

Steele County CAER Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2024

Location: Steele County Administration Building, 630 Florence Avenue, Owatonna Conference Room 40 Lower Level

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 3:41pm by Tom Karnauskas. Tom asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Attendees:

Tom Karnauskas, Steele County EM
Kristen Sailer, Steele County EM
Melissa Kofstad, Steele County Public Health
Rick Hager, City of Medford
Thad Rosenberg, Wenger Corp
Bonnie Johnson, Steele County CERT
Michelle Heaver, Salvation Army

Agenda:

Steele County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan Review, final review by group and approval requested.

If approved we will pull together all the sections and send to the State and FEMA for review.

Section 1-3- no significant changes

Section 4- have made several edits deals with our Risk Assessment

Added the National Risk Index information and Community Resiliency and some additional minor changes. No comments from the group except Bonnie Johnson asked why do we think the community resiliency is different? Kristen Sailer provided comments that we have a shortage in housing availability in Steele County and only one water/wastewater system per city. This can cause vulnerability after disaster if it is a large event.

Section 5-6- no significant changes

Appendices

Appendix A
Added several maps
30 – Historical buildings
31- SWCD Wells being monitoring
32- FEMA Community Resiliency zones were added

No comments by the group

Appendix B

Added additional locations and specific description of the tables

No comments by the group

Appendix C- no significant changes

Appendix D

Is blank as a placeholder for Federal approval letter, county and local adoption resolutions

Appendix E

Added sign in sheets for various meetings where we have talked about the plan

No comments by the group

Appendix F

Public outreach the main changes is adding the meeting information

No comments from the group

Appendix G-H – no significant changes

Appendix I

Works cited updated several references

No comments from the group

Appendix J, K – no significant changes

Appendix L

Plan review tool

This is the checklist for the plan that the State and Federal government will sign off on. The EM Staff went through the checklist to fill out the section of the plan that meets the requirements.

No comments from the group

Appendix M

Made updates from the 2017 plan and added the tables and listed only once in the plan in this appendix M. Took the tables out of the text and putting them in the Appendix M

Action Item: Plan Approval to submit plan motioned by Jerry Ibberson, Motioned 2nd by Thad Rosenberg, all approved

Organization Updates:

Steele County EM Update- Kristen Sailer, Director provided update

- Dec 21 conducted tabletop exercise with Ecumen Brooks & Countryside assisted living facilities

- Feb 13 CERT Training- Thad from Wenger to promote the training. Create a flyer to forward out to agencies in CAER
- 3rd Tuesday of March will be annual SKYWARN Storm Spotter Training – open to the public. Create a flyer to forward.
- Amateur Radio training shortly after

Public Health Update: Melissa Kofstad, EP Coordinator provided update

Public Health received a response-ability grant, MRC strong grant to help respond to future public health events.

Steele County CERT Update: Bonnie Johnson, CERT Manager provided update

CERT Class is getting ready and set up to start in February.

City of Medford: Rick Hager, EM Director provided update

The city is looking at the City EM position, make it a separate position and official and moving forward

Wenger Corp- Thad Rosenberg stated no updates

City of Ellendale: Jerry Ibberson, EM Director provided update

The City of Ellendale created a paid position for the Emergency Management Director from previous volunteer position. Scheduled tabletop discussion exercise for April 13.

Announcement of Paradigm Pipeline CAER Training Feb 7 at 6pm at Owatonna Public Utilities

Register here <https://rsvp.pdigm.com/Default.aspx?ReferredBy=3DX8-YE4K>

Pipeline Operator Meeting

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Date: 2/7/2024

Registration: 6:00 PM

VENUE INFORMATION

Owatonna Public Utilities - Morehouse Room

208 Walnut Ave S

Owatonna, MN 55060

Adjournment: Tom adjourned the meeting at 4:40 pm

Next CAER meeting: March 20, 2024 Hybrid Meeting in person or Teams