



NMSARC BOARD MEETING AGENDA

4145 Cholla Rd, Las Cruces
17:00, November 10th, 2012

Present: Karon Avery, Eric Hjelmfelt, Joseph San Filippo, Cindy Oliver, Edwin Steimling, Nate Lay, Bob Cort

Absent: Una Smith, Larry Zentner, Max Gallegos

- I. Call to order--The meeting was called to order by Eric at 1708.
- II. Minutes from last Board meeting--There is one correction from the last meeting minutes. This is that Socorro SAR does exist and are active members of the council and in the Resource Directory. Joe moves to accept the minutes, Bob 2nd, unanimously approved.
- III. Treasurer's report--A check was received from the DPS for reimbursement of the tracking course presented in October. We were reimbursed \$3250 to cover 25 students. The instructor was initially paid \$3500 (\$150 each for 20 students plus \$50 each for 10 additional students), but because of student cancellations there ended up being 25 students. Because of this the council now has a \$250 credit with the instructor to put toward additional trainings. It was stated that Bob, Joe and Phyllis Wright are the signatories on the council checking account. Account balances ESCAPE: \$8112.62; ING Direct: \$5324.53; NMESC: \$2991.85; Savings: \$1809.83; Total: \$18238.83. Nate motions to accept the report, Edwin 2nd, unanimously approved.
- IV. Committee reports
 - A. ESCAPE--Karon and Edwin are going to be on a committee to help the chair, Una, organize ESCAPE. Joe asked that the council be informed about progress with putting ESCAPE together. This can be done through email.
 - B. Training Directory & Speaker's Bureau--Larry was not present for report.



- C. Membership & Liaison Allocations--We have had a new team join. East Mountain Search and Rescue out of Macintosh, NM. Cindy Oliver will be their board Liaison. Nate says that applications are ready to be sent out and he will be doing this within the next two weeks. He will keep us updated on renewals that come in. The applications will come to the Council PO Box. Cindy will send Nate the membership applications and Bob the checks.
- D. Fundraising--Larry was not present for fundraising report.
- E. Mapping Program--Bob Cowan has bought more printer paper out his budget and all others parts of the mapping are working well.
- F. Newsletter & Public Relations--Joe reports that a summer newsletter was written, but he did not get all the information he wanted to generate the newsletter. It was suggested that he feature East Mountain SAR in the next newsletter. Joe and Edwin will publish a late-fall edition of the newsletter. Joe would like a message from the chair and liaison assignments from Nate. Edwin states that he has been working on more colorful format for the newsletter.
- G. Website, FaceBook, Twitter--Eric reports that he is talking to many teams around the world using Twitter. On FaceBook it is OK to post events about what teams are doing, but it is not OK to talk about missions on which they have gone. Several SAR teams use FaceBook for their website. Eric is updating the website, so contact Eric if there is information that is wrong or needs to be re-written.
- H. SAR Review Board--The SAR Review Board met yesterday Nov. 9. Eric attended the meeting and offered the following verbal summary: According to his report of the meeting, Ruben Gonzalez was recruited to Area Commander. Tom Bemis is retired from Area Commander. East Mountain SAR was accepted into the resource directory, Pajarito Mtn SAR is accepted back into the resource directory. The board is not going to review the SAR Act at this time. They intend to review the SAR Plan and are going to get input from EMS agencies. Eric would also like specific input from our members to update the SAR Plan. Eric would like an article in the newsletter about this and for council members to contact liaison teams for input. This needs to be done and sent to Eric who will then compile the



information and send it to Bob Rodgers before the January 1st, 2013 deadline. The council and liaison teams are to comment on the SAR Plan. The policies and SOP (Standard Operating Procedures) have been approved by the Review Board. The board also talked about how to develop a due process for those that may need this for incidences that may occur. The state of Vermont has been talking to Bob Rodgers and they have decided to adopt our model of SAR. Eric will put on the NMSARC website a link to where Review board will be posting the minutes on the DPS site and when the board will re-convene.

V. Old business

- A. Training planning and coordination--Larry and Max are on this committee. A plan has been put together, however this plan only has ideas posted on it without specific trainings scheduled at this time. Upon subsequent review by the secretary, it was found that the training plan emailed to the council on 8/27/12 has a list of 7 prospective training activities with estimated costs, dates for those items when dates could be provided, and general times of the year for those for which dates cannot presently be predicted.
- B. RO proposed Policies and SOPs: We should be getting copies of these and they will be posted on our website or an appropriate link will be posted to find them on the DPS website. The policies and the SOPs have been approved by the SAR Review Board.
- C. Map SAR report (& mapping overlays to website): Karon reports this is still in progress and she is taking steps to continue. Eric would like the overlays to eventually be accessible on the website.
- D. Budget Committee: No new news.
- E. Repeater Project: Joe reports that the goal is to build 12 VHF repeaters, one for each NMSP district. The status of this is: one prototype is near completion; NMSARC provided a quote to the state which is outdated--he cost per unit was approximately \$2000; the state agreed to purchase the repeaters in lots of 4; Tom Bemis had made modifications to the design that are expect to reduce the cost to around on half of the original estimate; Tom will build the repeaters for the council and requires payment up front--the state would then purchase the repeaters from the council--the intent is to build four repeaters at a time; Tom reports that the



most economical solution is to provide VHF-in/VHF-out repeaters in lieu of cross-band repeaters--these will use SAR 2 and SAR 3. Joe will find out from Tom how much he needs to build a unit. Eric mentioned that if Tom Bemis was not able to build the repeater, there are people in Santa Fe who would be willing to build the repeaters. It was motioned by Joe to approve spending up to \$1000 and 2nd by Bob to provide Tom the money to produce the first sellable unit. Unanimously approved. We will then price them to sell them to the state.

- F. Narrow-banding/Radio licensing: Nothing to report in this area. Most teams seem to have made the change to narrow-banding. Eric asks Joe to put a note in the newsletter to make sure all teams have made the change to narrow-banding. Eric asks Joe also to come up with a list of all state ham repeaters likely to be useful for SAR missions. Bob Cort gave Joe a notice he received from Universal Licensing Service, a company that renews FCC licenses for organizations. The notice states that the council license for the 151.37 MHz frequency (state SAR #1) expires on 12/04/12. Since Tome Bemis recently (within the last couple of years or so) took care of licensing this frequency for narrow-band use for a period of 10 years, it is assumed that the notice is for the wide-band license, which is no longer needed. Joe will confirm this.

VI. New business

- A. Email forum issues and problems & teleconferencing: There have been issues with our email so council members have not been getting all emails. These have been fixed, but keep your eyes opened if you have not been getting emails. Eric has made Gary Casio and Dick Wagner administrators for the google groups to help with problems. Eric can use "go to meeting" or "skype" for teleconferencing. He thinks this may be an alternative for a meeting in case of bad weather.
- B. Use of BLM/NF land for trainings: It is up to the BLM to decide if a special permit or MLU is needed for trainings. The council needs to be more diligent to get the permit before an event occurs. BLM wants this to request for the permit at least 180 days prior to the event. Joe read that the BLM will make the decision if you need a permit or not. It is not necessarily the number of people involved in the event that requires the permit. Joe is planning to meet with BLM personnel to get the specifics on their regulations.



- C. NMESC master policy document: This policy has been adopted. Eric has received a copy via email.
- D. Trainings FC's and SC's in use of tracking resources: Search Management Course, Nov. 17 & 18 in Santa Fe; Lost Person Behavior, Dec 1 & 2 in Las Cruces; Section Chief Training in March, 2013, Field Team Leader Training, April, 2013 in Albuquerque, Lost Person, April, 2013; Inland SAR Training April 15-19, 2013 in Santa Fe.
- E. Possible Helicopter training: Discussion of possible helicopter training with State Police. State Police has expressed interest in helping with this possible training.
- F. New website training page: Eric would like input.
- G. New website media page: Eric would like input in this also.
- H. Departing members: Al Webster has resigned from the board. The council plans to vote in a new member in January. The new member would be on the board until ESCAPE in May and then would be voted in by the council membership. The new board member will be nominating board members.
- I. Ralph Dowdy Award: Eric would like nominations for this award. He will advertise it on the forum.
- J. Persons with physical handicapped being accepted on a team: Karon brought up a possible issue from one of her Liaison teams about accepting a person who is physically handicapped on a team. Are there any bi-laws to address this? Eric states that a person with a handicap should be welcomed on a team if they can do the job. Nate states that on a volunteer fire fighting team, you have to be able to perform the job at hand and that you have to pass a certain amount of physical fitness tests appropriate to the job, but it is up to the volunteer to know their limitations. Joe suggests having conversations with these persons with handicaps to find out how they will manage being in the field. Reasonable modifications can be made to accommodate persons with handicaps.
- K. Next board meeting location and date: The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 12, 2013 in Albuquerque at 1200.



VII. Adjourn: It was moved by Edwin and 2nd by Karon to adjourn the meeting at 1936. Unanimously approved.