

Rockbridge Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Minutes

Date: February 9, 2021

Volunteers Present: In-person at the Fire and Rescue Administration Building (FRAB): Brandy Flint, Jutta Hopkins. Online: Alan Porter, Brenda Jackson, Byron Porter, Marianna Higgins, Misty Flint.

1. **Brandy Flint, Team Leader called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.**
2. **No items were added to the agenda.**
3. **The January 2021 minutes were approved.** Motion by Misty, second by Alan, all in favor.
4. **Team Reports:**
 - a. Emergency Responder Rehab Program (ERRP) Update.
 - i. Brandy reviewed program equipment and supplies available for ERRP. Resources include the use of the Rockbridge County Emergency Management trailer, tables, cots, coffee pots, drink containers, generators, misting fans, cell phone charging stations and other equipment. We will do an inventory including perishables kept in the storage shed when the weather warms up.
 - ii. CERT volunteer Neil Robichaux donated a 10x10' commercial grade tent to our unit. We thank him and will certainly use it for ERRP and community events.
 - b. Emergency Operations Center Support: No report
 - c. ARC (Animal Response) – No report
 - d. SAR (Search and Rescue) – No report
5. **Training:**
 - a. VDEM Crisis Track training will be conducted for EOC volunteers on February 24, 2021. Brandy will send out a link to volunteers to sign up.
 - b. FEMA has proposed CERT qualifications and training as part of the National Qualification System. We'll incorporate the qualifications into our unit plan after they are finalized. Proposed qualifications for Volunteers, Section Chiefs and Team Leaders can be found at:
https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-10/fema-nqs_cert-volunteer_draft-job-title-position-qualifications.pdf.

https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-10/fema-nqs_cert-section-chief_draft-job-title-position-qualifications.pdf.

https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-10/fema-nqs_cert-team-leader_draft-job-title-position-qualifications.pdf.
Jutta has prepared a spreadsheet to help track the training. Brandy will send out a copy for volunteers to complete and return for our records.
 - c. Marianna will conduct an Emergency Responder Rehabilitation Program (ERRP) review at next month's meeting. The training will focus on medical and rehab aspects of responding to an ERRP event.
6. **Old Business**
 - a. The CERT T-shirts are here. Please contact Brandy if you ordered and paid for one (or more).
 - b. Operation Reach Out. Brandy has cleaned up the volunteer listing and is using current members on the group email link. She will post the listing on Google Doc.
 - c. The CERT brochures which were approved by the team last year are completed but it was decided to substitute a picture of the Emergency Management trailer which highlights our CERT logo. A copy will be sent to volunteers when it is available.

- d. The organizational document updates that were started before the pandemic and draft FEMA qualifications will be resumed after FEMA finalizes the plan.

7. New Business

- a. Brandy is working on Team objectives and goals. She'll send out an email in the next few weeks for review and comments.
- b. The National CERT Conference is planned to be held in July in Springfield, MO. Preliminary information is found at <https://nationalcert.org/events/2021-national-conference>.

8. Upcoming events

Volunteer opportunities. CERT volunteers are being asked by Emergency Management to assist in non-medical roles at local COVID-19 clinics. Brandy will send out the requests on behalf of Nathan and will coordinate all CERT volunteer responses. Jutta reported she assisted at a clinic held at Carilion Rockbridge Community Hospital and felt it was a very worthwhile experience. She recommended other CERT members volunteer for these clinics if they are able.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm

Administrative and Finance Chief: Jutta Hopkins

Next Meeting: March 9, 2021 at 17:30 @ Fire and Rescue Administration Building – 100 Baner Lane, Buena Vista, VA 24416 and online via ZOOM.