

**Agenda: New Mexico Search and Rescue Council**  
**Saturday , April 9, 2011**  
**Ruidoso Convention Center**

**In Attendance:** Phyllis Wright, Cindy Oliver, Tom Bemis, John Gallegos, Nate Lay, Brian Hamilton, Eric Hjelmfelt, Gerry Runte, Pat Seiser, David MacLaughlan, Bob Cort

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Phyllis at 1:50pm after a tour of the Ruidoso Convention Center.

**II. Minutes from last meeting:** The minutes were approved on line prior to the meeting.

**III. Treasurer's Report:** Account balance in ESCAPE is \$24,946.03, ing account is 5,286.06, NMESC, \$3506.37 and Saving has \$1,808.93. It was moved by Pat and 2nd by Eric to approve the report: unanimously approved.

**IV. Resource Officer's Report:** There will interviews of 9 candidates will be help Monday April 11, 2011. The interview committee will send their recommendation to Sec. Eden who will make the decision.

**V. Committee Reports**

**A. Training Reports:** Navigation training in Las Cruces went well in February. April 16th will be Riverbank training in ABQ. 30 people will be taking part in this training. More interest in navigation training. July possibly will be a NM survival training. August 13th will be a state wide mock search in the ABQ area. All aspects of SAR will be utilized with 2 operational periods. December avalanche training is being organized. Gerry suggests that there will be talk of trainings during the open forum on Friday night of ESCAPE.

**B. ESCAPE Report:** Rooms are purchased for guests and vendors when they check in on Thursday evening prior to ESCAPE. We have two free nights and round of golf at the Lodge. We will apply the package to the silent auction as per the majority of input from the board. Phyllis will call Steve Crawford about an insurance waiver. There are a couple of brochures of NMSARC to put into registration packets. We will decide which one to put into the packets. John as contact Arcteryx, but no response. No helicopter, but paraglider will be there. Nate is going to look into get a helicopter from Southwest Medivac and also John will contact the state to get 606 here. Still looking for sponsors that are a approved vendor of the convention center. Outside food is only allowed upon approval by the convention center. There are outfitter stores in Alamogordo and possibly in Roswell that may donate to ESCAPE. John will send a flyer to Tony Davis (our local helper from White Mountain SAR with ESCAPE) to get around the local community. Camping info: the closest local camping opens up on May 15th, but may open early for our campers in ESCAPE. Tony will keep up on this information However, we need to watch for forest closures. The climbing wall is confirmed and will be indoor. The plaques for the outgoing board members have been ordered. There are press releases ready to be posted at the appropriate time closer to ESCAPE. Phyllis is going to contact "New Mexico Today", after Pat gives her the contact information, to do a piece on ESCAPE. They usually do a piece a couple of weeks prior to the event. Tony continues to help John with volunteers to help. WMSAR is sponsoring a State Police Officer to come to ESCAPE. Tony is working at possibly getting the Girl Scouts to take a part in the conference by having them have a booth to sell cookies and then letting them observe part of the conference. After discussion, Bob moves that the Scouts be allowed to have a booth, and be allowed in the exhibit hall only as well as allowed to observe outside activities under leader supervision and as allowed by owners and handler of horses, dogs, etc. 2nd by Eric, and the motion is unanimously approved. Tony will contact the local girl scouts. Member packets has member benefits, course bio and schedule, welcome letter from Phyllis, ESCAPE critique form, name tags and lanyards, silent auction info, board nominees and resumes, radio license, sponsor trainings, map information, how to sign up for the forum and publicize the forum, local coupons, NMSARC brochure, hard copy of the newsletter, and more goodies. All projectors and screens need to brought by NMSARC members. Instructors are also wanting flip charts. John states that we could buy white boards if the convention center will not supply paper and easels. Send slides to John to display on screen during meals. Agency invitation are written and will be sent on Tuesday from Phyllis. 147 are currently registered for ESCAPE. All donated gear from St. Johns needs to be brought to ESCAPE. Each board member is required to bring 3 items for the silent auction. There will be 5 random door prizes. One will go to the first registration submitted. Please hit up local businesses for silent auction, door prizes, raffle items. The Ralph Dawdy award will be decided. Phyllis will have a plaque made. A mission number has been given to ESCAPE. All instructors are confirmed and coming. The T-shirts will have sponsors put on the T-shirt; our logo will also be put on it, and John will order \$500 worth of t-shirts. Patches, bumper stickers and buttons will be sold. There is \$300 for misc merchandise. The people registered early will get NMSARC patch, and the rest will get a NMSAR buttons. The caterer will be verified 2weeks prior to the conference. Mileage per diem will be announced by Phyllis at the conference. ESCAPE 2012--considering Ghost Ranch.

**C. Membership Report:** Currently have 41 team members of NMSARC. 2 new teams have joined and possibly one more new team from San Juan.

**D. Newsletter / Public Relations:** No newsletter for March. The good news is Pat will put together a newsletter next week to talk about ESCAPE and it will be submitted before ESCAPE. Brian is going to follow up on newsletter while Pat is out of town to try to get the letter in a timely manor. Pat is researching and updating the media list. Nate states that the state police may have media contacts. Ask Linda M. from DPS.

**E. Training Directory:** David sent out a letter to the forum about the training directory and has gotten 4 responses. A form will be put into the member packet at ESCAPE for members to fill out and report.

**F. Website:** ESCAPE links are fantastic. Dick Wagner is going on vacation for May so please submit before he leaves. Phyllis is going to put acronyms on website for definition. Bob states that plain text show be used with SAR communication so put a disclaimer with the definitions. Eric is talking to Dick about updating website once we get the new board.

**G. Fundraising: Progress Reports:** Nate is getting auction items such as fly fishing certificate, 2 ski passes from Angel Fire, Philmont is giving merchandise that we can use. Going face to face helps more than cold calling. John, Phyllis also have donations.

**H. Field Certification Report:** Over 200 new field certifications have been granted this past yer.

**I. SAR Review Board Report / Future:** There will not be a board meeting until the new Resource Officer is hired.

**J. Mapping:** Proceeding as usual

## **VI. Old Business**

**A. ESCAPE Instructor Stipends:** As soon as next ESCAPE location has been established, we will address this issue. We are considering changing instructor stipend to pay for registration fees instead of the \$100.

**B. Silent Auction:** Bring three things each from board and have teams donate

**C. Urban SAR forum:** There is money out there for urban SAR. We are looking at feedback from SAR community and will get feedback during the Friday forum at ESCAPE.

## **VII. New Business**

**A. Board email Addresses:** Gary is setting up email addresses for every SAR volunteer on nmsarc.org. SAR volunteers need to sign up these on their own. Contact Gary. It was suggested that there may be a team address for teams and an email directory.

**B. Ralph Dawdy Award:** Looked at nominations to make a decision for ESCAPE.

**C. SAR Review Board:** Our nominee needs to be made to the Resource Officer once one is hired. At this time there are 4 nominations. The nominations are Bob Baker, Steve Crawford, Tony Gaier, and Gerry Runte. It was moved by Tom to vote on the 4 candidates presented, 2nd by Pat. It was not approved by a vote of 5 to4. It was moved by Nate to open up the floor for more candidates and given a vote in May at the next meeting. Pat seconded the motion. After a discussion of qualifications of candidates. There was one abstention, one “no” vote and seven “yes” votes to approve the motion.

**D. SAR License Plate:** Two SAR license plates ideas have been forwarded to the DMV by two different designers. We want to be fair to both designers. The council would make a small amount of money for each license plate sold.

**VII. Adjourn:** It was motion by Bob to adjourned and seconded by Tom. Unanimously approved. The next meeting will be at ESCAPE on May 14th.