



New Mexico Search and Rescue Council
General Meeting Minutes
Pojoaque, NM
0800 May 5, 2012

Present: Eric Hjelmfelt, John Gallegos, Bob Cort, Cindy Oliver, Tom Bemis, Larry Zentner, Nate Lay
Absent: Joe San Filippo

I. Call to Order, Welcome, Introduction of Guests: Meeting is called to order at 0815. Eric comments that the SAR review board is still being formed in the state. He states that we need members to give their input to the direction of SAR and he would also like input for a proposed budget for the next year. There is about \$50,000 dollars that will be provided to SAR and Eric feels it should be put toward trainings. Eric asks for members to consider a term on the board to help facilitate all the positive changes that are happening in our community.

II. Minutes from 2011 ESCAPE General Meeting: It is moved by Steve Crawford and 2nd by Joe Stehling to approve the meeting minutes from 2011. Unanimously approved. It was stated by a member to quickly post the meeting minutes and also to send them out on the SAR Forum.

III. Treasurer's Report: ESCAPE fund: \$13881.09; ING: \$5324.53; NMESC Checking: \$5573.72; NMESC Savings: \$1809.70; A loss of -\$6212.2 is posted because of costs for ESCAPE this year. He asks for input into what members are interested in for ESCAPE venues. The loss will probably be made up by late registrations. It was moved by Richard Swartz and 2nd by Joanne Sprenger that the treasurer's report be approved and 2nd by Pat Seizer. Unanimously approved.

IV. Fallen Heroes: Isaac Garcia, Atalaya, SAR; Paul McClendon of Santa Fe SAR; Diego, K9 with Sandia Search Dogs, handler Katy Lindberg; John Harrington, San Miguel County SAR; Don Mason.

V. Board Elections: Tom Bemis comes forward to talk about board members; 3 year term; 6 members were nominated (one name of eventually was withdrawn by the nominee). There was a motion to close the nomination by Richard Swartz and 2nd by Joe Stehling. Unanimously approved. The nominees then introduced themselves.

VI. Committee Reports

A. ESCAPE & Introduction of Track Leads: John thanks the board, the track leads, instructors, vendors, and sponsors for organizing and supporting ESCAPE, 2012. He gave special recognition to Carolyn Scarborough, Carrie Hale, Una Smith, Phyllis Wright, and Barbara Zavriskie for their special contributions to this year's ESCAPE. It was all a very fantastic success this year! This year there is a record 217 registrants.

B. Training Chair Report: Larry asks that the members speak up about interest in trainings this next year. There is a National Plans SAR Course coming to NM April, 15-19, 2013. There is information on the National Coast Guard website and also the link will be posted on the NMSARC website. This is limited to 20 people. The training is oriented to plans/section chief training. The Rescue Organization also has a course



coming. Larry acknowledged the teams that have hosted a mock search with 2 or more teams participating together. He wants to continue collaboration amongst teams. He asks teams to post trainings on the website so that others can participate. Please encourage joint trainings. He states that it is our long term goal for teams to meet national standards for our SAR community.

C. Publicity Information Officer Report: Eric is helping to populate facebook page and also a twitter account for SAR.

D. Membership Chair Report: There are 38 member teams.

E. Map Program Liaison Report: Bob Cowan reports that 994 maps have been printed on waterproof paper and 2675 have been printed on regular paper for balance for a total of 3669 maps printed since we began this program. The map program has a balance of \$3168.

F. Communications Chair Report: Tom reports about switching to narrow banding on July 1, 2012. So, he says to program narrow banding channels into your radios now if you haven't done so in order to make the change immediate on July 1. The council has funded a proto type repeater for the state to buy and get in place.

G. Treasurer Chair Report / Proposed Budget: The proposed budget for the next year which is based on what we spent this last year. It is the following: member dues: \$2000.00; ESCAPE \$20,000; Merchandize: \$1800; Fundraising: \$7000; Interest \$30.

H. Training Directory Report: Nate reports that the training directory is for instructors/experts in our SAR community who can go out and help train skills with other teams. Please contact the council and we can help you get in contact with someone who can help you train. Also we are incorporating a speakers bureau to help out when an outside agency would like someone to come and talk to them about SAR.

VII. Business

A. SAR Budget Working Group: Gary Cascio from the SAR budget working group reports that he has gotten a lot of feedback from members about the SAR budget that is going to the state. The group met with DPS and state police on April 15, 2012. Chuck Baker, Eric Hjermfelt, Gary Cascio, Bob Rogers, the State Police Major and Dep. Casaus from the state police were in attendance. The budget is now \$50,000 for each year. Insurance is not taken out of that budget and the state is looking at providing us with a better insurance policy. The budget is dedicated to fuel reimbursement and helping out with trainings. The state would like a list of items/trainings we need to properly perform search and rescue. This can include bringing in instructors from other states. So, contact Gary if you have any thoughts or ideas about the budget. Also he also invites more members to participate on the budget working group. There is an email list for the group at nmsar-funding@googlegroups.com.

B. Next Year's ESCAPE Location: Ruidoso, NM May 10 - 12, 2013

C. Outgoing Board Members: Tom Bemis, and John Gallegos are leaving the board so were awarded a plaque for their service to the board.

D. Ralph Dawdy Memorial Award: The Ralph Dawdy award was awarded to Gary Cascio.



E. Special Recognition: Eric awarded a special plaque to John Gallegos for his contribution to ESCAPE for the past 2 years.

F. Voting Results: It was moved by Joe Stehling and 2nd by Mary Walker that we accept the 5 nominations by acclamation. Unanimously approved. The new board members are Max Gallegos, Una Smith, Al Webster, Karon Avery and Edwin Steimling.

G. Door Prize Contest

VIII. Closing Comments

IX. Meeting Adjourn: Eric adjourns the meeting at 1011.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Oliver
NMSARC Secretary