

# TE CERT MINUTES

## October 21, 2020

Attendance: Dan, Mary Lou, Bruce (left mid-meeting), Sharon, Laura, Mary, Dave, Charlie, Tom, Steve.

Mtg called to order by Laura. Pledge to the flag.

Steve moved, and Mary seconded the motion to approve minutes from the last meeting. Motion passed.

**Treasure's report:** Checking \$802.73. Savings \$844.20. Total \$1646.93

Upcoming events were discussed. With the current state of COVID-19 precautions, December events are in limbo, and future events are not certain, either. No groups are being allowed in the facilities for large gatherings at this time. Mary Lou moved and Bruce seconded motion to cancel December breakfast event. Motion passed. Laura will check to see if the "Search and Rescue" program can be moved to March. Laura will check on current rules for facility usage.

Mary Lou passed out the blood clotting powder packets ordered for backpacks. Laura took the excess home packets home for storage.

A discussion was held about the trailer tires. Several members evaluated the tires and deemed them safe for travel short distances. Two members have spare tires that fit the trailer and could be used in an emergency. We have money in the treasury to buy the tires at a later date. Plywood is in short supply and expensive due to the hurricane activity in Florida, so Dave and Charlie are waiting to make the wheel covers. Since we are not buying new tires right now it is not a high priority.

Sharon reported that the County was very grateful to get our excess backpacks and helmets returned. It really helps cut down their expense for supplying new CERT members.

Sharon reported that the new member trainings for CERT are still on hold due to COVID-19 issues. Our nominations are on a waiting list and will get trained as soon as they begin trainings again.

The ant issue in the parking area was discussed. Several; members have been attacked, as well as other residents. Mary Lou will draft a letter to the Board of Trustees, to be forwarded to Laura for a signature and forwarding.

HAM radio issues were discussed. Mary and Charlie both passed their licensure test, so we now have 5 qualified HAM operators in our group. Laura baked cupcakes to celebrate the occasion. Dan indicated that he is willing to teach another class if others are interested.

We now have our business cards and Sharon will email the logo to all members for letterheads, making stationery unnecessary.

Dan had nothing new to report pertaining to the website. Tom will forward his video of the drill with the TE Fire Dept. for the website.

We have not met with the Fire Dept. yet to go over the hurricane plan. We have changed our zone map to match theirs.

### **Other New Business:**

Our meeting dates for next year will remain the same as we have now. Laura will request 10-12 instead of 10-11 to give us some extra time.

Computer equipment for interfacing with the HAM radios was discussed. A module will cost about \$150.00 so that HAM operators can text their messages to EOC in an emergency, rather than live talk in case EOC is swamped with input. Training will be needed to use the system. Since it looks like we will not have a hurricane this season, there is time to receive the training. Dan will look into it with EOC. We also need a 2-band (wavelength) radio, in case one band is overloaded. The cost will be \$200.00-\$300.00. It was suggested that we explore buying surplus from the County or State. We are eligible.

Sharon sent out our sales tax-exempt certification for purchases for CERT.

It was also brought up that anyone who shops at Gordon Food Service can ask that their "points" for purchase be given to TE CERT. We are registered there, and the purchase does not need to be for CERT. They will usually ask when you check out. If they do not ask, just tell them you want TE CERT credited.

Next month, we will discuss the election of officers coming up in January. Any member that is serving in an office now and wants to pass on the obligation to another member, can indicate their wishes, and give the opportunity to another member to volunteer. We must all share the work. We appreciate the efforts of all our members. We have such a great team!!!!

Laura has 4 rolls of emergency tape for cordoning off unsafe areas in an emergency. One roll will be given to each zone team, and one roll will be kept at the trailer.

Mary Lou moved to adjourn, and Sharon seconded. Motion passed.

Mary Lou Smith, Secretary