

Subject to the Approval of the General Membership
May 2, 2009

**New Mexico Emergency Services Council
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
May 17, 2008
Glorieta Conference Center, Glorieta NM**

Welcome – The meeting was convened by President Gail Zimmerman at 8:15 a.m. After welcoming the attendees, she stated that comments on ESCAPE so far were good; then made some routine announcements.

Minutes from ESCAPE 2007 – Don Stone, Secretary, requested approval of the minutes of the 2007 General Meeting which were included in the team packets. On a duly made and seconded motion, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report – Richard Swartz, Treasurer and Membership Co-Chair reported the following balances: ESCAPE – 16,151.72; ING Direct - \$5,050.78; Checking - \$3,907.14; Savings - \$3,303.80; Total - \$28,413.44. He stated that some of the Savings Account was moved to ING Direct in order to earn a higher interest rate. On a duly made and seconded motion, the report was unanimously approved.

Committee Reports

Training – Tony Gaier, Training Chair and ESCAPE 2008 Co-Chair, reported that the December 2007 Boot Camp was successful. Another Boot Camp will be held during the same time frame in 2008. He stated that the Council can obtain a mission number allowing for fuel reimbursement and can provide seed money for multi-team mock searches.

Membership – Robert Valdez, Membership Co-Chair, reported that the Council has 35 member teams, including two teams from Colorado, and two individual members. Gail Zimmerman pointed out that teams may join the Council anytime throughout the year.

Mapping Program – Bob Cowen reported that the mapping program was started two and one-half years ago. Plain paper maps cost \$2.00 and waterproof maps, \$4.00. To-date 2402 maps have been printed; approximately 2/3 on plain paper and 1/3 on waterproof paper. There is \$2,667.00 in the map account and there is enough paper and ink to print approximately 500 additional maps. Bob stated that he can also print special or overlapping maps. To support missions, he can print 10 maps per hour and arrange to deliver them to Incident Base.

Website – Gary Cascio, Web Liaison, ESCAPE 2008 Co-Chair and Mapping Program Liaison, reported that improvements, including a calendar, which any member can use, have been made to the website. He welcomes comments, which can be e-mailed to him or to anyone on the Board.

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Resource Officer's Notes – In James Newberry's absence, Gail Zimmerman asked for a moment of silence to honor SAR volunteers who have passed away in the past year: Andy Anderson, Charles Brown, Bill Hickey and Ken Jones. Also, canines: Mary Berry's Dusty; Marty Brown's Aimme; Wendee Brunish's Haley; Vic Villalobos' and Shannon Murry's Coda; and Jerry Englehart's Erwin.

ESCAPE 2009 – Gail announced that ESCAPE 2009 will be held at the Ruidoso Convention Center May 1-3, 2009. She welcomes suggestions.

Awards

Outgoing Board Members – Gail presented plaques to the outgoing Board members: Sue Williams who served as Secretary, ESCAPE 2007 Chair, and Vice-Chair (4 years); Robert Valdez, Membership Co-Chair (2 years); Don Stone, Secretary (2 years); and Ross Holbrook, Training Chair and SAR Review Board Representative (2 years).

Ralph Dawdy Memorial Award – Gail announced that the award, by unanimous decision of the committee and with the concurrence by the entire Board, goes to Mary Berry of Sandia SAR Dogs. The award was presented by Gail and Bob Cowen, last year's winner. Mary was nominated by Dave Baldrige who recounted Mary's long list of service to SAR.

By-Laws Changes – Sue Williams covered the proposed by-laws changes which were distributed to member teams April 15. It proposes that the term of office for Board members be changed from two years with a limit of two consecutive terms to a single three-year term. Sue explained that the rationale for the change was that Board members tend to get burned out by the fourth year. It was also proposed that authorization for withdrawal of funds be granted to the Treasurer plus any other Board Member. Richard Swartz explained that it is important for the Treasurer to be aware of expenditures and the change allows more flexibility. The proposal also covers the transition rules for current Board members. On a motion duly made and seconded, the proposed changes were unanimously approved. Ross Holbrook and Don Stone elected to resign at the end of their two-year term (May 31, 2008); Robert Valdez elected to complete a third year under the transition rules.

Board Elections – Gail announced that there were four vacancies and that four candidates had been nominated prior to the meeting. She then requested nominations from the floor. There were no additional nominations. The three nominees who were in attendance presented a summary of their qualifications, and Gail read the summary for the fourth who was not present. By acclamation, the following were elected to three-year terms: Dave McClard, CAP; Kitty Mason, FC and Individual Council Member; Phyllis Wright, Mesilla Valley SAR; and Keith Hayes, Sandia SAR Dogs and NM SAR Support Team.

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Drawing for Mapping Software – Attendees who had registered early were given a chance to win mapping software. Tony Gaier drew the name of the winner, Richard Browning.

Other Business

Keith Schwarzer asked why State Police were not showing up as they had in the past. Gail replied that she did not know – invitations were sent to about eight State Police officials.

Larry Zentner announced that the FCC will require a 12 _ Khz band-width for VHF and UHF radios by the year 2013. Bill Boedeker recommended that new radios purchased be narrow-banded.

Adjourn – On a motion duly made and seconded, it was agreed to adjourn at 9:25 a.m.

Submitted by:

Don Stone, Secretary