

CERT Auxiliary Working Group
Meeting Notes
Saturday, November 14, 2020 , ZOOM

Attending: David Sonnenberg (scribe), Sharon Spence, Roberta Roberts, Bob Fike, Hank Moeller, Ken Braly, Bill Monroe, Catherine Green, Chris Jong, Ed Spurr, Mikail Baron, Susan Marx, Liz Taylor-Selling, David Dean, Bill Fidler, Jamshid Kiani, Jennifer Carr, and Mary Edmund

- **Announcements:** *New leadership for CERT Auxiliary:* Rosemary Anderson is appointed as Assistant Director, from Jan 1, 2021 until Jan 30, 2022, when she will take over as Executive Director. Mary Edmund will step down at that time and serve in a reduced capacity.

- **CERT Training**

- § CERT Basic Hands-off classes / graduated 5 CERTs (maximum students - 6)

- 3 Phases of training*** to accommodate COVID-19 precautions:

- Phase 1 – *12-hour Online Training* done at students pacing

- Phase 2 – *8-Hour Instructor Lead Training* in 2 4-hour sessions

- Phase 3 – *3-Hour training* post Covid-19

- Students receive certification after completion of Phase 2 and will complete Phase 3 when it is safe to do so.

- § Crowd & Traffic Management: Graduated 29 students. Will need to plan an advanced class as follow-on with radios and specific scenarios.

If planning a training, there are loaner radios available from the Auxiliary.

- **Chain of Command:** ***This is of vital importance as the CERT Auxiliary gets larger and as we move into the ICS structure.*** This needs to be constantly reinforced. Branch leaders are responsible for their Branch only and avoid going outside their area without explicit consent. Requests to other CBOs and County offices should be sent through the Executive Director. There are exceptions, such as sharing information or invitations to training with other Branch Leaders. In activations, there may be questions as the situational dynamics dictate, and as CERT is activated more frequently. **Incident manager is the decision maker during an incident.** He or she may assign and reassign.

- **Auxiliary Reorganization Plan Vote:** The plan to reorganize the CERT Auxiliary into an ICS structure was unanimously adopted, with two abstentions. Those interested in any of the chief positions should discuss interests with Rosemary or Mary for more information on specific areas. As functional chiefs are identified and approved by the

Executive Director/Assistant Director those chiefs will select individuals positions that report to them.

- **Additions** SLV Debris Flow Activation – November 18-24 -- an evolving plan. Currently all CERTs will report to Sargent Jason Dunn -- the morning Teams a little before 9:00 and the afternoon Teams a little before Noon at:

Boulder Creek Sheriff's Service Center
13210 Central Avenue (State Route Hwy 9)
Boulder Creek, CA 95006-9125
(831) 454-7440

- **Working in pairs, providing information to vulnerable residents about debris flow risks and documenting specific information through a County survey.**
- **Bring Identification, water, extra power for cell phones or tablets, snacks, comfortable shoes, radios if available.**
- **Safety first, if encountering any conflicts -- do not engage -- move from the area, document with the survey.**
- **You are representing CERT and showing your dedication within the community. OES is grateful and appreciative of CERTs ongoing commitment and service.**

Possible use of CERTs for further activation of a debris flow incident. There is planning to set-up Temporary Evacuation Points (TEP) for information and diverting evacuees to other locations. CERT may help staff the TEPs. If so, CERT needs to be involved in the planning and coordinating. Trigger points are identified for an evacuation: 0.3 inches of rain in 15 minutes, 0.5 inches of rain in ½ hr., and 0.7 inches of rain for an hour.

- **Team Leader Reports**

Catherine Green, City of Santa Cruz Branch: MURS radio training, very little availability.

Jenn Carr, Sunset Beach Team Leader: Use of walkie talkies, having conversation with team about MURS those using FRS radios and a couple of amateur ham radios. Trying to recruit more folks.

David Dean and David Sonnenberg, Live Oak/Soquel Branch: Not much response to meeting. Team was very interested in having another traffic management training. Developing training program for 2021

Hank Moeller, Bonny Doon Branch: Lots of people regrouping, including the Fire Branches following the CZU August Lightning Fire.

Bill Monroe, Boulder Creek Branch: Team has shrunk dramatically in the pandemic. Used to have 30 active CERTs, then it became 8, after the fire 4.

Susan Marx, La Selva Beach Team: Last month's meeting was on debris flow and presented some future trainings. Six members purchased MURS radios. All meetings open to the community.

Ed Spurr, Capitola Branch: Two team members completed traffic training. Many CERTs are older and concerned about COVID-19 and CERT participation.

Liz: Still meeting monthly, discussed debris flow, sand bagging. Many Felton members live in debris flow areas. December meeting will be devoted to call center operations, which was so valuable during the CZU August Lightning Fire activation.

Bob Fike, ARES: Stationed in Boulder Creek for three days with Equine Evacuation during CZU August Lightning Fire. Programmed to graduated 40-45 students in the current Technician Amateur Radio Course.

Jamshid: Thanks to CERT! Red Cross appreciates what CERT did during CRZ. August Lightning Fire.

Next Meeting – **SATURDAY, December 12, 10-noon, ZOOM**