

New Mexico Search and Rescue Council  
General Meeting Agenda  
Ruidoso, NM  
0800, May 14, 2011

I. Call to Order, Welcome, Introduction of Guests: Phyllis Wright convened the meeting at 0815. She introduced Bob Rogers and Mike Valverde. She then introduced the current Board of Directors. She asked teams to introduce themselves so that we would know which teams were represented. Each team called out its name. She thanked our sponsors for their financial support, listed the vendors attending and encouraged everyone to visit them. Phyllis honored SAR members we have lost in the last year. We offered a moment of respect and silence. This past year, the Council offered trainings every month. We are going to continue to be vigilant to offer trainings.

II. Minutes from 2010 ESCAPE General Meeting: Cindy Oliver, Secretary, requested approval of the minutes of the 2010 General Meeting which were included in the team packets. A motion to accept was made by Bob Cowan, 2nd by Richard Swartz. Unanimously approved.

III. Treasurer's Report: Bob Cort reported the following balances: ESCAPE: \$23,666.96; ING account: \$5286.06; Checking \$2601.40; Savings: \$1808.93. A motion to accept was made by San Miguel SAR, 2nd by Bob Cowan. Unanimously approved.

IV. Board Elections: Phyllis announced that there were 2 vacancies and 2 nominations made prior to the meeting for Board seats. Nominations were then opened from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor. The 2 candidates, Joe San Filippo and Larry Zentner, introduced themselves. Richard Swartz moved to accept the votes by acclamation, San Miguel SAR 2nd. Unanimously approved. Congratulations to new Board members.

V. Committee Reports

A. ESCAPE & Introduction of Instructors: John Gallegos, ESCAPE Chair thanked all of the instructors for their time and effort to make ESCAPE a success. He then thanked those who organized each track. John thanked those organizing the silent auction. He discussed each item of information in the registration packets. There have been 227 registrations this year.

B. Training Chair Report: Eric Hjelmfelt stated that the big thrust this year has been to provide support and sponsor trainings. NMSARC has offered a training every month. Eric mentioned each of the trainings NMSARC sponsored throughout the state this last year. He encouraged the SAR community to use NMSARC's Training Directory so that we can use all of our independent resources. Brian Hamilton said there will be a state wide mock search August 13th with all search team types participating and multiple operational periods. Also, survival and communication trainings will be offered in the south later this year. In December there will be an avalanche skills training.

C. Publicity Information Officer & Newsletter Chair Report: Pat Seiser was unable to attend the meeting. Phyllis reported on her behalf that there are 2 newsletters on the web site, and soon Pat will post a new newsletter.

D. Membership Chair Report: Brian Hamilton reported that we have increased to 41 member teams. Each team has a liaison with the Board. The liaisons are listed on the web site.

He encouraged teams to contact their Board liaisons because they will help keep everyone up to date with what is happening with the NMSARC and ensure that everyone's voice is heard.

E. Map Program Liaison Report: Bob Cowan prints these maps. In the registration packet is a form showing how to order a map. Bob stated that in the past year there were 917 maps printed on the water proof paper and 2510 printed on regular paper for a total of 3527 maps. There is a balance of \$3122.82 in the map budget.

F. Treasurer Chair Report / Proposed Budget: NMSARC Treasurer, Bob Cort, proposed a Gross Income of \$20,750 with expenses totaling \$20,750 for the upcoming 2011-12 budget.

G. Fundraising Chair Report: Nate Lay, Fundraising Chair, thanked everyone for the group effort it took to provide silent auction items for ESCAPE. He encouraged teams to look for fundraising ideas that would help raise the money to support NMSARC services.

H. Training Directory Report, Website, Facebook & Forum: Phyllis encouraged team members to share their expertise in the Training Directory and to utilize the Directory. She recommended that everyone use the NMSARC web site for resources and information. She also recommended the NMSARC Facebook page, accessible to everybody. Instructions for using Facebook are in ESCAPE packets. She also encouraged members to join the SAR forum and announced that NMSARC is looking closely at Titter as another option for communication.

I. Field Certification Report: This year, John Gallegos reported that we have certified over 200 searchers all over the state. He encourages EVERYONE to take the Field Certification examination to become a stronger searcher. The Certification Guide is on the website. The Council will make exams available whenever they are needed.

J. SAR Review Board Representative Report: Gerry Runte introduced himself as the outgoing SAR RB Representative. The past year has been an active year for the SAR Review Board. He talked about what the Board is and explained their mission according to the NM SAR Act. He identified members of the SAR RB. The Governor appoints members to the Board. He discussed the recommendations made by the Chief in the 6/24/10 meeting. NMSARC was tasked to step up the frequency of the Field Certification classes and to provide recommendation to improve the repeater network, both of which tasks NMSARC has addressed successfully. Gerry announced that Steve Crawford will be the NMSARC representative for the upcoming SAR Review Board term, pending gubernatorial appointment. He introduced Steve.

## VI. Business

A. The Future of SAR in NM: Phyllis introduced Bob Rogers who encouraged all members to find him and talk to him at ESCAPE. He will make himself available. He begins his new job Monday, May 16th.

B. Project Lifesaver: Chris McCaffrey is offering a class at ESCAPE about searching for persons with Alzheimer's. Phyllis spoke on his behalf and recommended his class.

C. Next Year's ESCAPE Location: Gerry Runte announced that our next ESCAPE will be at Glorieta Conference Center on May 4,5, and 6, 2012.

D. Outgoing Board Members: David McLaughlin and Phyllis Wright will be leaving the NMSARC Board this year. Tom Bemis presented them with plaques.

E. Ralph Dawdy Memorial Award: The Ralph Dawdy award was presented to Chuck Melvin by Phyllis Wright.

F. Special Award: Phyllis awarded a plaque to John Gallegos who has put his heart and soul into this ESCAPE conference. She also awarded Mike Valverde a plaque for his commitment to NM SAR as the interim Resource Officer.

G. Voting Results: Joe San Filippo and Larry Zentner were elected to the Board by acclamation.

H. We learned that Secretary Eden will not be able to present this evening because of a family emergency. Pat Seiser, Bob Rogers and Tom Bemis will substitute a cave rescue presentation and training they led in Costa Rica this past month.

I. Door Prize Contest: Door prizes for ESCAPE were provided by Durham Communications, Search Gear, Philmont's Tooth of Time Traders, and NMSARC. Tickets for the General Meeting were drawn, and the prizes were awarded.

VII. Meeting Adjourn: A motion was made by Richard Swartz, 2nd by San Miguel SAR, to adjourn the meeting. It was unanimously approved at 0935.

Respectfully Submitted:

Cindy Oliver,  
NMSARC Secretary