

**ARSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**27 Aug 94**  
**MINUTES**

Meeting was called to order at 1032 by Dave Carter.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**Attendance:** (People in bold were present)

**AMRG - Keith Conover**  
AMRG - Charles Kollar  
**MSAR - Peter McCabe**  
MSAR - Darrel Hale  
**SMRG - Gary Mechtal**  
**SMRG - Amy Rue**  
TSAR - Dave Carter  
TSAR - Matt Rhode

BRMRG - Audrey Wilson  
BRMRG - Bob Koester  
RSAR - Mark Pennington  
RSAR -  
**SWVaMRG - David Jackson**  
**SWVaMRG - Tony Bordeaux**  
\*PVRG - Michael Vatalaro  
\*PVRG - Karen Vandersall

**OTHERS:** Camille Birmingham and Marc Ruureink, BMRG, Steve Houck, SMRG, Mark Jones and Candi Partlow, TSAR.

**Minutes (Candi Partlow)** - The minutes for 25 June 1994, were distributed, reviewed and accepted with 2 corrections.

The 6-25-94 minutes page 1 has:

\*PVRG - Brian Whalen  
\*PVRG - Dome Poon

it should read

\*PVRG - Michael Vatalaro  
\*PVRG - Karen Vandersall

page 4 under the operations meeting

AMRG (John Panches): Mark Eggman for group...

it should read

AMRG (John Panches): Mike Yee for group ...

**Officer and Committee Reports**

**Treasure's Report:** None

**Chairman's Report (Dave Carter):**

Reorganization committee

1) The committee is stalled for several reasons, we have a lot of work to do to make the proposed changes a reality, and there are only two people remaining of the original committee, one person has not produced the documentation so that they may carry-on.

2) We need to be able to resolve some philosophical differences within the organization, about where we are going with the organization and as far as the organization. It is going to take time to do that.

Right now we are at a stand still until certain people do what they are supposed to do.

DES - Dave C. has been discussing with DES the direction that they are planning to take SAR operations and training in Virginia over the next several years. There will be a strategic planning session for DES and the major SAR organizations around the state, in the DEC/JAN time frame. At which time DES hopes to have these various groups come together to talk about where we are going with search and rescue in the State of Virginia.

Some of the issues that have come out in sessions already held:

How much training to give the local jurisdictions, so that the locals can handle their own start ups. If that occurs it will have a direct impact on the amount of missions we get called on, at least in the State of Virginia. What we will see is that some jurisdiction will still need us in the early stages because they will never develop SAR resources and some jurisdiction will handle the early stages on their own.

Another portion of this discussion has to do with the problem of western Virginia. Currently we only have one group close enough to respond to missions in the far west, without extensive driving and DES is getting ready to do an extensive advertising campaign. Packages are going out to all of the jurisdictions, selling ASRC as a corporation and other SAR organizations capabilities, of course we'll increase demands in the western part of the state, and everyone knows what that means. Increased driving times depending on location in state. We are looking at what to do about the problem including airlift (CAP) and a definite effort to recruit and train in the west.

#### **Training Report(Candi Partlow):**

I have reviewed the training material I received from John Panches, and it is more than adequate, however I have only just gotten it into some semblance of order and I will be meeting with the board at a later date to determine the requirements of what we need to accomplish and where we need to go.

#### **Communications Report (Steve Houck):**

We had at one time a Shenandoah National Park license agreement, I had made arrangements to get another one authorized, but I lost the paperwork, so I need to try to track down the letter from Shenandoah National Park. It was delivered to the BOD for the Chairman's signature some weeks ago when I was not here and I never got it back (D. Carter) I did sign it. (Steve Houck) Somewhere along the line it got lost, so I am trying to reactivate that.

Officially we have lost the KA81942 old search and rescue license so everybody needs to make sure that they have all of that information purged from their ops kits and anywhere else that information appears and to supply the new license information which was handed out at the last meeting I was here.

- A list of people who contributed donations to get the license going.
- License authorization needed for Eastern Region Cave/National Cave Rescue John Appleby and also Triangle Rescue Group (need name of contact person and current address). TRE Association no longer needs an authorization for our license they feel comfortable with what they currently have available.
- FCC filing fees have increased by five dollars, some old information is no doubt still circulating, please ensure that the change is taken for action in all future submissions.
- There have been some questions raised about our capability to communicate directly with a hospital from the field. We need to investigate the legal guidelines, Can instructions be relayed by handling through base or does it have to be a direct communication between the Team and the Doctor? If we do have to have some means as a State EMS agency to do this we will see what we can do. Dr. Conover is concerned with medical procedure in West Virginia, We do have the Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania medical provisions but we need the others. The chair asks that Camille Birmingham research the requirements of a Shock Trauma tech and Camille agreed. Steve Houck offered to research the possibility of piggy-backing any existing state license.

#### **Medical Report (Amy Rue):**

Copies of the reports from the day long seminar for our provisions from Dr. Lindbeck were handed out.

#### **Report on Handicap studies**

Extensive discussions ensued over the proper way to allow handicapped persons to participate in ASRC, and in what capacity they would be allowed to serve. ADA-COQ Operational statement was introduced and the proposed new position was voted on: 3-Yes, 2-No, 1-abstention. Motion passed. Further studies and detailed research into the possible changes to existing ASRC standards was determined to be needed, a committee was asked to be formed headed by Peter McCabe to continue the research.

## New business

### **Communications (Steve Houck):**

The aircraft communications license for 1995 is up for renewal, for a cost of \$100.00 . This is an increase

### **Request for training materials (Steve Houck):**

Request from training officer in his group from PA for ASRC training standards and testing procedures. The board is not going to provide testing materials, but arrangements could be made to get information. Discussion ensued to define what is wanted by this group and what was meant by training materials and testing materials. The decision was left open for a formal request defining what the group needs and the training officer (Candi Partlow) will answer with what is available and allowed. The books and other items are available thru SARTA

### **FTM Course (Micheal Vatalaro):**

PVRG is looking for help in a 8 Week FTM course. See Micheal Valalaro or Karen Vandersall for details.

### **PTEN workshop (Amy Rue):**

The 10 Sept, a PTEN workshop course is being offered, it is getting late and Amy would like to see a couple of ASRC personnel attend. Amy has information for any interested.

## Operations Meeting

Gary Mechtal welcomed.

1245 Recess for Lunch

1345 Board reconvenes

### **Operations Report (Gary Mechtal):**

#### **Ops Manual**

Currently working on the goal of bringing about the ops manual. Would like to put ops manual out and then it would be easier to go back to make changes. 15 years of board decisions took two years for Dave Carter to put the original together, and some changes and hopefully improvements made, hopefully it will finally be approved tomorrow (28 Aug 94).

#### **Dispatch Form**

Some feedback on the data form I gave to dispatch. I am trying to track who goes to missions, what group are responding and in doing this trying to figure out how dispatch can do the form with everything else going on, but without the data I can't do the analogy.

#### **NDS**

The MOU is NDS is open it is on my list of thing to do, I have a meeting with one of their guys on the 7th of October.

#### **Flow Chart)**

There is a need to smooth out the ASRC flow chart. It is too convoluted now.

#### **Critical Resources**

Safety - there is no real solution to the problem of people going home tired after missions. The real answer is training. We have got to train to recognize our own limitations. Part of the discussion I had with some folks including William Dixon, is what can we give our Safety Officers to give them more teeth? William Dixon is to lead the effort in what to do? Also, think that is something that could be discussed in the IC meeting.

### **Skills Test**

Have run into a couple of reoccurring problems in the field. Have FTL's not understand the tasks given to them because they had forgotten the definitions of some of our vocabulary. Example the team leader did not know what a scratch search was, this a common terms. I am looking for a solution, but it may be only an 80% solution.

### **Segmenting**

Segmenting is it a necessity or indifferent. Do it right or not to do it at all?

A large discussion occurred including Candi Partlow, Camille Birmingham, Dave Carter, Peter McCabe primarily, as to how to do it, Gary tried to demonstrate. Camille brought up the point that she would not decide on anything she did not know anything about (segmenting is not taught everywhere) so show her and then she could make an informed decision. Gary once again tried to demonstrate but more time was needed and opponents to this approach were not present. It was decided that a training class would be held 23 Oct 94 at 10:00am for IS's and ICs. What ever came out of this meeting would be put up in front of the December BOD meeting.

### **Other Announcements**

**(Dave Carter)** An IC meeting for 22 Oct 94 evening, Camille to find someone in her group to be project officer and find a place to eat and meet.

**(Dave Carter)** Civil Air Patrol is now on a pager system, finally. Originally, they got some pagers from the DES and the frequency was not compatible with the ASRC's. However, in a smart move on their part that has been changed and the dual CAP/ASRC folks can get both put in their pagers. They use a code system similar to ours, but they do have different codes. The way they work is that the page goes out and if they have a team or an aircrew they call the number and tell them. They respond as teams, for the most part.

**(Keith Conover)** September 2, the pilot program giving EMT's the meds starts, waiting to see how that goes.

**(Peter McCabe)** I would like to see an ASRC simulation training try at Shenandoah National Park, due the recent crash there, they should be OK with it. Opened to discussion with Dave Carter, if any other group is available to do this with your group, try, but the decision to do that needs to come a year in advance. Open item for Training Officer for a simulation next year.

**(Peter McCabe)** Request that the IS/IC segmentation training be moved to the December meeting time frame because of something going on with his group. Decision was no, travel made be too hard and we do not want to delay the decision on this till next year.

**(Camille Birmingham)** Blue Ridge is missing 1 Icon radio and 2 batteries.

Also read letter to group from a patron of the park that found a orientation course marker. No Action

**(Dave Carter)** Andy Bayne put up for training officer for Tidewater Search and Rescue. Gary put up for vote, Camille seconded. 6 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abstentions.

() Todd L'Herrou put up for training officer for Smoky Mountain Rescue Group. 7 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstentions.

() Todd L'Herrou put up for Incident Staff. 6 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abstentions.

**(Peter McCabe)** Asked about Hurricane Strike Teams. Dave Carter answered the question.

That in the recent Hurricane exercise it was discussed that they have mini FEMA teams. 4-5 ASRC personnel with an overhead person, ambulance, bull dozer, dump truck and light duty rescue personnel, to go into areas and clear them. You must commit to 3 days and must come prepared with 3 days of gear, food and water. We would be just as we are now, a state resource responding as a state resource.

**Adjourn 1526**