



PSARC Business Meeting 11/04/06

The Business Meeting of the Pennsylvania Search and Rescue Council was called to order by President Scelza on 11-04-2006.

Acceptance of the previous minutes after one correction. Greater Philadelphia SAR was presented with Level II Certification, not taken off probation. Also, it was clarified that the motion to make the appropriate by-law changes that will be necessary for 501C-3. Motion to approve by Kim Carr, seconded by Brian Winterstein.

President: (Opening remarks)

- President Scelza noted he was pleased with the turn out considering that this was not the second Saturday or the Month due to the Penn State home game being next week.
- After reviewing the cover letter for last year, the theme of the year was "operations". Don was very pleased with the progress the Ops Committee has made this year. A council wide dispatch system is now in place, more teams have received their level certification, more teams have been joining, and more people have been getting the training and testing. This year's theme is to continue this goal; to get more teams in, get them certified, and get the MOA's with the government agencies in order.

Vice-President: - none

Treasurer - still outstanding 2006 dues, 2007 dues notices are available today and will go out to the teams this week. President Scelza reminded members of the increasing costs with insurance and One Call System.

Committee Reports

Membership:

Susquehanna and Greater Philadelphia teams have met the requirement of probationary teams. Motion by Ken Chiacchia and seconded by Kim Carr to accept both GPSAR and Susquehanna, motion passed unanimously.

New Team formed in Centre County, Central Region Emergency Strike Team. CREST will be making application at the next meeting.

Operation Committee:

Northern Tier passed their Level II certification

Canine:

Trailing standards are in progress and a very rough draft was presented for review. Comments and suggestions should be forwarded to Lou Ann.

Dispatch:

The new dispatch program is up and running. It has been tested for CDO's and appears to have worked well. CDO's did have some concerns of fulfilling the responsibilities of the CDO's. Brian and Roger are currently putting together a training program for CDO's and is considering opening up the CDO position to non board members, who are members of teams in good standing. Once this is completed and the process is in order it will be given to PEMA and MEDSTAT as the new revised dispatch procedure.

NASAR:

Vicki Wooters was voted in as a NASAR Board Member

Web:

SAR-EX:

- Initial list of classes are going out. More information to follow at the next meeting.
- Jean advises that teams have since approached her again, with regards to an umbrella insurance plan available to PSARC teams; suggestion that a representative from VFIS be present at SAR-EX. President Scelza advised the floor that RA's are starting to look for insured teams and also brought up that some training sites are requiring proof of insurance as well.
- Dates are May 3rd 4th 5th and 6th for SAR-EX.

Sweep Width

Second sweep width study was done, this time with much thicker vegetation.

Clue	SAR EX	State Gameland
(hvc)		203
w/o	100m	44 m
Green	10m	14 m
Green		2m

Target date for next Sweep Width is March 10 & 11, backup March 17 &18 at State Gamelands 203
chiacchiakb@yahoo.com

Value of this study is to better establish POD. SAR changes will be showing up on tasks as a result of some of these studies

Public Relations

Banner is still available, tri-folds available as well, contact Lou Ann

By-Laws

Old Business:

- o President Scelza reports that during a meeting with PEMA they were presented with a draft MOU, which seems to have fallen into a black hole. Several follow-ups have been made, however nothing has yet to come back. Don reports still working on getting a response from PEMA.
- o 501 C-3 application still in progress

New Business:

Motion by Kim Carr seconded by Ken Chiacchia to pay the invoice to the Red Cross, then forward to SAR-EX account to be reimbursed. Passed.

Good of the Order

Kim Carr suggested Joint Training Interest, should start posting a schedule, possibly start using the PSARC Yahoo Calendar for trainings dates or classes that you might want to open up to outside groups for mutual aid training.

Ken Chiacchia reported on a search a little while back for a young man who had autism in his area. It was conducted by a PSARC team. Teams need to think on a different level and start trusting our neighboring teams. (AMRG had team members that

were literally within walking distance from the missing boy). Ken suggested that teams should start training themselves to start notifying other PSARC teams in the early stages of a search, notifying other local teams that a search SAR EXg conducted and that your service MIGHT be needed. 100 m Search@PSARC.org should also be utilized. (unknown) questioned how much advertising has PSARC done to advertise to RA's that PSARC exists and that there may be other teams in the area that are avail and can be called. There is also a problem that we will continue to run in to is when an RA makes a particular request for specific resources. Another problem with organizations is that you can not assure what you may get when you call a team/resource. At times, you may get a fully manned TEAM but at other times you may only get a few people. Discussion ensued over the dispatch procedures for the council teams for council notification. It is a touchy matter and until there is formal standard set by the state it will remain an *intricate dance* of when you should call for outside assistance (other teams from the council)

Motion by Chic seconded by Vicki Coup to adjourn