

**EMO meeting
October 7, 2009**

Meeting is called to order by the Chairperson, Peggy Boudreau

Roll call is taken 21 members present.

Introduction of New Coordinator

Chairman Peggy Boudreau introduces new EMO Coordinator, John Levac. John gives a brief history of his experience in emergency management.

CAO report

CAO Alain Muise explains the new roles of the Coordinator and the EMO Chair/Public Information Officer.

EMO NS Report

Steve Mills explains that a BEM Course will be made available in Sydney in November of this year. Training section of EMO have been concentrating on H1N1, thus other training priorities have been slowed. Steve Mills will be contacting the southern area again to see what interest there is for training.

EMO Generator

Chair Boudreau reports that the generator is running normally, and we are awaiting fencing to complete the work. EMO coordinator Levac mentions the need for a contract with a fuel company to ensure we are prepared in the case of an emergency.

Free Civic sign update

Peggy gives an update on the civic signage project. 402 residents applied for a sign. The signs have been ordered and should be received in 2 weeks. Muise explains the issue with the highway 308 civic signage duplication. Some suggestions are made by the group as to how to rectify this problem.

Cots for fire departments

Chief Gilles Bourque explains their interest in purchasing cots for each department. This would be available for firemen in times of prolonged emergency, when firemen are on standby, or in times of non-emergency but in times of a significant event. Red Cross only has 50 cots locally. Janine Doucette explained that blue mats were used from the schools in the power outage event.

Steve Mills explains the 72 hour preparedness, and the difference between 72 hours in the winter and 72 hours in the summer. Winter months will shorten this timeframe

considerably in cold weather. The cots would be useful for the firemen, but less useful for EMO. Cost for the cots would be \$65, with further discounts if there is a volume order.

Other issues

Janine and Felton Muise will be visiting housing units and homes with the goal to educate these organizations on their own responsibility to self prepare for storms. Chair Boudreau will provide Janine with a list of senior groups and Steve Mills will provide Janine with a presentation to assist in this project.

Fan out list to update email contacts was distributed along with a request to receive volunteers interested in the Emergency operations center.

Boudreau informs the EMO Committee that Rio Algom contacted us to inform us on their emergency planning, and to understand our role. Also, NS power was interested in coming and giving a presentation on their emergency preparedness.

George Emin brings up the issue of high speed and cell phone use. There has been no official word on the cell phone use. Councilor Murphy has heard that Rogers and Eastlink may have formed a partnership to improve service. This has not been confirmed as of yet. George explains that there is an emergency number that can be dialed on any cell phone that could potentially allow cross compatibility. There may be issues of compatibility. Coordinator Levac explains that cell phone use is often limited in times of emergency due to traffic increase in times of emergency.

This is an item that will be followed up by our Coordinator.

The DNR presentation was brought up by Emin, and he encouraged Steve Mills to bring that course to our area. Mills explained that a spring session would be best.

Muise discusses the Jepp program and the priority on the table is to apply for funding on the development of a secondary site. The members were asked to provide feedback on this and the group agreed that the Coordinator, Chair and CAO should proceed to collect necessary information to complete the application.

Furthermore, the group was encouraged to email their priorities (what they think EMO should achieve) in the next 12 months.

No further business, Boudreau adjourns the meeting at 8:17 pm.

Alain Muise, CAO
Recorder

Peggy Boudreau
Chair

John Levac
Coordinator