

Missouri Emergency Preparedness Association

Minutes

Date: April 20, 2010	Time: 4:30	Location: Florence Room
Called to order by: John Hark	Called to order time:	Recorder of Minutes: Diane Bosworth

Participants Present

John Hark	President	Denise Russell	Treasurer
Jonathan Ayres	Secretary	Tom White	Cooper County
Larry Woods	Region D	Mike Daniels	Warren County
Mike Shelton	Riverside EMD	Dave Compton	Barry County
Carol Hark	MEPA	Mike Boos	City of Raymore EMD
David Keith	MEPA	Teresa Tost	Ava/Douglas EMD
Gretchen Keith	MEPA	George Albert	MEPA
Paul Parmenter	SEMA	David Keith	MEPA

Administrative

- Introductions
- Approval of Minutes: Motion made and seconded to approve minutes as read.

Treasurer Report

- At this time, there is a balance of \$11,078.99 of the conference account. There has been no new income. For the expenses, we have spent \$445.30 (\$75 for the banner, \$95 for electricity for the booth, and \$275.30 for the ribbons). This makes the new balance of \$10,633.69.
- As for the Board/Membership Account, the beginning balance is \$12,093.97. Income through this month is \$2,085 which brings the new balance to \$14,969.76.

Motion was made to accept treasurer report. Motion was seconded, approved and carried.

Old Business

501 ©6 Status Report: It was last year when we got this underway. We had a little delay where I had to gather information to give back to the attorney, and we were finally able to start in October. He was willing to cut us a deal. It has been sent to the IRS, who in turn had a question that was financial. We are expecting a final outcome at the end of this month. This may go to the P.O. Box.

- Mike D: I called the IRS myself to see where this was at. I inquired about the P.O. Box, and they said that the P.O. Box was not on file.

- Dave C: We have made an attempt to stop moving the P.O. Box, however, it has been moved from Jefferson City, but is now residing at Camden County.
- Chris Weber is the name of the Attorney and the fee he is charging us is \$650.00 (\$250 for research, application preparation, telephone calls + \$400 fees for determination letter to IRS)
- The \$650.00 is well below a going rate of \$1500 among other attorneys. I have asked for an invoice so we get started on the invoice.

Constitution Changes: This process started in 2008 and spent an entire day going through the constitution. The changes have been made and the constitution was sent out to the membership via e-mail and if there was no e-mail, we sent a hard copy.

- Dave: I was approached by a member inquiring about when the constitution would be distributed, which apparently she did not get one.
- Larry: I also had some members ask me inquiring about the constitution.
- Jon A: The constitution was placed on the website.
- Larry: I am not sure why their information is not on the roster although they can produce a card.
- John H: That was my focus to push the constitution to all members.
- Mike S: The elections that will be held tomorrow will be according to the old constitution.
- Jon: We are running into a logistical complication of sending blast e-mails.
- John: The constitution states that it needs to be posted 30 days before the next election and we have met that criteria, although it has not reached every member.
- Denise: The information that the card holds should be entered into the system.
- Jon: The cards were not distributed before so the information is not held.

Shirts: The cost is \$20 each. Larger sizes are \$2 more. The board shirts cost \$28 each. They are located at the MEPA booth. If you want a different style of shirt let me know, we can find something else.

Tom: Who did the embroidery on the shirt?

Jon: Akers Embroidery in Lebanon.

Committee Reports

Certification Committee:

Mike Boos: We met in November. Initially 6 applications were reviewed and accepted. We met again in April 12 and reviewed 16 applications and of those 15 were accepted. There are 21 individuals certified.

John Hark: Asked how many of the board are not certified (there are 4 members not certified at this time). The way that I see it is that we are going to sell it, we have to represent it, so the board members need to be certified.

Questions/comments: MB—The application itself did not have a place to include reciprocal information, but that has since been fixed.

Larry Woods: How was the submission process?

Denise Russell: That has been a nightmare with all kinds of loose papers, paper clips.

John Hark: Remember we are at the beginning stages of this and we have to progress but not lose any critical information. We should start submitting them in 3-ring binders.

Mike Boos: There has been a question of electronic submission. The answer so far has been no because of the chance of viruses.

Denise Russell: When the EMD who wants to bump up to level II, we are able to keep that information together in the binder.

George Albert: I submitted my application and it was returned three times.

Denise Russell: That is because our P.O. Box is very small.

George Albert: That information needs to be included in the application.

Jon Ayres: It is on the form.

George Albert: Is there going to be any recognition of the accepted applications.

John Hark: When I speak Thursday, I will ask all of the EMDs to stand and it will be listed on the website.

Constitution Committee: See above

Nominating Committee: Vacant positions for election are President, Regions E, H, and I. I have received one nomination for President. What about Smitty for the Region I. He is stretched so thin that he is unable to take this on. Mr. Dopp is no longer with Franklin County. He is a board member at large. I talked to him personally and he did confirm that he was no longer with Franklin County.

This was brought before the board so that I can get your input. I feel that we need to appoint someone.

Dave Compton: I believe that we need to give Bob a chance to resign and it is not appropriate to appoint until he has resigned. We have to give him 30 days after this conference.

Jon Ayres: I make a motion that we give Mr. Dopp 60 days. Motion was seconded. LW/DC: I think that 60 days is a little long. JA: I will amend my motion to 30 days and motion was re-seconded. Motion carried.

John Hark: The individual who is running for Troop E—Jeff. This is John Prance's seat. I have asked for something in writing and I have not received anything as of yet, which has been several months.

Mike Boos: I move to let it go to the general membership and let it be elected.

Legislative Committee: There are about 20 bills out there and not many related to emergency management.

SB680—spill bill modification. As of today, it will die in committee. The company that the senator introduced it for have had a falling out. Hopefully it will never come up again.

HB1314—storm shelters.

Supporting: Denise Russell: HB1314, I think that there are four bills that support. I will not, however, be asked to speak, travel, etc. HB1401-exempt liability, HB1464—healthcare facilities. LW: I think that HB1464 would be a benefit to the health care facilities. HB1633—law enforcement specific, telecommunications.

Mike Daniels: We are the pilot county for the DNR program. I have been working on obtaining contact information for the people down river. You can be sued trying to obtain numbers even if we are trying to save their life.

Tom White: A lot of people on the outside of the industry do not understand the process.

Larry Woods: I would like to announce on Thursday that we are looking at 20 bills. We are formulating policy on the bills to support or not to support and would like input from the membership.

Jon Ayres: I can adjust the web site per region so that they can submit their ideas about the bills.

Tom White: Can someone construe perception on us supporting one discipline over another.

Denise Russell: HB1991-holding meetings, SB790—registry. If we show support as an association to the law enforcement agencies, the ones that I have mentioned support emergency management.

Dave Compton: I move we defer this conversation.

Jon Hark: I will state that we table this topic until a later date. There will be a meeting following this conference regarding this issue.

Mike Boos: Is there a voting that we have to do?

Larry Woods: I just need to know what you are supporting or not.

George Albert: Could this be a part of the general membership.

John Hark: No. The time schedule is very tight.

Tom White: My concern with supporting or not, I know that fire may not be supporting so if the fire is not supporting why should we.

John Hark: I will announce at the general meeting, that all first responders legislative committee to contact our legislative committee to work with the bills.

Dave Compton: SB1285—Fire DS 2003 ICC fire code. I do believe in supporting this bill. I would encourage you Larry to continue to put out this compilation of the bills. It also is a great tool to show what we are doing with the \$15 membership fee.

George Albert: You should be asking the other agencies to see if they even want it brought up.

Tom White: I want to thank Larry Woods Publically for this booklet because when I gave it to the local fire entities, they did not even know about the bills.

Larry Woods: So Jon will set up a link regarding legislation that will come straight to me. Please comment on the ones strictly related to emergency management and after they are approved, I can get out some letters.

John Hark: Thursday afternoon at 4:45 for a legislative debate session.

Website

Larry Woods: I think that the website is phenomenal.

John Hark: Do we have all contact information for troops.

Jon Ayres: I put e-mails but not phone numbers.

Denise Russell: I have some representatives that get angry about doing this on the job.

Jon Ayres: The operation section—can hold cheat sheets, diagrams. Finally after years of complaints we can now process credit card payments. It has generated a lot of revenue. Mrs. Hark will get the letter.

I am able to give authority to certain people who can assist with adding information to the website. We are on Facebook and have about 300 people.

Mike Daniels: Did you say that you will have a section per region.

Jon Ayres: I am having some trouble with that as I am writing the software, but hopefully will be soon.

New Business

Discussion of Membership Fees

John Hark: Under my last administration we raised the dues to \$15. For right now, the dues will stay the same, but this needs to be addressed for the future.

Dave Compton: I think that the dues need to be \$25, but we have to produce to warrant that increase.

Mike Boos: Give the membership one year notice that the dues will be increased in order for them to budget.

John Hark: Additional issues to be covered: board member officer duties should attend 2 LPC meetings a year, a minimum of 2 RHSOC and 2 Area Coordinator meetings a year. They should participate in at least one of our conference calls per quarter; seek opportunities to be guest speakers at meetings, trainings. This is to be done troop wide. Participate in the SEMA newsletter. We have appointed Ryan Nichols, EMD Greene County as the PIO. I want your feedback and assistance.

Dave Compton: Discussed the conflicts with participation in conference calls while on duty. With the issue of the PO Box being full, what do we do to fix that?

Jon Ayres: The box was not big enough to handle what was coming in.

The mail is coming to Denise work address, which is not a good idea. We need to have a stable address that will stay the same. Jonathan and Denise will look into the cost to obtaining a permanent PO Box, but will not be in effect until it is needed.

Larry Woods: We have to rectify the roster.

SEMA Update

The HLS staff is leaving next week and will be housed in DPS. It is not really going to change much. Paul wants a committee of RHSOC and _____, and we have not encountered that. This will be discussed at the EMD meeting on Thursday. The first year you have to follow the guidelines of the EOC.

John Hark: Are we going to see anything written on the criteria for the EOC.

Paul Parmenter: That is what we are going to discuss at the EMD committee, but I say that it cannot cost any money. If you are getting EMPG money, you have to be doing what we direct.

The first year, you are not going to get _____. The emergency manager that we are trying to set up, I believe you will like it and will want more.

The RHSOCs are fine but they are not emergency managers. They often get impressed by guns and hoses, but that is not emergency management. If you are receiving money, you have to do what we direct.

John Hark: There is legislation that we need to fight for to support the emergency managers.

Next year, the criteria will increase in order to increase capability; you have to improve with training, equipment.

John Hark: What you are talking about is what we have been trying to achieve with our certification program. If the community is funded, they should not be operating out of a truck and should be professional.

Paul Parmenter: If we can prove that we are using the EMPG money wisely and what it is intended for, we will be fine.

John Hark: There is \$35,000 funds is the EMPG portion.

Paul Parmenter: Dave Maxwell, Iowa Emergency Management will be here. I met with him and learned that NEMA is not bound by _____ and is a large portion of _____.

Dave Compton: If we have markers or accomplishments that we have to meet in order to get EMPG money. You have to prove that you are able to do the job.

Paul Parmenter: Marcus Oglesby, Area I, has resigned to work locally and Brenda Gerlach has taken over his position as Area Coordinator.

Denise Russell: Any word on when the EMPG will be approved.

Paul Parmenter: No, but it was submitted by the closing day. FEMA is broke and if we have another disaster, Missouri will be in trouble.

George Albert: What year are you talking about?

Paul Parmenter: 2010. You will not see any changes until 2012.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Adjourned at 6:29 p.m.