

Connecticut Emergency Management Association, Inc. (CEMA)

PO Box 260240, Hartford, CT 06126

Membership Meeting Minutes -Approved- November 14, 2007 WFSB Studios, Rocky Hill

I Members Attending: Don Janelle (Manchester), Tom Gavaghan (DEMHS), Chris Schroeder (Newington), Adam Libros (Canton), Dick Fippinger (Wethersfield), Jeff Isleib (Middletown), Pearl Rathburn (East Lyme), George Dunn (Middletown), Bill Austin (West Hartford), Gary Ryan (Middletown), Michael Spera (Old Saybrook), Joe Sastre (Groton), Jeff Williams (Groton), Don Davis (Ellington), Clark Hurlburt (Hamden) and Joel Severance (Chester).

II Call To Order - Meeting was called to order at 1901 hours by President Mike Spera

III A motion was made by George Dunn and seconded by Joe Sastre , upon a suggestion by M. Spera, to suspend the regular agenda to listen to Dave Ward, Assignment Manager for WFSB, Channel 3 and take a tour of the facilities.

- Facility is new
- WFSB is a 24:7 operation
- They are our resource 24:7/365
- Dave will do media training including:
 - News releases
 - How to act when being interviewed
 - On camera practice
- Their Assignment Desk is their Dispatch Center
- We were honored to have Bruce DePrest show us and explain how, his set works.

IV Meeting reconvened and the minutes from the September 6th Meeting were approved as corrected. Motion by J Sastre, second by P Rathburn. Vote unanimous.

V President Spera commented on how important it was that Professional Development be added to the regular meeting schedule. Tonight was a good example. The February Meeting will include a presentation on the I-95, East Lyme Accident

VI Subcommittee Reports

A President Spera reported the Association should submit our candidates for membership and positions on subcommittees to the Coordinating Council.

B President Spera announced Past CEMA President Bruce Lockwood has been elected President of Region 1, International Association of Emergency Managers and could not be with us tonight; because he was being installed.

C Chief Austin reminded all about the CERT Conference will be held next Tuesday the 20th at Mohegan Sun with 174 registrations so far.

D President Spera will invite State Rep Marilyn Giuliano to a meeting to thank her for helping in the language in our legislative action last session.

E Don Janelle recommends we pursue amending the Loyalty Oath requirements to a one time requirement Vs every year.

VII Treasurers Report - Joe Sastre reported we are in very good financial shape. Plus there are probably additional checks in the mail. He handed out a Treasurers Report. Also, dues notices will be going out to those that haven't sent in their payment yet.

G Dunn moved with a second by B Austin to approve the Report....unanimous

President Spera commended Joe on the excellent work he is doing.

VIII Old Business

A By-laws draft is due in December

B Website: a lengthy discussion ensued on broadcasting via the web.

- 1) President Spera has looked at different optionsthere are various payment plans. A good number to think is \$2,000 a year for webinar services
- 2) Don Janelle suggested we survey the membership re interest.
- 3) J Sastre advised we have 75-80 members
- 4) An additional advantage is the presentation/s would be archived.
- 4) The discussion led to notification methods:
 - a. Reverse911 was discussed as being in place and an option
 - b. Global Connect was discussed
 - c. The membership voted (Motion M Spera, second J Severance – vote unanimous) that D Janelle look into Global re: notification costs of all EMDs, DEMDs and other CEMA members.

C President Spera advised we may have one or two interns next summer from the University of New Haven. B Austin and J Sastre both advised they have had experience with managing interns and it is a big job...They need supervision.

IX New Business

A. President Spera opened the discussion re utilization of a lobbyist. A lengthy, lively discussion ensued re the pros and cons. Highlights:

- 1) Bill Austin suggested a \$1,000 cap on a lobbying effort
- 2) G Dunn brought up the potential for conflicts of interest with the lobbyist him/herself...we would be a low budget contributor
- 3) D Janelle suggested we change the verbiage to say “earmark” the \$\$ for “legislative activity”.
- 4) The need for legislative action was reinforced by the announcement that Clark Hurlburt and his deputy have been “eliminated” by the new Hamden administration. It was suggested legislation should/could be enacted that puts eligibility requirements on the EMD position.
- 5) B Austin made a motion, with a second by D Janelle that CEMA earmark an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for legislative activities. The vote was unanimous. No abstentions.

B. D Janelle suggested we do a SWOT for future planning. M Spera reminded everyone one was done last year and the Board is proud to announce “all missions accomplished”. It is time to do another.

X Area Coordinator Update

A. Mary Rose delivered her and Joe’s baby boy: Christopher Duberek 6 lbs, 8 oz

Unfortunately Joe’s father passed away the week before.

B. DAS has published an application for her replacement, for Region 2, on their website.

C. The Regional Coordinator position has been elevated so it is over the Regional Planner.

D. There is \$2500 in funding available for municipalities to update their EM computers. If they are current, then the \$\$ can be spent for DSL service. Per J Severance’s request Tom will check to see if this would cover Satellite TV service.

E. WEB EOC will be ready for distribution by the end of the year.

F. Only those municipalities participating in the EMPG Program are eligible for these “spiffs”

G. November 15th is/was the deadline for schools to submit their grant requests in. So far there are 530 from around the State. 138 of these are from Region 3.

19:49 Motion by J Sastre to adjourn

Second by J Isleib

Vote was unanimous

Respectfully submitted

Joel Severance

Acting Secretary