

**New Mexico Emergency Services Council
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
February 7, 2009**

The meeting was held at District 5 State Police Headquarters, Albuquerque.

Attending: Dave Baldrige, Gary Cascio, Steve Crawford, Brian Fuller, Tony Gaier, Kitty Mason, Dave McClard, Richard Swartz, Robert Valdez, Phyllis Wright, and Gail Zimmerman.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Cascio at 10:00 a.m.

II. Minutes from Last Meeting: The minutes of the December 6, 2008, Board Meeting were approved by e-mail on December 24, 2008.

III. Board Replacement: Gail made a motion (Phyllis 2nd) to accept Dave McClard and Steve Crawford to fill the two vacancies on the board. The positions to be filled until the elections at ESCAPE. Approved unanimously.

IV. Treasurer's Report: Richard presented the current account balances (ESCAPE account \$13,443.⁷¹, ING Direct \$5,162.⁷⁵, checking \$3,128.⁸⁰, Savings \$3,306.²⁷) and a list of the transactions. There are expenses for ESCAPE that will be coming up. A motion was made by Steve, seconded by Robert, the Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously. An additional \$100 donation was received from the Putman/Fehl search. There were 12 teams involved, a check will be written and mailed to each of the teams.

V. Committee Reports

- A. Training:** Winter skills class currently has about 25 people signed up for the class. The class will be held at Mt Taylor. Classes will include snowmobiles, snow shoeing, avalanche training, K-9 classes, medical trainings, and basic winter skills. No fee will be charged to the participants. The USFS limits the attendees to 75 people. Directions will be sent out to all participants. Richard made a motion (Gail 2nd) to pay mileage at \$0.32 per miles to instructors if requested (approved unanimously). Steve made a recommendation to have a yearly winter skills class planned for a typical time of year. In addition it was agreed to conduct a desert skills training in the south sometime in August or September.
- B. Membership:** Robert reported that we have 20 teams that have sent in their membership applications. There is a new team from Gallup, Open Sky SAR team. The team wants to join NMESC but did not submit the membership dues. In addition, open sky requested the board give them the equipment that was donated by Sacred Mountain SAR. Steve made a motion to decline the application and state that the equipment requested will be raffled at ESCAPE. Richard modified the motion that the application will be accepted when the team sends the annual dues to NMESC. Modifications to motion accepted by Steve. Robert will let the team know that they will need to pay the dues to be a member team. No vote is required for the actions to be taken. There was a discussion regarding the membership application, it was agreed to delete item "a" and "b" from the last paragraph of the application.

- C. Newsletter / Public Information Officer:** See brochure under old business.
- D. Mapping Program:** Gary stated that there was nothing new to report.
- E. Website:** Gary will be revising the web site. More photos. Gary will provide an outline of a new web site and send to the board members to provide any comments.
- F. Fundraising:** Tony reported that he had spoken with the United Way regarding funding requests. They will be sending an application.
- G. P.A.C.E.:** No report.
- H. SAR Review Board:** Gail reported the status of the SAR review board. The primary contact and person responsible for the scheduling of the SAR review board is James Newberry. The SAR review board has not scheduled a meeting and has not met for a couple of years. Gail will make some phone calls regarding a meeting and draft a letter from the board.

VI. Old Business

- A. Training Resource Directory:** The training directory is being developed.
- B. ESCAPE:** Meals will be served at the lodge by Charlie Beaver BBQ. Lunch will be \$8.95 per person. Tea and coffee will be provided for breaks by the lodge. Registration information will be posted on the web site within the next couple of weeks. At the lodge the rooms are \$89 per night and there are a variety of room types. The lodge will accept K-9 for this event. Additional information and links on the NMESC web site: (1) Ruidoso Visitors guide (2) David Scott-Donelan (3) restaurants guide (4) Camping guide. There will be a SAR horse trainer to do a training on Saturday. The Forest Service has agreed to host the SAR horse training and SAR K-9 training at Cedar Creek Park. Phyllis will look into places for stabling horses during ESCAPE. The SAR K-9 track will have a parallel training that will involve one-on-one training with instructor, handler and K-9. The golf course will allow the use of one of the sand traps for use in tracking training. Parks and Recreation will allow the use of the soccer fields as a landing zone for the helicopters. There is a potential of having three (3) helicopters. Dave M. will be assisting with the Air Ops and coordination of the landing zone and other requirements. The convention will be assembling the gift bags. Gary will be organizing the SAR stuff for the bags. Kitty will find out the current inventory of gift items that Don Stone has in his possession. Earlier registration fees \$60 for member teams and \$65 non-member. The fees will increase by \$5 after April 1st. Vendors – Search Gear and Sportsman Warehouse depends upon the economy, SW Antenna is still a possibility. Room availability based upon tracks, and vendors. The current classes may require starting earlier or adding an additional track. Border Patrol will be teaching tracking, cold weather, and swift water rescue. Another topic of SAR along water, searcher safety and body recovery was discussed as a possible class. Kitty will start to schedule the medical track. The medical track will provide the CE credits. Richard presented a budget for ESCAPE 2009. Kitty made motion (2nd Tony) to accept budget, approved unanimously. The

instructor reimbursement and registration fees were discussed. Phyllis will send information out to all the instructors regarding clarification of these items.

- C. **Donated Equipment:** The preliminary raffle rules were handed out for review and comments. Brian and Gary will try to work together and come up with a flyer for the different equipment groups. This will then be posted on the website. The previous owners of the trailer are still looking for the title of the trailer.

VII. New Business

- A. **Brochure:** Dave had provided a revised copy of the NMESC brochure and asked for comments. Discussed teams talking directly to the media and the potential impact. Reviewed the draft of the information for the brochure. Dave will revise based upon the comments and provide to the board members for further review.
- B. **Council Name:** Discussion of changing the name from NMESC to New Mexico Search and Rescue Council. The name is already in the by-laws. This name change would reflect more of who the council represents. This name change would mean the NMESC would be operating as a dba and according to our current by-laws.
- C. **Policy and Procedures:** Gail is requesting comments on the existing policy and procedures. The revisions will clean up the format, remove any discrepancies, and to update the wording.
- D. **Thank You:** Kitty read a thank-you letter that was received from a search in Gallup.
- E. **Future Meeting Dates:**
 - 1. March 14, 2009 - 10:00 a.m. Albuquerque (canceled on 2-13-09)
 - 2. April 5, 2009 – 12:00 a.m. Ruidoso
- F. **ESCAPE 2010:** It was requested that each board member do some research into possible locations and bring to the next meeting.

VIII. Adjourn: On a motion by Robert, (2nd Dave M.), the meeting was adjourned at 1:09 p.m.

Submitted by:

Brian Fuller, Secretary