

# Steele County CAER Minutes

Jan 15, 2014

7:00 PM

## Location:

Blooming Prairie City Hall

## Call To Order:

Meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Tom Karnauskas.

## Attendees:

Mike Johnson, Iris Johnson, Roger Wencl, Tom Karnauskas, Dee Kirchner, Lon Thiele, Chris Gannon, Jacob Peterson, Dennis Hollatz, Jon King

## Routine Approvals:

- Minutes of Nov 20, 2013 were approved. There was one discrepancy that Tom will correct on the online copy. Lon pointed out that the minutes stated the jail was maxed out at 600 inmates but it should have been 136.
- The Treasurer's Report was unchanged and had no expenses with a balance of \$1,800.77. Tom audited the bank account and found no discrepancies.

## Old Business:

1. **Election of Treasurer** – Lon motioned for Mary Fink to continue as CAER Treasurer for another term. Dee seconded it and it was approved by the board.
2. **Revised Bylaws** – Dee motioned to accept the revised version of the bylaws and upload them to the website. It was approved.
3. **Badges** – All badges need an expiration date and those without one should be replaced. The new badge system will be color coded and the Q code needs to work with other systems so that if using them in another county they can be scanned. With the new law how to handle criminal checks needs to be looked at. It was noted that volunteers sign a waiver to do background checks. We need to have Sandy email a list of all CERT members to Lon. Both Salvation Army and Red Cross need to have all their volunteers fill out an Emergency Contact List form and then turn them in to Mike/Bonnie at the fire hall. Blooming Prairie needs to replace/issue badges to all its city workers.

## New Business:

1. Mike suggested that at the next meeting we should invite elected officials so they can learn how things work in an emergency. Give them the handout and explain how the EOC functions, that there is a common emergency plan throughout the county, cover NIMS basics and campfire website.

2. Mike wants to invite the private sector to the July CAER meeting to re-engage them in emergency planning. Dennis suggested networking with the EPA to participate and teach skills. He shared an EZ planner booklet for businesses for unexpected events. Tom and Dennis will get together to discuss the July meeting with business reps. It was suggested that CAER co chair with Chamber of Commerce and Steele County Safety Council.

## **Member Reports**

**Allina Hospital** - Stacy Mielke stated that the hospital recently completed their annual Hazard Vulnerability Assessment for 2014. CAER board looked at it and signed it.

**American Red Cross** - The chapter has not been called out for an emergency since the last CAER meeting. We continue to attend regional and chapter meetings working on the new organizational changes.

**Blooming Prairie Police/EM** – Jake is redoing all badges. They are building a new ambulance garage that is more tornado resistant out of pre-stressed concrete. It will have a bunkhouse and backup generator.

**CERT** - Steele County CERT had their annual meeting Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> where a presentation was given by Mike Johnson. Awards were presented by local government dignitaries and some social time was part of the evening. Reminders about the upcoming OSCAR radio and 800 MHz classes were noted.

## **Chamber of Commerce**

### **Clothesline**

### **Civil Air Patrol –**

Since the last meeting for CAER, our squadron has had 2 cadets participate in Winter Survival Weekend, which was a statewide event held north of Bemidji that ran from Jan 3-5, 2014.

Upcoming events in January, February and March for Civil Air Patrol include the following:  
Aerospace Lock-In at Blaine Airport from Jan 31 – Feb 1, 2014, 2014.

Brainerd CWCS Curry Camp on 15-Feb-2014. A Curry Camp training day is scheduled for new Cadets at our Sqd building.

Wing Wide Volleyball Tournament & Lock-in on Mar 8-9, 2014 at ACC/YMCA.

We are working to get our cadets and adult members qualified as Ground Team members. We have a new adult member joining that is interested in Emergency Services. He is one of our former cadets that has returned to the area.

## **EMS**

## **Food Shelf**

## **MN/VOAD**

### **RACES/ARES –**

1. Amateur Radio class scheduled to begin on 11-Feb. Final class on 06-Mar includes Exam Session.
2. Working with SEMN Red Cross developing a Rapid Response Team. One training session will be held in Owatonna on 18-Jan.
3. Consulting with Chad Forystek to develop a training program for volunteers using the ARMER system. The intention is to have multiple classes open to all volunteer groups rather than have each group complete their own training. First class is scheduled for 18-Mar.

### **SKYWARN**

#### **RSC 911**

**Salvation Army** – Holiday bell ringing collections was successful and fully funds this new year.

**SCPH/MRC** - Received notice that the Steele County MRC Unit has been awarded a \$3,500 grant for 2014. Met with Mike Johnson and Stacy Mielke on January 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss grant planning issues- Fatality Management planning, annual HVA input from local public health, regional vs. local response, and ways to increase community involvement at CAER meetings.

**Steele County Emergency Manager** – Chris & Mike attending the Governor’s Conference. The Emergency Plan was approved. Chris is working on the Threat Hazard and Emergency Response Document.

#### **Adjournment:**

- Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.
- **Next meeting is April 16th at 6 pm in Ellendale.** Building location to be determined later.