



## **Tioga County Animal Response Team**

99 William Farrell Drive  
Wellsboro, PA 16901  
Sue Judlin, County Coordinator

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### **MEETING MINUTES**

Tioga County Department of Emergency Services

03/10/17

- Attendees
  - Amber Wetzel
  - Benton Best
  - Denise Drabick
  - Emily Blade
  - Kailyn Judlin
  - Karen Starkweather
  - Koren Brown
  - Lisa Rice
  - Nancy Shultis
  - Susan Judlin
- Joel Hersh – SART Executive Director
  - “FEMA looks at Pennsylvania’s volunteer animal program as a national model”
  - Virtually every emergency affects animals somehow
  - CART started in 2005
  - 85 to 100 incidents a year throughout the state
    - Most of which are small incidents
  - Idea came from a North Carolina concept based off of a flood they had
  - Goals
    - Decrease the threat to humans and animals
      - CARTs should do a lot of show and tell
    - Prevent and decrease spread of disease
    - Minimize economic impact of animal emergencies
      - Ag is Pennsylvania’s largest economy (\$4 billion to \$6 billion each year)
  - Code of Conduct
    - Everyone must sign it
  - Resources
    - 3 mobile shelter units (one in each PEMA region)
      - HVAC, water supply, mobile stalls, generator
      - Closest to us is located in Carlisle, Cumberland County
      - Can hold up to 25 animals
        - One side is cats/small dogs, other side is larger animals
      - PIMAS request – We would have to come get it

- Donations
  - Go to Harrisburg Airport but earmarked for CART that was named in donation
  - Current SART budget is \$140,000 per year out of PEMA
- Integrated Animal Disaster Teams
  - Any animal, any disaster, anywhere
  - Game Commission handles wild animals
- County Plans
  - Evacuation of animals
  - Sheltering of animals
  - Instructions for care of those left behind
  - Support for disease eradication
    - Quarantine, euthanasia, disposal
  - PennAg Industries
    - Lead effort on swine and getting farmers to have emergency plans
  - Counseling – For responders
  - DEP for animal carcass burying locations
  - Build out ICS chart for CART responses
    - Field Ops – VMATs no longer exist
      - Assessment, request resources, ID health and safety issues, expertise to counties
    - Search and Rescue
      - Pick up lost or injured animals, evacuate animals, assist human resources
  - EOC Plan – Add CART representation
  - CART – Add water rescue to CART plan
- PA has 186,000,000 poultry birds, 1.5 million deer, 1.64 million cattle, 2 million cats, 2 million dogs
- Equine industry is \$1.5 billion
- SART Board Policies (must be signed prior to membership)
  - Code of Conduct
  - Anti-Discrimination Policy
  - Wavier of Liability
- SART Insurance
  - Individual Liability Insurance – 250 seats purchased each year
  - Medical Insurance – Backup to help with deductibles and co-pays
  - General Liability Insurance – if something gets damaged/destroyed
- Board of Directors
  - Currently going through changes
  - Joel is trying to retire and has been for a while now
- CART Elections
  - Expectations
    - Coordinator – Sue Judlin
      - Lead meetings, lead planning of CART response plan
    - Treasurer – Amber Wetzel
      - Donations, financial report, reimbursements

- Secretary – Lisa Rice
    - Minutes and agendas
  - Training and Equipment Manager – Emily Blades
    - Inventory of assets, resource lists, help people get signed up for trainings
- Questions from the group for Joel
  - Children – Minimum age of 16 with parental consent
  - By-Laws – Cambria County and Westmoreland County both have successful by-laws
- SART has an office in PEMA's new headquarters
- Lisa is going to an American Working Dog Association meeting in NYS
  - Amber may go as well
- Coloring Books – Joel brought 2 boxes of coloring books for outreach purposes
- SART has a 7min outreach video made by PSU that Joel can share with us
- Discussion about PSP and Dog Law Officer (Will Yoder)
- Next Meeting – April 10<sup>th</sup> at 1600hrs here at TCDES