

Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference
Board of Directors Meeting
April 7, 1990
Mintues

Called to order at 1038 by Chairman Cady Soukup.

Nominations:

Chairman: Bob Koester

Vice Chairman: Barbara Bradford

Secretary: Cady Soukup (Deming Herbert and BB Oros expressed interest, but were not present to accept nomination)

Treasurer: Gary Mechtel.

(N.B. other important positions include: Operations, Communications, Plans, Medical, Training, and ASTM, MRA, NASAR, PASARCO representatives)

We discussed wanting to divide the Secretary's duties: Conference Roster (BB Oros), Mail (Deming), Minutes (Cady); Gary indicated the importance of improving communications, including good BOD minutes.

The above slate was accepted unanimously.

Outgoing Chairman's Report: (1 item). Todd L'Herrou: per Cady's review of the vote at the last BOD meeting on Todd's IC approval, and after consulting Robert's Rules of Order: since the vote was not contested by the end of meeting, and no specific illegal conduct was committed by the vote, Todd's IC status stands. Apparently the BOD thought that the 3 required letters of recommendation had been received, but only 2 favorable letters (and earlier, 2 unfavorable letters) had been received.

RSAR announcements (Greg Fuller, Chmn.): only 1 person wants to join MRA, so RSAR will not join MRA. Maine Warden service interested in ASRC, so Greg Fuller will send information and send copies to ASRC address (BOD accepted by consensus).

Special Plans Committee Report (Gary Mechtel): see handouts.

Specific addendum: BOD minutes must be out PRIOR to next BOD meeting; Gary is happy to have another "planning retreat" at his house. May 19 Saturday at Gary Mechtel's in Columbia, MD, 1300 hours.

Appointed Officers:

Operations: currently Gary Mechtel, who is still willing to serve. Functions: maintain preplans yearly, try to start doing other new proactive planning, and try to start increasing operational readiness at the Conference level. Other suggestions: Mike Kuga, BB Oros, William Dixon. Might want to have the Ops Officer be a new IC or at least IS qualified.

Commo Secretary: currently Bob Elron, not present, but Dixon suggested that he is willing to continue in this function.

Others suggested: William Dixon of SMRG, Mike Sawyer of SMRG, Art Dodds of SMRG.

Plans: currently Gary Mechtel. Other suggestions: CD Reavis, William Dixon, Keith Conover, Cady Soukup.

Medical: currently Bob Koester, who is willing to continue.

Position duties include supervising WEMT and Wilderness First Aid Projects, Medical Advisory Board (Medical Directors for Pennsylvania and Virginia). Others suggested: Carolyn Szostak, David Stooksbury.

Training: currently Diane Burroughs of TSARG, probably willing to continue. Other suggestions: Art Dodds, David Kildoo, Deming Herbert, Sheila Armstrong.

Finance: (currently inactive): Suggestions - Kevin Parkes and BB Oros and Pam Platt of SMRG, Ron Moore of RSAR, Betty Thomas, CPA, of AMRG.

Moved by Keith and seconded by Gary: that the four BOD officers select appointed officers by May 1, without requiring a confirmatory vote by the full BOD. Passed unanimously.

ASRC Representatives to Other Organizations:

MRA: (also, Chairman of Eastern Region MRA): Cady Soukup (current)

(Plans Committee wants to address question of MRA Region officers later.)

NASAR: Greg Fuller (current)

ASTM: William Dixon (current)

PASARCO: Maryland ESAR (Peter McCabe) Kevin Parkes of SMRG.

(Keith is already on SAR Council, but represents AMRG independently of rest of ASRC).

Moved by Gary and seconded by Keith: that the four BOD officers select the four above representatives by May 1, without requiring a confirmatory vote by the full BOD. Passed unanimously.

Group Reports:

AMRG: see attached. AMRG has done 3 or 4 technical rescues during training sessions in the past few years, but no searches.

Will ask Mike Kuga to submit mission reports.

BRMRG: see attached. BRMRG has 2 members in EMT-ST training, 1 in EMT-Cardiac. Mission follow up: the recent Madison Co. victim died 6 weeks later of complications of a previously-existing medical condition.

TSAR (Bob): TSAR has submitted all needed paperwork, and BRMRG voted to endorse them, and therefore are retroactively Probationary Certified Group as of last Membership Meeting. Seem to be growing.

RSAR: see attached report.

SMRG: see attached report.

ESAR 616: (Affiliate Group and Probationary Certified Group)

New roster available. See attached personnel summary. Has had recent helicopter orientation with MD state police. Is trying to put on local GSAR-equivalent program for their own personnel. Working on grant for computer-supported search management. Also looking for free cellular phone.

ESAR 617: (Probationary Affiliate Group as per General Membership Meeting) Offered and accepted gift-wrap concession at REI store in Maryland.

(Question of dual classification: Affiliate Group and Probationary Certified group, of ESAR 616: will discuss whenever this might be a problem again).

SVMRG: New officers: Chairman: Trudy Teter. VC Jim Fishburne, Secretary Jennifer Shoemaker. SAR Delegates: CD Reavis, and Shawn McCousland. VaSARCo Delegates: CD Reavis, Sri Muther. Training: Sheila Armstrong.

Commo: see attached report.

Special Projects:

Appalachian Search and Rescue Textbook: Keith has been unable to do any work on the Textbook due to excessive amounts of work needed by the WEMT Project. He plans to start work on this again at the end of April, with a usable draft by September or October.

Wilderness Emergency Medicine Curriculum Development Project: See attached report. Also: BOD has requested a report by Project Coordinator Keith Conover to BOD at next meeting, regarding use of any funds generated by the textbook.

Medical Committee:

PA WEMT: will be offered each March and November. See also attached report.

VA WEMT: suspended due to budget cuts. Expect to have another course in the fall if all goes well.

Wilderness First Aid: Lesson plans are done, and will be out soon. Mailings to Editorial Board will occur soon. Bob wants to start instructor workshops in the next few months. Gary raised a question about how to manage Wilderness First Aid and WEMT classes that require payments by students; further discussion was deferred.

Operations Committee: See the attached Draft Operational Requirements Document. Gary would like input on this. He explains that these are goals to meet in the next 6 months or so. We will try to get each group to review it at the next meeting, and bring specific reactions to next BOD meeting. As Peter McCabe noted, there are very different opinions about these issues in different Groups. Discussed the role of "apprenticeship" and the need to have lower-qualified members going along with FTMs and FTLs even if the responsible agency requests only FTMs or FTLs (unless the request specifically excludes other members.) The consensus was in favor of apprenticeship becoming a written policy. The following will coordinate the response to the Operational Requirements Draft at the Group level: AMRG - Keith; BRMRG - Dave; SVMRG - CD; RSAR - Kildoo; ESAR - McCabe; SMRG and TSAR - Gary.

Plans Committee (see attached)

MRA Region plans:

We must retest in 1992 (every 5 years).

Cady: some policies the national MRA will not decide on a national basis, and each Region must decide on its own: e.g., ESAR membership and snow and ice capabilities of members.

We will vote on these issues at the June Meeting.

Other Plans:

We will vote on these plans at the June Meeting.

Training Committee:

Diane Burroughs needs training schedules from all Groups.

Dianne Burroughs; 3521 Dunevin Drive #202; Chesapeake, VA 23321;
1-804-483-3784 (h); 1-804-393-5036 (w).

Liaison Reports:

ASTM: no report.

MRA: Membership cards are in, and were distributed. Most MRA business was discussed elsewhere in the meeting. We are waiting for Greater Philadelphia SAR to arrange for their unit testing for MRA membership, if they decide to proceed with their Eastern Region MRA membership application. Cady will re-ship MRA "Rescue Forum" magazines to each Group address when she receives them.

(A vote at January meeting to allow groups to join the MRA Eastern Region but not the ASRC was not reflected in the minutes distributed today, but was remembered by most present.)

Paul Williams met with Gary Mechtel and Keith Conover in Baltimore several years ago to discuss MRA-ASRC issues. At that time, Gary and Keith understood that the ASRC could, if it wished, require all new applicant groups to the Eastern Region to meet full ASRC Group standards for membership, and require that applicant groups join the ASRC. They also understood that the MRA wished the ASRC to use the MRA name and logo whenever and wherever the ASRC name and logo were used. Recently, there was a notice in the MRA Mountain Rescue Forum magazine that "The President noted that Dr. Keith Conover does not represent the MRA in any function." (Mtn. Rescue Forum, 2:1, August 1989, page 12; however, note that the previous page, under Eastern Region News, states "our W-EMT curriculum has been presented twice in Virginia and once in Pennsylvania, as Pilot programs.). This is presumably in reference to the use of the MRA logo along with the ASRC and CEM logo on publications of the ASRC-CEM Wilderness Emergency Medicine Curriculum Development Project, which is an official ASRC Project with Dr. Keith Conover as Project Coordinator. Since this is an official function of the ASRC, and since the Eastern Region MRA and ASRC are one and the same at the present, our understanding is that this use is appropriate. At the direction of Chairman bob Koester and with the consent of the Board, Cady Soukup will write MRA National in regard to both questions: use of the MRA logo for official ASRC activities and whether the ASRC can reasonably require all applicant Groups to join the ASRC.

NASAR: no report. Anyone who is an ASRC member can join NASAR as a nonvoting member by sending \$12 to Greg Fuller.

PASARCO: See attached report. STATCOM has tentatively agreed to serve as statewide PASARCO resource center.

VASARCO: Working on incorporation, increasing public and Responsible Agency awareness, better benefits and reimbursement for volunteers, separate Advisory Board to be part of State Government.

Old Business

Dogwood: handouts given out.

Critical Incident Stress: A 15 minute discussion about stress and operations recommended that Carolyn Szostak () will see that each Group has identified a resource for CISD (Critical Incident Stress Debriefing) and to review our training standards as far as recommending addition of stress management and CISD training at the various levels, and perhaps address stress management in the Operations Manual, including possible proactive monitoring of stress levels among members of ASRC Groups.

New Business:

That the attached design, with artistic changes, be authorized for wear by those successfully completing any authorized course based on the ASRC-CEM WEMT Curriculum. One abstention, all others in favor.

That the attached card design, pending clarification of use of the MRA logo by the ASRC, be authorized to be given to those successfully completing any authorized course based on the ASRC-CEM WEMT Curriculum. If the MRA does not permit free use of the MRA logo by the ASRC, for this purpose, the card will not display the MRA logo. One abstention, all others in favor.

ESAR 616:

ESAR 616 is up for full certification, but this must be granted at a General Membership meeting. Moved by Mechtel and seconded by Conover, and passed unanimously, that the BOD recommends that the Membership approve ESAR 616 for full Certified Membership. Article II, section 3.6 of the ASRC bylaws requires that "to remain in good standing . . . an organization must . . . provide evidens that all new members have undergone an individual Medical Examination, as defined by the ASRC Training Standards." However, the Training Standards say nothing about this, and therefore this should not be an obstacle to ESAR's full Certified Membership.

Moved by Mechtel, seconded by Conover, and passed unanimously that a General Membership Meeting be held at the next BOD meeting on June 2, 1000 hours, SNP HQ, Luray VA, for the express purpose of voting on full Certified Group status for ESAR Post 616. PROXIES PLEASE! Cady will send out a written notice.

Announcement: Volunteers will be needed this summer for wildfire suppression. Contact Greg Styles at Shenandoah National Park Headquarters if interested.

DES plans to revise the GSAR program, and is looking for ASRC input; each Group was given a copy of the program and asked to bring comments to the next BOD meeting.

BRMRG is doing hug-a-tree may 17 in Richmond.

DES is working on IC standards; copies will go out and should be brought to next meeting with comments from IC's and ASRC Delegates.

Bob Koester is making a video on the ASRC for the Virginia SAR Council.

Moved by Conover, and seconded by Mechtel, that the ASRC empower the Vice Chairman (due to conflict of interest of the Chairman), and after legal consultation, to enter a contract with DBS Productions, that DBS Production produce a training film about the ASRC, with provisions to exclude pornographic use of the film, and that the ASRC will have full rights to non-commercial use of the film, at no cost to the ASRC now or in the future, and the ASRC will retain no rights to edit or otherwise modify the film, and that DBS Production will hold harmless the ASRC for any liability resulting from use of this film. Passed with 2 for, no against, and 5 abstentions.

Adjourned at 1758.

Attachments:

AMRG Report (one page)

ESAR 616 Personnel Report (one page)

BRMRG Report (1 handwritten page)

SMRG Report (one handwritten page)

RSAR Report (one page)

ASRC Communications License Summary (one page)

ASRC Communications Proposal Update (three pages, with handwritten additions)

ASRC Operational Requirements Draft (eight pages)

ASRC Plans Committee report (19 pages of viewgraph copies)

WEMT Patch Design

WEMT Card Design

(One copy each of the Virginia GSAR Standards and proposed IC standards were given to each Group's Representatives.)