

Steele County CAER Minutes  
March 21, 2012 7:00 PM

**Location:**

Steele County EOC

**Introductions:**

Aaron Leavstrom was welcomed to CAER. He is a member of the Civil Air Patrol. (Three members of the Civil Air Patrol will rotate attending the monthly CAER meetings).

**Call to Order:**

Meeting was called to order by Tom Karnauskas

**Attendees:**

Aaron Leavstrom, Mary Fink, Chris Gannon, Karen Fountaine, Mike Johnson, Tom Karnauskas, Iris Johnson, and Autumn Gangelhoff

**Approvals:**

Routine business review included:

- Minutes of February 15, 2012 General Meeting were approved.
- The Treasurer's Report was approved with a balance of \$1,800.77.
- Mary is still working on getting the check card issue resolved.

**Old Business:**

- Mike and Chris reported that they are continuing to work to get the new SCEM Portal operational. Chris showed the CAER members some features that will be available on the new portal.
- Matt Durand has resigned his position as the Steele County MN VOAD Coordinator. Mike asked CAER members to share information about the vacant position with their groups. Matt has offered to serve as the volunteer coordinator if an actual event should occur in Steele County.
- CAER would like to host the Formidable Footprint Flood Exercise on April 28 at the Steele County EOC. Additional information on the exercise will be sent out to CAER members as it becomes available. All CAER members are encouraged to attend.
- It was decided to postpone the Business Recovery Program until 2013.
- Mike reported that the 800 MHz equipment has been installed. He is still waiting for the federal inspection process to occur before scheduling radio training.
- Chris Gannon reported that all of the flood gauges are installed and operating properly. Chris reviewed the DNR site that shows the City of Owatonna gauge monitoring data. Local Emergency Management will continue to collect data from the gauges to help establish benchmarks that would enable responders to predict when flooding is likely to occur.
- Mike said that Steele County IT reports that they are experiencing some issues with the current badge making system. A regional badge making system is available to emergency managers if a localized event were to occur.

**New Business:**

- Mike encouraged CAER members to attend the Social Media Seminar scheduled for March 22 at the Fire Station.
- A group of county volunteers will be attending the MNVOAD Conference on March 24.
- Tom reminded CAER members to share any program ideas with the CAER Executive Committee.

**Citizen Corp Reports:**

- **CERT:**  
No Report-Sandee is attending training in Anniston, Maryland.

- Medical Reserve Corp/Public Health:  
Karen reported that the SE MN Medical Reserve group will be sponsoring their 2nd annual MRC conference on April 14th in Rochester. The Minnesota Department of Health will be holding a statewide communication exercise on April 30. Steele County Public Health and Steele County MRC will participate in the exercise.
- Hospital:  
No Report.
- Ellendale Emergency Manager:  
No Report.
- Salvation Army:  
No Report.
- Emergency Medical Services:  
No Report.
- Civil Air Patrol:  
CAP (Minnesota Wing) conducts Unit Based exercise: 77 air sorties and 14 ground sorties Owatonna Composite Squadron, MN132 participates in March 17, 2012, training. 6 unit members worked with two aircraft out of Red Wing and Mankato to locate a simulated downed aircraft. We then performed a line search to locate one of the "ejected" victims in the woods.
- MN VOAD:  
No Report
- RACES/ARES:  
Classes are complete with 5 new licenses issued.
- Red Cross:  
Held an open house on March 19 for people interested in volunteering. Iris reported that she had cleaned cots and blankets that were loaned to a care facility. Local Red Cross is having problems with their answering service not using the pagers to alert us. This has increased their response time.
- Skywarn:  
A training was held on March 13th. The training was attended by 55 people. A MN SKYWARN workshop will be held on April 14. We are carpooling to the workshop. If you are attending the workshop meet at Technology Navigators at 7:30.
- Law Enforcement:  
No Report.
- Chamber of Commerce:  
No Report.
- Steele County Clothesline:  
We will be holding a spring fashion show on April 14th at 11:30 at the Owatonna Country Club. Tickets are available for \$25.00 at Kristi's, Kottke's, and the Clothesline.
- City Council Representative:  
No Report.

#### **Steele County Emergency Manager Report:**

- Chris and Mike attended the Governor's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Conference in February.
- The 5-year mitigation plan has been submitted to FEMA. All but 5 of the flood recovery projects have been completed. A FEMA grant for \$451,000 has been received. The grant will be used to replace outdoor sirens, to purchase NOAA weather radios for the special needs population, and to purchase back-up generators for public works and the airport.
- The Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport will be holding a crash drill in June. Mike would like CERT volunteers to participate.
- A regional decontamination trailer is being housed in Steele County. The trailer has a large tent that could be used by volunteer responder groups if needed.
- Conversation is continuing about the purchase of the Everbridge notification system.
- Mike encouraged interested volunteer groups to attend the Association of Minnesota Emergency Managers conference at Breezy Point.

#### **Program:**

Mitigation projects were discussed. See the Emergency Managers'™ Report.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

The next meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on April 18. ESF#12 Energy will be reviewed.