



Cuyahoga CERT Association

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) Association Meeting

Wednesday March 20, 2019 (5:00pm-6:30pm)

Independence Civic Center

Minutes

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Mark Christie from CCOEM welcomed attendees from various CERT organizations. Nick Phillips and Tom Hartman (co-chair members of the previous CERT Assn.) welcomed Cert's.

There were 16 CERT Teams represented.

Attendees introduced themselves from various CERT's.

2. Westshore CERT Presentation on Weather/Gas Outage Incident

Chief Lenart and Service Director Mary Kay Costello presented on the Severe Weather/Gas Outage incident that took place in Rocky River. Details on the incident and how their CERT was instrumental in assisting the Fire Department and community were given.

Westshore CERT Team was activated to go "door-door" and assist residents. The County's mass-notification system Ready Notify was used to alert and get information out to residents.

Westshore CERT's presentation is attached.

3. OEM Report/ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

- **CERT Roster Update** – OEM discussed the importance of updating the roster and asked CERTS to please look over the current roster and make changes on the form that was given to them. (handout)
- **Ohio Responds** – OEM gave an update on the Ohio Responds process. OEM is currently working with a State contact to stream line the registration process of



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Ohio Responds. The State also needs a current and updated CERT contact list for their records.

- OEM reminded CERT's of the liability requirements by giving a brief overview. (handout)

4. COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES

- **Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management (training and exercises) –** Mack Flinn from CCOEM discussed an upcoming recovery exercise that will take place on August 13-14, 2019 where CERT's can attend and assist with POD operations and various activities. Please contact Mack Flinn mflinn@cuyahogacounty.us / 216.443.5472 if you are interested in volunteering for the exercise (handout)
- Serena Steele invited CERT's to attend a PER-343 Social Media Engagement Strategies course presented by the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center (NDPTC) on June 17, 2019 at the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) Registration is on the County training website.
- **Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) –** Serena Steele gave an overview of topics with the County's COAD initiative. The COAD Executive committee met in March to discuss and revise the current COAD Bylaws. OEM will make those changes. Also, OEM's goal for 2019/2020 is to develop and establish recovery and volunteer committees in which CERT's can and will be a part of.

5. CERT Report Outs (What is Happening in your Community CERT Program)

Quad City CERT – hosting a POD drill August 29th at the Independence Middle School. CERT Teams can watch or observe (6-9pm) Contact Jim Wheeler at the Independence FD.

Quad City's CERT pastoral staff at St. Columbkille is hosting an AED/CPR training "Stop the Bleed" (Date TBA)

Tri Community CERT is hosting an OPIOD training in April (TBA) Contact Pat Berne or Pat Gregoric. It will be held at the Bay Village PD.

Tri Community CERT is hosting a "Stop the Bleed" training for 40 people. Hosted by UH. Contact Chief Turner or Paul Berne. The fee is \$25.00.



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6. ANNOUNCEMENTS / OTHER BUSINESS –

CCOEM has 30 MURS radios that can be transferred to CERT teams. They are all ok and may need batteries in the future which run about \$20.00 apiece. Please let us know if you are interested.

Discussion on redeveloping the CERT website on the County's Ready Cuyahoga webpage to host events, meetings, training initiatives, outreach events s etc. CCOEM will research and get back to the group.

7. NEXT MEETING DETERMINATION-Next meeting TBA – Discussion on a Potluck summer picnic after work event.

8. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

