

Rockbridge Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Minutes

Date: April 13, 2021

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

- 1. Brandy Flint, Team Leader called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.**
- 2. No items were added to the agenda.**
- 3. The March 9, 2021 minutes were approved.** Motion made and seconded, all present in favor.
- 4. Training:**
 - a. Marianna presented medical and rehab aspects of Emergency Responder Rehabilitation Program (ERRP) response. The presentation was interesting and a good refresher. Thank you, Marianna.
 - b. Participation in an annual exercise is required for all CERT units. We can discuss options at the May meeting.
- 5. Team and After-Action Reports:**
 - a. Emergency Responder Rehab Program (ERRP).
 - i. There were no requests for ERRP assistance in the past month.
 - ii. Brandy reviewed the ERRP supply sheets.
 - b. Emergency Operations Center Support: No requests for EOC assistance in the past month.
 - c. ARK (Animal Response) – We will discuss the role and need for this team at the May meeting.
 - d. SAR (Search and Rescue) – No report
 - e. Communications – Alan will pick up and inspect/charge the radios this week. Alan also reported that there will be a HAM radio event June 26-27. Certification testing will be available. Please call Alan for more information.
 - f. Pandemic Response Support – A new county online volunteer request system has been implemented to recruit volunteers. Volunteers will receive an email with a link to the site when requests are made.
 - g. **Team Objectives and Goals.**
 - i. Brandy reviewed a draft of ERRP team objectives and goals. After discussion, the objectives/goals were approved and will be added to the CERT policies and procedures.
- 6. Old Business:**
 - a. Operation Reach Out. Brandy will make one more attempt to contact previous members and then we will conclude this as a formal activity.
 - b. Organizational document updates. Documents will be revised when FEMA guidelines are finalized.
 - c. Volunteer Qualification Tracking. FEMA has not released the final qualifications yet. In the meantime, if you take any of the proposed courses, please let Brandy or Jutta know so we can update your volunteer training record.
 - d. The CERT T-shirts are here. Most have been distributed. If you have paid but not picked yours up yet, please contact Brandy.
- 7. New Business:**
 - a. The new Rockbridge County fiscal year begins July 1, 2021. A total of \$800 has been allocated to CERT. This funding will make it possible for us to continue our training and response efforts. We thank Nathan and Rockbridge County for this support.
 - b. A request has been made to a local bank for gift cards to be used for ERRP responses (e.g. fresh foods, beverages).

8. Upcoming events:

- a. Ongoing assistance in non-medical roles at local COVID-19 clinics.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm

Administrative and Finance Chief: Jutta Hopkins

Next Meeting: May 11, 2021 at 17:30 @ Fire and Rescue Administration Building – 100 Baner Lane, Buena Vista, VA 24416 and online via ZOOM.