but need bleach for them. OFD has bleach, sanitizer, gloves & masks.
5. *Sherry Segal* is volunteering with the Red Cross at blood drives.

Next Meeting -

To be announced later.