

Agenda: New Mexico Search and Rescue Council
Saturday, June 25, 2011
Bosque del Apache 1000

Present: Phyllis Wright, Tom Bemis, Cindy Oliver, Eric Hjelmfelt, Pat Seiser, Gerry Runte, Bob Cort, Larry Zentner, Joe San Filippo, Bob Rodgers, Brian Hamilton, John Gallegos. **Absent:** Nate Lay

I. Call to Order: Called to order at 1004 by Phyllis Wright

II. Minutes from last meeting: Bob Cort moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting, Tom 2nd the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Treasurer's Report: Bob presented the treasurers report. The ESCAPE account has \$19341.06; ING Direct Fund has \$5289.74; NMESC account has \$5710.64 and Savings has \$ 1808.99. Eric moved to approve report, Pat 2nd, and report unanimously approved. There was a receipt for \$70.90 for food supplies for the riverbank search techniques training in March. It was moved by Larry to reimburse Cindy for the purchase of food supplies and 2nd by Pat, and was unanimously approved.

IV. Resource Officer's Report: Bob explained his position as the new resource officer. He states that training is a very important aspect of NM SAR. He is asking the council to provide as many trainings as possible. Bob spoke that he is working on improving the field certification program and that he is working hard to improve SAR standards across the spectrum of the SAR community. He states that volunteers are the leaders of the SAR program and his job is to keep paperwork. He states that ESCAPE makes a significant dent in his budget and because of this, ESCAPE participants will no longer be reimbursed for mileage. No more mission # will be provided for ESCAPE. There is a budget for state trainings, equipment and missions for reimbursement. There will be a potential for ESCAPE reimbursement if there are proper goals and objects stated to DPS. He asks that ESCAPE instructors have the appropriate qualifications with paper backing to teach/instruct. Bob is concerned about liability issues with teams that are undertrained. He encourages teams to take advantage of trainings offered by the council. It was proposed that ESCAPE become a "sampler" of trainings with followup of trainings throughout the year. Bob is bringing back team and mission "typing". He is encouraging FCs to get to know his districts and teams in the districts (e.g., attending meetings of resources). There is no written standards at this point for SAR in NM. There is a sub committee that is working on the goals and standards for SAR and how to put them to use in NM. We will continue to work strongly and closely with the RO in order to improve our SAR skills/trainings. Bob requests the council's help.

V. Committee Reports

A. ESCAPE Report: John reports that ESCAPE was very successful this year. A 110 page mission report was submitted to the state. Ghost Ranch has been notified that we will not be going there. The evaluation sheets gave ESCAPE a, average approval of 4.67. The food was indicated as a "5". The lowest score was that it was difficult to hear presentations in several the meeting rooms in the convention center. One problem mentioned was that several classes were taking longer than instructors thought they would because of student participation was so high and many questions were being asked. There were a total of 205 registrations. 10-20% of registrations were walk-ins, there were 8 no shows. A total of \$1960.00 in walk-in registrations. The auction was very successful. It made \$3340.50. NMSARC merchandize made \$1744.00. There were 71 classes and 52 instructors. One small bill is pending from the convention center for misc small items. Pat suggests that we get a large banner in order to advertise ESCAPE on the road and to advertise that we exist. Other suggested ways to advertise would be to put a news story in the local newspaper. Bob will find a cost for the banner. Phyllis thanks everyone for their hard work. The website will be updated to show the highlights of ESCAPE for several years in running.

B. Training Report: Brian states that ESCAPE was the last training we offered. Larry suggested that we make trainings "joint." Phyllis states that this is the only kind of trainings that we do--i.e. one team usually will host the event with multiple teams participating. Coming up was a specialty team training in July. Brian is going to put this off until he can get the adequate commitment from teams that will present their specialty. A mock mission with approved mission # is Aug 13th. Brian is also looking for "professional" trainers to come to the state. However, it costs the participants more money to attend these events. "Strike Rescue" is interested in coming to ABQ to put on a training. Coming in Dec. is an avalanche beacon training and it will take place in the northern part of NM. Pat says she will contact a local person near Carlsbad who can train ATV and

maybe tracking. Border Patrol has also trained Mesilla Valley in ATV. Brian is also trying to put together a cave training, but right now the caves are closed. This will be done in the future (not in the summer). Tom would like a rigging rescue day for teams to work together on techniques and safety.

C. Membership Report: Brian reports that there continue to be 41 registered member teams. Bob reports there are 3 new teams Big Sky (McKinley County), So. NM SAR in Socorro, NM, and a mounted patrol in Farmington, NM. Resource Directory is separate from NMSARC member teams. Pat suggests that there be a weekend training for new teams to NMSAR. Brian will continue to look into that. A new liaison team list will be sent out soon soon.

D. Newsletter / Public Relations: Newsletter has not been put out. Pat is updating the PIO list. She recommends that Newsletter and PIO positions be separate.

E. Training Directory: Phyllis encourages that this directory really take off this year. It would provide information about each instructor and qualification. This would allow teams to find instructors in order to utilize these qualified people. Brian has a good list of team contacts to share to help with this directory.

F. Website: Gary Cascio and Dick Wagner are working the website. They make the changes on the website. Send what needs to be posted to these two people.

G. Fundraising: plans for the future: Nate is absent from the meeting today. Phyllis talked about the difficulties Nate had with fundraising this past year because he lives in a remote area of NM and it is difficult for him to make connections. She stated that he has done a great job.

H. Field Certification Report: There were 33 new Field Certifications at ESCAPE, 21 more on 5/16, 23 on 5/21, 10 this weekend in Ruidoso, and up to 12 in ABQ next weekend. Starting July 1st, ICS 200 is required in addition to ICS100 for field certification. The field certification program needs to be run through the RO office. There is not state requirement for participating in the Field Certification program. Individual teams have made it a requirement, but this is not from the state.

I. SAR Review Board update: Steve Crawford has been nominated. The committee is trying to reconvene. There is ambiguity as to when the next meeting is going to take place.

J. Mapping: Two more maps have been made since ESCAPE.

VI. Old Business

A. SAR License plate: A license plate has been proposed to the SAR community. One has been submitted to the council by Wilson Moore. Pat moves that the board consider by July 1st Wilson's plate design for possible submission to the DMV, Joe 2nd. Unanimously approved.

B. Board email addresses: Gary Cascio and Dick Wagner would like for the entire SAR community to use the NMSAR.org address through out the community. Phyllis asks for the board to sign-up for the email address.

VII. New Business

A. New Board positions/elections: Board elections were held. The following were voted into board positions by the board: President: Gerry Runte; Vice President/Membership: Brian Hamilton; Secretary: Cindy Oliver; Treasurer: Bob Cort; Training: Larry Zentner/Eric Hjelmfelt; ESCAPE: John Gallegos; Newsletter: Pat Seiser/Joe San Felippo; Training Directory: Nate Lay; PIO: Eric Hjelmfelt.

B. NMSARC Archivist position: This is a new position proposed by Phyllis to detail job positions/descriptions and archiving old records. This person would work as a historian/archivist/policy holder. After discussion, the board decided that people who have archival material will give it to the appropriate committee chair at the next meeting. At that time, a committee will be formed to put important archival information on the website. Procedural, policy, and history.

C. Board utilization of social media: Brain feels that the board should run or be able to access the face book page on the website or it needs to be clear that the face book page is not part of the council. Larry volunteers to work with Gary Cascio on the face book page on our website and also with Eric who has NMSAR twitter account. The board needs to know who has access to the website and whatever is posted needs to go through the board.

D. Misc. Tom express concern that our SAR frequency was used 155.160 for a fire and felt that this was a public safety issue for SAR. However, Bob stated that police and fire can use that frequency. The area commanders were notified. Gerry will right a letter to the appropriate frequency coordinator to express our concern about using that frequency.

VII. Adjourn: It was moved Pat by and 2nd by Bob that the meeting be adjourned at 1500. Unanimously approved. The next meeting will be August 27th in Albuquerque (place TBD) at 10am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Oliver
Secretary