

ORS TAC MINUTES

Department of Public Safety
1970 W. Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43223

Meeting Date: 1.24.11
TAC: K-9
From: Pam Gibson

File Number:
Approved:



I. **Attendees:** See attached sign in sheet.

II. **Summary:**

- The Geauga County EMA Director has agreed to begin producing the necessary K-9 ID cards.
- We now have an updated application processing procedure established. All applications will be routed to EMA Ready and Response Branch, Jim Dwertman. He will notify Deana and Sandy of the applicants' contact information and scan in the submitted documentation. Deana and Sandy will review the documentation to ensure all necessary requirements are submitted. They will then contact each applicant to make them aware of any missing documentation and to verify their application is being processed and when it will be reviewed and added to the K-9 database.
- All previously submitted applications to Miami County Sheriff's office have been picked up. The applications were old and outdated and have been destroyed. Each applicant was contacted by Deana or Sandy and was asked to re-submit new and updated applications.
- Concerning the expiration dates of the ID cards it was decided it would be an annual expiration date vs. from the time of issuance. That annual date has not been totally confirmed, but Dec. 31st was a date mentioned.
- There was a lot of discussion and suggestions as to the existing K-9 database held at the Miami County Sheriff's office and how it can be more easily maintained. One of the suggestions was to have a backup of this database that would be held in Geauga County.
- There was much discussion concerning the need for a regional point of contact (POC). Nothing was decided, yet, but it would definitely be a big help with diminishing duplication of efforts. It was suggested that a POC, with a backup, would be designated for 2 Homeland Security Regions. This would equate to 4 POCs and 4 backups. These would be people that have the K-9 Search and Rescue technical expertise.
- Suggestions and concerns were discussed concerning various funding avenues for the volunteer certification process.
- Outreach/education as to the volunteer K-9 resources is still heavily needed. It was discussed that presenting at the Fire Chief's meetings would be a good starting point.
- Jim Dwertman explained that the K-9 application, training requirements and procedures have moved within the Ohio EMA website. You can access it by going to www.ema.ohio.gov select Operations tab at the top of the page, then within the

“Quicklinks” section you will see K-9 application, click it and there will be all necessary forms and directions in completing the application.

III. **Action Items:** will be discussed at the next meeting:

- Ken Folsom will be creating ID cards for the current submitted applicants. He will use the ORS (Ohio Response System) logo. All other information will be as it has been. One ID card for each team (i.e. dog and handler is a team). Multiple dogs will be considered a different team and will require an individual ID for each team.
- The database “unknowns” was discussed at length with the final outcome being that Julia Potter would meet with Sheriff Cox. Sandy will then meet, if necessary, with Sheriff Cox to further discuss the database and how we will proceed from here.
- Jim Dwertman and Janelle Hideg will be further discussing (offline) what grant funding would be available, if any, to assist with the certification costs.
- Janelle will bring samples of other states’ K-9 databases and how they are organized, how they maintain them and what software is used.
- The K-9 application and requirements is not current and does not have the current version of the requirements they will need to be removed from the Miami County Sheriff’s webpage.

IV. **Next Meeting:** is scheduled for March 28, 2011, at the Ohio EMA offices, from 10-noon in room 124.

Respectfully,
Submitted by:
Pam Gibson

Attachments:
Sign in sheet