

Agenda: New Mexico Search and Rescue Council

Saturday, August 27, 2011

Location: KAFB Civil Air Patrol

Present: Tom Bemis, Larry Zentner, Eric Hjelmfelt., Brian Hamilton, John Gallegos, Cindy Oliver, Nate Lay

Absent: Joe San Filippo, Gerry Runte, Bob Cort, Pat Seiser

I. Call to Order: Call to order at 1005. Mark Smith, Commander of NM CAP, welcomed us to their space, recognizing us as a valuable resource for SAR. He offered us support from the CAP to be utilized on missions as needed. He recognized Larry Zentner's hard work with CAP on a network of CAP repeaters. Larry was given token of appreciation.

II. Minutes from last meeting: It was moved by Tom to approve the meetings from last meeting, Nate 2nd. Unanimously approved

III. Treasurer's Report: A check for \$1517.37 was received from Hot Springs Desert Crawler. This team is disbanding because of a lack of missions and they donated their left over funds to the council. There was also a contribution check of \$100 thanking the council for a search in the Santa Fe area. John reported for Bob who was not present. The ESCAPE account has \$19009.83; ING Direct \$5289.74; NMESC \$5017.94; Savings \$1809.23 for a total of \$31126.74. A check has been issued with a down payment for ESCAPE at Glorietta in May, 2012. It was motioned by Nate and 2nd by Tom to approve the treasurer's report. Unanimously approved.

IV. Committee Reports

A. ESCAPE Report: John is making a 10% deposit to Glorietta Conference Center for ESCAPE 2012. There was a discussion about getting reimbursed for mileage for attending ESCAPE. Bob Rodgers has stated that he will not be reimbursing mileage this year's ESCAPE. It will be addressed as ESCAPE planning continues. Brian will have a discussion for clarification with Bob Rodgers about this issue. John showed that the ESCAPE page has been updated on council web site with links to sponsors. John is working on all the agreements with Glorietta. He has reserved 38 queen rooms, 15 king deluxe rooms and 97 double rooms for Friday and Saturday nights and also there are a few rooms reserved for Thursday night also for early arrivals. Camping is available. Looking at catering 2 meals again. John is working on options. Eric puts out two ideas for speakers: one is Tom Ribe. He wrote the book, Inferno which is a book about the Cedro Grande fire. He also suggests Craig Childs who has done extensive hiking in Chaco Canyon and the 4 corners area following the ancient paths of the Chaco ancestors. We are also going to consider having our DPS secretary Eden back again. Following discussion, Eric will contact Tom Ribe and John will contact Secretary Eden to have them back.

B. Training Report: Larry reports that on Aug 13th, a mock search was hosted in Rio Rancho, NM. It was well attended, all teams interoperated well. All significant training objectives were met. Brian also reports that the mock mission went really well. From the base camp stand point there went well. Good mentoring was done for those who were learning how to operate from base camp. There were 14 teams and 6 air crafts. Eric reports that there is a Team Leader 1 training in Tijeras, NM, Sept 10 and 11, field certification test offered on Sept. 24th in Santa Fe and a "table top practice for section chiefs" on Sept 24th in Santa Fe. Grant Co SAR is planning a big state wide mock search in the Fall. Also Eric is wanting to plan an avalanche safety training the first week of Dec. and a classroom presentation on how to be a team leader. Eric would like to plan a mock search in Philmont and he would also like to present the riverbank training again in the spring, since last year's was interrupted by a real search. He suggests that we have a classroom presentation on Saturday and then a riverbank mock search on Sunday. He would also like for each board member to plan a council training in their district. There was discussion about presenting how to use specialty teams this fall, also. Opportunity to buy council merchandize will be offered at all trainings. Larry proposed that trainings be made available through the web sites of presentations that have been put together by trainers. The presentation would be reviewed by a committee to make sure that it is appropriate to be opened to the SAR community, copyright laws are not violated, and it is OK'd by the person who put the presentation together to post to the SAR public.

C. Membership Report: Brian reports that membership continues to be stable. Some teams have folded because of lack of missions, however, new teams continue to become members of the council. Brian sent out a list of liaison teams to council board members. He generated it by region for each member. He encourages us to contact teams and get them to sign up for the NMSARC forum and NMSARC email account. Dona Ana County Sheriff has

contacted Brain to find opportunity for training with other teams in their area. There is a new team in Farmington that Brian has been helping to organizing. Brian would like to prorate their initial membership fee. Eric moves to have the the initial membership fee for team teams be prorated as them join in the year. Nate 2nd, unanimously approved. All renewals will not have the opportunity for prorating of their fee. Tom indicated that he has been talking to NM Guard SAR to join NMSARC. Those teams that are not members of the NMSARC are not usually active teams at this point. Brian is going to work more at getting the Natl. Guard, El Paso Sheriff Dept, etc to join.

D. Newsletter / Public Relations: Joe has finished a draft of the newsletter and is waiting for a report that Brian will have after a meeting with Bob Rodgers and he would like to put in an article from the president.

E. Training Directory: Nate reports that he will be encouraging liaison teams to tell us what their specialties may be and provide us with information about what trainings they can provide. We have a data base started from ESCAPE instructors. John will send Nat instructor information so that he can contact them to see if they might be interested in being part of the training directory.

F. Website: There are some inconsistencies on some of the links. Eric will attempt to look at the website and look for those inconsistencies to send them to our we master. Other board members will also look for errors and send them to Eric. Gerry created a council Facebook page for our use.

G. Fundraising: plans for the future: Everyone is participating in this and no fundraising has been done.

H. SAR Review Board update: A letter was sent to the Governor. and also to Secretary Eden in regards to the review board. There has been no response to that letter at this point. Gerry has also talked to Bob Rodgers about getting the review board up and going again. It has not moved forward to have the review board re-convene. Brian proposes that he continue to be diligent to talk to the Governor and Secretary Eden about the board.

I. Mapping: Tom reports has printed 3300 maps to date. The account balance is \$3256.22

V. Old Business

A. SAR License plate: Larry moves to make the SAR license plate a fundraiser plate, it was 2nd by Nate. After discussion about making the plate available to the public. It was approve unanimously.

B. Facebook: This was talked about with the website. Gerry has created a council Facebook for our use.

VI. New Business

A. Goals/Direction for the Year: Brain headed a discussion on the direction of the board, getting the board to give him input. Nate stated training should be continued to be provided. Larry would like for it to be clear to the members teams what they get for their membership by providing high quality trainings around the state. John states that the teams need to be heard from from the council. The council's responsibility to "cheerlead" the teams on to keep them motivated. The council will continue to contact their liaison teams and keep them motivated and have them feel more involved in the council. As possible, the council will show up to meetings of liaison teams. Tom suggests that the council be the eyes and ears of other trainings in their area such as ICS trainings or from emergency operation agencies. Make ourselves more visible to state.

B. Repeater Upgrade: The prototype portable repeater was put up and he has radios that can be field programable. The repeater has performed well in the heat. In the field the battery will need to be replaced every 24-36 hours on VHF. He has found a radio that would have more possibilities for communicating with other agencies. The purpose/proposal of the this repeater is to get the state moving to buy the portable repeaters. There is some money for this from the state. The total cost is about \$1300 for a cross-band portable repeater. This repeater can also be transported for trainings. Eric moves that we authorize \$525 to buy three radios to use with the repeaters, Nate 2nd, unanimously approved.

C. Other: Larry suggested having a uniform recognition patch or tag that the council sponsors. Have logo, name, team, call sign and on back have emergency information. Introduce it at

ESCAPE this year. He will look into costs and logistics to do this. He will report at next meeting.

D. Paraglider Guidelines: John brought the guidelines that were written by a paraglider team in ABQ. Board members have made suggest for small revisions that John will send to them and will re-present it to the board for approval before they are posted on the website. A disclaimer will also be posted to say that these are suggestions posted by teams.

E. Next Meeting Location/Date: Our next meeting will be in October 8, 2011 at 6:00pm in Las Cruces. Location TBD.

VII. **Adjourn:** It was moved by Nate and 2nd by Tom unanimously approved to adjourn at 1435.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Oliver
NMSARC Secretary