PANHANDLE REGIONAL PET COMMITTEE MINUTES
August 6, 2019
10:00 a.m. MST
Region 23 Emergency Management
250 Main Street
Chadron, NE

Meeting called to order at 10:02 by Tim Newman.


Motion – Nan to approve absences, Tom Schingle seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Grants Management report – We have some dollars left in 2016 grant that need to be spent by the end of this month. Newman did spend $386.52, took Nan’s hotel & gas expenses and split them to apply this money. Did conference call with Blue Cell, they are working on the Mass Fatality Plan which will spend the $3000.00 by end of month. Region 21 CERT has $249. Ron will buy 1 helmet to use that up. Tom and Bob Hessler met to discuss spending the fire corps monies. Will buy equip that CERT team can use. $3,198.32 and $382.04 Newman will try to get a search and rescue person to give a class.

Newman processed about $100K in claims yesterday. Primarily for bomb squad suits $77K approx. Three personnel went to bomb tech school, each costing between $7800-8400.

Newman turned in NRIN utilities and Verizon bill as well. Which will be on next month’s report.

Newman will send out receipts for inspection upon request. There are just too many to send out all of them all the time to everyone. The files can be beyond most email’s ability to accept them.

2018-19 Midwest Card and ID payment made yesterday for $4600 per Newman.

Discussion about using 2017 credentialing funds to update Salamander (credentialing software) to Windows 10, which has to be done by the end of the year. About $1200.00 left. It was decided that there is not enough left to pay for Windows 10 upgrades AND the track app data plan. Each region will upgrade on their own.

Old business

Upcoming training calendar, finance section chief class for this year was cancelled. 2 people went to Rapid City for a class they held up there but it was paid for by their home agencies. Newman did purchase 15 books in anticipation of having a class. Will continue to try to find someone to buy them from us.

G91 ICS 402 classes were held. We had planned to do COML, COMT and IC Command class. Had the IC Command class in Scottsbluff, with 12 attending.
Have PIO class on schedule, there’s one in Pierre, SD in Sept, encouraging folks to go to that instead of hosting one. It is less expensive that way unless we can guarantee we’ll have 3-5 local people.

Resource Unit Leader and Situation Unit Leader on the calendar. Newman Sending out a list every month of upcoming classes.

Newman got email yesterday from Dave that we need to come up with training calendar by 9-24-19. Our next meeting won’t be until 10-1-19. In the past have had a subcommittee, Newman, Nan and Tom Schingle, Allen Michael and Nathan Flowers are on it. If you have anything you are planning to do, let Newman know and he will get it on the calendar. There’s a 300-400 class in Crawford, but Nan can’t remember the dates, but it is sometime in September. It is on the fire marshal’s website. The G205 and the G202 is scheduled as well.

October 15 & 16 is G205, G202 is 22nd and 23rd, both in Bridgeport, per Ron. They are $2500/ea.

Cheyenne County Tower is approved and on order for 2018 grant

Report on findings of questions in reference to acceptance of unaffiliated volunteers, (Michelle Talbot). Per Newman, he spoke with Kent Hadenfeldt, Scottsbluff city attorney, he felt the release was well written, but advised in general they are more of a deterrent than a preventative. You can’t sign away your rights.

Michelle is now on the Gering FD and the Fire Chief will sign for her once she’s off probation, which is 6 months. City attorney advises the release is good, and it is good that the IMT is mostly management and not in the field, those both reduce liability. Workman’s comp is not an issue per Hadenfeldt. If the person is a Region 22 volunteer, she could be covered by LARM. Newman asked LARM about sending her out of the region and coverage 6 weeks ago and they are still considering it. County Attorney for Scottsbluff was willing to accept the City Scottsbluff attorney’s decision. At this point we should not accept any unaffiliated volunteers into the team until Michelle’s situation is resolved. Her application will be permanently tabled until she has a sponsor or we get a decision from LARM.

Lordino motioned, Nan seconded to deny application rather than table it. She can re-apply once she is officially affiliated (off probation with GFD). Motion passed unanimously.

Leo Larkin advised NEMA will take on some of the responsibilities that the Public Policy Center had handled. Their contract is up at the end of this month.

New business

Evie’s email vote for NPIMT acceptance passed. She is taking a Liaison Officer class in Tumwater, Washington this week. Ray made motion to accept Evie, Nan seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Vigilant Guard 2020 - Newman has been invited by National Guard to work on the Vigilant Guard planning committee. Larry advises they bring in other NG units and have planning meetings that can last up to 3 days in some cases. The exercise will be held in May 18-22, and as many as 800 NG personnel can be involved. They coordinate with state and local EM officials to do full scale exercises. Newman advised they are wanting to do an exercise in the Panhandle for wildland fires. They’ll be looking for local cooperation, hence the invitation extended to Newman. He will go to Lincoln next week for 2 days and will be able to bring back more information from that.
Heidi suggested asking about interoperability of communications.

Newman will ask about operational coordination.

Lordino is willing to get involved in this committee with Newman.

Ray suggested doing what Sarpy County does, which is obtain and maintain a cache of hand-helds that can be taken to IC command and handed out as a fix for lack of interoperability.

Old West Balloon Fest is next week. They are adding nationally rated pilots this year – 70, for a national competition. These pros can be offloaded and in the air in 8 minutes. At 3am, this starts. It begins with pilot balloons getting launched, who then establishes targets for launching for the rest who then have a type of race with winners posted at the end of the week and a ceremony. Newman advised he and Ray made an IAP for the entire event, but states they need to make one for each day.

Wildfire Exercise – 9/13-15/19 in Gering. Will have round table about task books, importance of demobilization process, will give instruction on decontamination plan the day before. It is a full type 3 incident. There will be Type 3 qualified personnel coming that can sign off in the book. 60 pieces of equipment and 150-200 personnel are expected to be participating this time. Making planning calls now, Newman will be logistics chief and is currently working on food provisions. Newman will send out the invite with the registration form that needs to go back to Nathan Flowers with GFD. Leo is bringing the MOC2, Ron will bring Command 1. Newman will have his Mobile Command. Nan will bring her rapid tag equipment.

Panhandle THIRA. – We need to do one at the next meeting. 21st Century in Bridgeport. Invite all response agencies to participate. We did wildfire last time. The time before that we did chemical spill. This year’s theme will be active shooter at a public event.

Leo – per Merci, reminders that 2019 EMP grants, requirements 3 minimum, they must build on each other. Must have a sign in sheet and AAR for each exercise. When you do a written procurement, must ref 2 CFR 200.317-316. Preparedness section is losing a planner. He talked about importance of using LEOP template. Nothing specified yet. Issues about talking about dept of energy. Julie’s continuing grant work, Merci making monitoring visits. Posting for 8 new positions, 5 new folks started last week. James Rashilla is new technical services advisor. SEAT base open in Valentine, servicing Chadron and SW area of South Dakota. Possibility exists that they will bounce back and forth, possibly down to Scottsbluff. New SEAT base almost done in McCook. Working with Rosebud reservation, John Wilson has main route and offshoots. Can use Civil Air Patrol if needed, (CAP), they do help LE. Call in request through NEMA. If you have to do a local thing, the SO can request it and then they have to pay for it. They have to fly 160 hours per year per plane and this would help them meet that requirement.

Larry working on TEPW, SPR THIRA in North Platte in Oct 24-25 as of right now, probably won’t change. It will be at the Best Western Plus. Meal and first day catered in so we can have a working lunch.

Capstone is October 15-16 have 17-18 ppl signed up right now. Keep checking calendars for new training opportunities. ICS 300-400 has been revised so the instructors have to go back and take the test to be qualified to be instructors. If you have classes like logistics etc., need to have qualified instructors.
Newman, Pam Pizzi and Melody Leisy and Nan determined dates to do more Knowledge Center training, 9/5-6/19, both will be 8 hours of training, but you only have to take one. One will be at Bridgeport and the other possibly in Scottsbluff.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10

Next meeting 10-1-19 in Bridgeport at 10am.