



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

13 April 2023

VIRTUAL

I. Call to Order.

Called to order at 1900 hrs. by Dan Brizuela.

II. Participants.

Voting members in **bold**.

Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group (AMRG)	Keith Conover
Blue Ridge Mountain Rescue Group (BRMRG)	Greg Stronko Deborah Rutter
Maryland Search and Rescue (MSAR)	Dan Brizuela Adam Berlier Michael Hansen Jocelyn King
Mountaineer Area Rescue Group (MARG)	Carl Wertz Anne Russell Ken Chiacchia Rebecca Hostetter Doug Sward
Northwest Pennsylvania K9 Search and Rescue (NWPAK9SAR)	LuAnn Gatti Kathy Lamb Oliva Wojcicehowski Kirk Hamza
Remote Support Corps (RSC)	Ben MrCarldles
Search and Rescue -Ohio (SAROH)	Brian Maier Thaddeus Smith
Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group (SMRG)	Sean McElligott Philip Jones Steve Weiss Jocelyn King

	<i>Gene Harrison</i>
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III. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the Minutes of the Jan 17, 2022 meeting and the Minutes of the October 27, 2022 meeting was made by K. Conover and seconded by L. Gatti. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Officer Reports

a. Chair/Vice-Chair (Dan Brizuela/LuAnn Gatti)

D. Brizuela (Chair) provides opening remarks. He brings to attention that previous ASRC Chair and Fellow Dave Carter has passed away.

In response, S. Weiss articulates that Dave brought many things to the Search and Rescue World. He had the best heart, and always kept the subject at the forefront when on a mission. K. Conover states that Dave Carter was revolutionary, and always tried to do the right thing. A moment of silence in his memory is requested.

D. Brizuela also reports that the ASRC Newsletter draft is set for publication, once the distribution list is ready. Members being able to choose to subscribe/unsubscribe from the newsletter is also discussed. The Chair believes this to be a touchpoint for membership.

Vice-Chair has nothing to report.

b. Secretary (Olivia Wojcicehowski)

Nothing to report.

c. Treasurer (Victoria Avery)

V. Avery reports (via message) that she has been waiting to receive remaining team rosters, with only one outstanding. Invoicing is dependent upon this. She has received dues from two groups.

d. Credentialing Board Chair (Steve Weiss)

S. Weiss reports that there were no credentialing candidates for this quarter. He anticipates the board will be receiving materials in due course in relation to the recertification PTBs. S. Weiss says the board is looking forward to hearing more about the training standards.

e. Conference Training Officer (Ken Chiacchia)

K. Chiacchia states that he and K. Conover are in the process of finishing the text and accompanying slides for the WFA course. This will then be made available online at no cost to ASRC members.

Training standards will be discussed under New Business.

f. Information Technology Officer (Michael Hansen)

M. Hansen reports that registration for the upcoming AGM weekend (August 11,12,13) is open.

g. Communications Committee

K. Conover reports that in relation to the communication grant, he is looking to create a 1 pager to be available on the ASRC website. C. Wernitz notes he has obtained 110 radios and has started to program them. He states that he will be getting back in touch with groups as he progresses.

h. Team Updates

AMRG (K. Conover): AMRG reports that they are hosting the PSARC Summit, April 21st-23rd. Additionally, their team has seen an influx of new members, and are now only admitting people one time per six months. AMRG also states that they have had several callouts for evidence searches via law enforcement.

BRMRG (G. Stronko): BRMRG reports that they have had 5-6 searches in VA this quarter. They are in their regular training cycle.

MARG (A. Russell): MARG reports that they have been very busy, with missing persons and rescue callouts. They are working on strategic planning for all special interest groups, including but not limited to rope tech and cave rescue.

MSAR (D. Brizuella): MSAR reports that they have had two callouts this quarter. They are also moving their onboarding process to every six months. The team also had their third annual strategic planning retreat in Pennsylvania. There they developed a skeleton of a strategic plan, which focuses on strengthening the organization as a whole.

NWPAK9SAR (L. Gatti): NWPAK9SAR reports that they have had 3 searches this past quarter. Additionally they have one new potential member. In relation to fundraising, they have their upcoming annual 5K.

SAROH (B. Maier): SAROH reports that they have a new Training Officer, Thaddeus Smith. They have also had a few 2 searches for the quarter. The team also has an upcoming Search Operations course their members will be attending.

SMRG (S. McElligott): SMRG reports that they now have a new response system. The team also has had their typical number of callouts for the quarter.

BRMRG (G. Stronko): BRMRG reports that they have had 5-6 searches in VA this quarter. They are in their regular training cycle.

REMOTE SUPPORT CORPS (B. McCandless): The RSC reports that they have had a quiet operational period. Their Virtual Sarex participant numbers were lower than normal, but went well.

V. New Business

a. Training Standards

The Training Committee proposes updates to the 9.0 ASRC Training Standards, of which will omit rope rescue. This still permits individual teams to seek rope rescue certification for their members in-house. Additionally, the Training Committee will be looking to constitute a subcommittee that will work on a meaningful, up to date rope rescue standard.

A motion is made by K. Chiacchia that the ASRC Board moves to accept the 9.0 updates to the ASRC Training Standards. This is seconded by L. Gatti. The motion passes unanimously.

b. Operations Officer

D. Brizuela nominates J. King to be the ASRC Operations Officer.

K. Conover makes a motion to approve J. King as the ASRC Operations Officer. This is seconded by L. Gatti. The motion passes unanimously.

c. Event Planning

50th Anniversary (L.Gatti & M. Hansen)

- Shortlist of 3-4 potential sites
 - Will be visiting in person to screen and examine contracts
- Potential landing page on external website
 - Members can opt in for recurring updates
- Looking to begin fundraising
- Developing mailing list for alumni
- Fall 2024 Date TBD

2023-2024 Dates

- 11 - 12 August 2023 - Annual General Meeting weekend - Camp Mountaineer, WV
- 13 August 2023 - Annual General Meeting and BOD meeting - Camp Mountaineer, WV
- 26 October 2023 -BOD meeting, virtual @ 1900
- 12-14 January 2024 -AGM @ Bears Den
- 14 January 2024 -BOD meeting in person @ Bears Den

VI. Good of the Order

Nothing offered.

VII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2048 hrs.

Respectively submitted,

Olivia Wojcicehowski
ASRC Secretary