

CERT QUARTERLY MEETING  
JULY 18, 2013  
LOCATION: MARBLE FALLS FIRE STATION

Meeting started @ 7:01pm

Minutes read by Donita. Mary Jane Shanes makes a motion to approve, all approved.

Financial Report by Mary Jane Shanes. Burnet HEB donated a \$40 gift card, and there is a balance of \$6.74 left on card. Home Depot donated ten cases of water for class. Mary Jane sent thank you letters to both companies.

Old Business:

Blue Bonnet Festival & Parade – Jim Barho drove. At the table, several people inquired about CERT but no new recruits for class.

Triathlon was cancelled

PIO (Public Information Officer) class was cancelled

New Business by Dan Posey:

Dan Posey asked for ideas for 15 minute training section for the next meeting.

Pat request training on medical and splinting, triage, and good Samaritan laws.

Jim Barho said we could have up to 1 hour for training at quarterly meetings because we only need about 45 minutes for business meeting portion.

Last class scenarios had problems and challenges, and Dan said we need to do it again for practice.

Jim Gallagher requests when someone speaks to identify themselves and state where they are from. Everyone agreed this was a good idea.

Training Report by Jim Gallagher:

Jim G volunteered at the Blue Bonnet Festival & Parade, and did a presentation at the county fair on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Class #5 had our 100<sup>th</sup> CERT graduate. Main instructors were Jim Gallagher, Robin, Dan Posey, and Vaughn Hamilton. If anyone wants to be an instructor or aide, email Jim G and specify what your specialty is. Jim G said everything went well and gave thanks to all the green shirts.

Class #6 is scheduled to start May 1, 2014.

Jim G & Jim B agree on having one class a year so we don't have instructor burnout. Rest of the year will concentrate on CE (continued education) classes.

The next class will also be on Thursday nights only, and no Saturday classes.

Tonight was first night of CE training. It was on HAM radios. Instructors: Riley Caruthers and Jim Wreyford.

Next training will be about shelter in place at the next meeting.

CE training – date to be determined. Medical 3 hours, treating after triage.

We talked about having your "Home Survival Kit" and "Grab & Go Kit".

Jim G talked about the hardest lessons learned. Example was the Tow firefighter that was killed. He reminded us that training is for personal use too, not just for big disasters.

Jim B reminded us to have a family evacuation plan in place and practice it.

Jim G talked about the TEEN CERT program. He is talking to another county that has the program and what problems and successes they have had.

Freedom Flyers – David Smiles. It is a group that focuses on getting kids interested in aviation. He has offered his building at the Burnet airport for CERT training & CERT evacuations. We talked about taking some of the kids from Freedom Flyers and doing a modified TEEN CERT program.

Bastrop county has over 500 teen CERT members.

A doctor at Seton Highland Lakes hospital wants CERT to teach to hospital ER personnel. The Freedom Flyers location is perfect because it is across the highway from the hospital.

Barb Bington suggests including Boy Scouts in TEEN CERT. Jim Wreyford works with Scouts. There is an interest but scheduling would be a problem.

Debbie Gallagher has made an excel spreadsheet to keep track of training hours.

Jim G said this falls under the responsibilities of membership which is Joe Hernandez's position.

Jim B has to make a quarterly report for grant purposes, and needs to training hours list.

Pat said your volunteer hours are tax deductible.

Barb B request the volunteer form to be put online.

#### Community Outreach/Liason Report.

Terri Freitag was not present so it was read by Mary Jane. She posted class and Blue Bonnet Festival information on the website.

#### Communications Report – Sharon not present

#### Logistics Report by Jim Wreyford

Jim W said the people that worked on the trailer did a great job.

Jim G has the fire extinguishers at his house. He used three during class.

Jim B said Ben did an excellent job at mounting the shelves.

CERT kits were inventoried by CERT members at a previous meeting.

#### Membership Report by Joe Hernandez

Joe is also the EMC for Meadowlakes.

Class #5 had 22 members that graduated. Half of those will be active.

Jim B will get Joe the list of active members

Virginia Castillo is the Burnet County 911 addressing coordinator. She will take the names and addresses of members and make a map and subdivision list.

Jim B advd this will be very helpful during disasters. It also can be used for recruitment to fill the gaps of where we don't have members.

Meadowlakes City Hall has been offered during emergencies

CERT Executive Staff Report by Jim Barho

Jim B stated all 2013 money has been expended on lots of equipment including 100 CERT kits, tarps, flags, etc.

Jim B is working with CAPCOG for a grant for CERT sustainability.

Jim B wants to buy steel cargo containers that are weather proof. They cost about \$11,000-12,000 each and that includes the slab, electric, etc. Grants will pay for that.

Jim B advised that Dan will help with the Burnet County CERT website.

Someone has agreed to pay for one year by donation.

Dan asked about collecting donations. Jim B advised the county auditor wants all donations to come thru their office to keep track of the money. Dan P asked by show of hands on volunteers that are interested to stand on a corner collecting donations like the fire departments do. Several people raised their hands.

Jim Wreyford talked about an Kids/Adult Educational event at the Boys & Girls Club on Oct 11-12 called the Hill Country Space Exhibit. He asked if CERT would want to set up a info table. Table should have a hands on activity to get people interested. Dan request a show of hands of any who are interested. Several raised their hands.

Jim B reminded us of the CERT Mission Statement.

Jim B is concerned about the fire season this year.

Jim B said members can wear CERT shirts and caps at any CERT meeting and event. They are mandatory to wear at CERT events but not at meetings.

Jim G said everyone should have a copy of the CERT policy, by-laws, and job descriptions. You can get a copy from Jim B.

Pat requests training on specials needs citizens evacuations and home kits because there are extra items needs for them.

Mary Jane makes a motion to adjourn at 8:11pm. Jim Wreyford 2<sup>nd</sup>.