



Minutes of the New Mexico Search and Rescue Council (NMSARC) Board January 6, 2020

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the NMSARC board was called to order at 7:04 p.m. on January 6, 2020 via teleconference by David Price.

Present

Jon Hitchcock
Terry Ann Miller
Ruth Ann Neal
Erik Nelson
Ron Nelson
David Price
Tamar Stieber
Larry Zentner

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 18, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously with the following corrections:

- changed Erik Nelson from absent to present;
- changed the Department of Public Safety (DPS) funding for ESCAPE from \$3,600 to \$3,800; and
- added late-arriving information to the treasurer's report.

Old Business

◆ Communications

- *Action Item: Tamar made a motion, seconded by Larry and approved without objection, to submit the following clarification/addition to the Communications Report in the minutes of the November 18, 2019 meeting:*

“Ron reported the following:

- The new SAR repeater list is almost ready and, with Erik's help, we will be getting it out soon to members, as well as getting a new repeater map

online. About 30 repeaters have been added, and several that are off the air have been removed.

- There are two new models of digital-plus-analog hand-held radios that are being used: one by New Mexico Mounted Search and Rescue (TYT MD-UV390) and one by Santa Fe Search and Rescue (Anytone AT-D878UV). The Anytone includes APRS GPS tracking beacons. Both are good radios. We plan to make the programming “codeplugs” available to the Council.
- The exercise that Al Webster and others organized on the prior Saturday used Civil Air Patrol aircraft with VTAC37 on-board repeaters. Ron attended the exercise and heard IDs from other repeaters on the VTAC37 receive frequency. The other repeaters were identified positively as state public safety communication (PSIC) repeaters. In consultation with Larry Zentner, it was determined that switching from VTAC37 to VTAC36 frequency pair for the CAP/SAR repeaters would avoid the interference. This could avoid conflicts in events where both DHSEM and SAR resources are deployed. Larry and the Civil Air Patrol will take the lead on making the change, and it will be disseminated on the Forum. There may be one or more teams who have their own VTAC37 repeaters that may incur expenses to convert.
- There were no questions or comments.”

◆ Insurance

- Discussion about directors’ and officers’ insurance for the board was again tabled pending receiving quotes from insurance companies.

◆ ESCAPE

Among the topics discussed were:

- that funding from the DPS dropped from two years prior;
- how much to charge for registration;
- that an estimated 225 people will attend;
- the costs for lodging and meals and getting pictures of the rooms to put on the website;
- PayPal fees;
- vendors;
- who the guest speaker will be;
- \$1,100 is budgeted for the speaker’s stipend, lodging and fees;
- scheduling of field trainings and classes is in progress;
- 2018 ESCAPE at Philmont showed an over-expenditure of \$3,300 for the band;
- the silent auction software is a worthwhile expense;
- fundraising will offset any overruns and should start shortly; and
- how best to ensure that payments for ESCAPE and other fees are credited to the right teams.

Membership Report

Among the topics discussed were:

- the team status list has been updated and renewals are good;
- the teams that are not renewing are those that are struggling;
- the Council should seek out new teams but not before updating the website; and
- when and how to update the membership web page.

Treasurer's Report

Among the topics discussed were:

- Wells Fargo:
 - The bank reimbursed the Council for two fraudulent charges in its account.
 - All funds have been moved from the breached account to a new account.
 - The only charges the Council will incur are for new checks.
- YTD financials:
 - Net Income
 - G&A—\$527.24
 - Membership—\$1,056.16
 - ESCAPE
 - Unchanged since last report:
 - \$5,321 shortfall is due to lower silent auction revenues in 2019
 - Total Assets:
 - \$47,087.99 carries over into the future
- Questions/Comments:
 - A \$100 fee to the Attorney General's Office was for amending a form after the due date.

Training Report

Among the topics discussed were:

- a draft request for training proposals, including how best to disseminate it;
- a proposed helicopter training in March in south-central New Mexico, possibly in or near Socorro; and
- swiftwater training.

Communications Report

Among the topics discussed were:

- the new repeater list and map are on the Council's website and will be posted within a day or two on the forum;
- Ron will teach two communications classes at ESCAPE and will give a ham radio license exam; and
- Ron will consider teaching a communications course outside of ESCAPE sometime in the future.

Questions/Comments/Other

- Minutes:
 - The board requested that meeting minutes be truncated and submitted for review within 15 days after a meeting.
- Interim Meetings/Votes:

- The board will vote via email on ESCAPE registration fees within two weeks.
- The board will consider holding an interim meeting, possibly in mid-February, to finalize other pressing ESCAPE matters, including the budget.
- In the past, the board has met immediately prior to the opening of ESCAPE at the venue and will considering doing so this year at Philmont.

New Business

- ◆ There was no new business.

Adjournment

- ◆ There being no further business before the council, the NMSARC board meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m. by David Price.

Next Meeting

- ◆ The next NMSARC board meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via teleconference.

Minutes submitted by:

Tamar Stieber, Board Secretary