

**Mountain Rescue Association
Rocky Mountain Region
Spring Regional Meeting Minutes
Frisco, CO – May 16, 2009**

Attendance: Albuquerque absent, MRA President in attendance (at great personal expense)

Motion to approve minutes: Paulsen (EPCSAR), Alperti (Routt)
Approved (unanimous)

Treasurer's Report:

- Purchased new vests for recerts, approx \$43 left (account through national), should we increase and how?
- No annual funding
- Used to sell regional t-shirts (good sellers)
- Does the region need more money?
- Should the region purchase different colored vests to allow for options other than orange?
- Replenish from regional team contributions, national contribution, t-shirt (or other) sales, annual regional event?
- MRA January meeting is when the budget is developed and approved, return on dues paid
- **Tabled until December meeting to discuss regional funds and proposal to MRA National**

Old Business

June Meeting:

- Attendance: Western, CB, Atalaya, Aspen, Summit not attending, need proxies (President and Secretary will send reminder e-mails)

MRA Dues:

- Albuquerque still in arrears?
- Atalaya?
- CB in arrears (unconfirmed status)
- Park County?
- Western submitted (unconfirmed receipt from national)
- Summit paid up (as far as we know)
- **Communications with MRA Exec Sec by regional Vice Chair to confirm dues status, awaiting response from national**

Regional MRA Reps: Provided for confirmation/update

MRA Lister: Confirming receipt

Regional Lister: (Reg Pres) How do we encourage members to join the regional lister?

- Team POCs?

- Encourage multiple members present on the lister, open to all

National Typing and Credentialing (Paulsen):

Regional Records Management Program (Woodward):

- A/R records possessed back 15 years (eval forms, signed letter of MRA compliance, and Atalaya's application--no further applications available from national, stored in media safe and available for review)
- Recommendation (from XX) was to store for 5 years
- Do we need a documented policy? Limits on accessibility (history v. legal accountability)
- Historically valuable documents
- (Charley S.) Suggest contacting Jim Moss for legal advice; issue particularly for teams with assets and resources
- (Woody) Possibly useful to identify evaluator patterns
- (Howard P.) Does national or any other region have a policy we could mimic? (Charley S.) Not that he's aware of, can enquire
- Motion (Paulsen; Chappell, second): That the region secretary research and recommend a records management policy or by-law, including evaluation records and scenarios, and reports to the region board for action not later than the winter region meeting in December

New Business

MRA Strategic Plan & Statistics Reporting Update (Charley Shimanski):

- Possible CBS Sunday Morning crew at Mt. Hood
- MRA Patch on the Shuttle (possible Alpine patch, too)
- MRA working on brochure (to include space for team information) about the MRA
- Statistics: valuable, SAR Teams software available at no cost, Rocky Mountain Region historically has the best response rate let's keep it up
- MRA Strategic Plan (attached): 16 initiatives (top 5: Accreditation, Governance/ Finance (paid staff),), Task Forces stood up and working, updates at the Sunday meeting in June
- Premiering Dee Molenaar book at June Meeting, 1500 print run including carried in Mountaineers Books catalog
- History of MRA video premiering Saturday at banquet, each member team to receive one
- 50th Anniversary at Mt. Hood

MRA Accreditation TF (Chappell, RMRG):

- Subcommittees: reaccreditation survey, current policies, outside agency accreditation processes
- Survey complete and submitted by end of May
- (Sutton) Task Force will present concerns over accreditation inconsistencies at June meeting
- **MRA Reps tasked to ensure their team submits not more than one survey by the end of May**
- Ex Officio teams included

- Regional TF members to troubleshoot submission from teams without accurate POC
- Change action recommended in June (based on survey) for action at January 2010 meeting
- **Scott Sutton to coordinate/supervise submission completion**

Regional and National Medical Standards (Skeet Glatterer, MRA Medical Chairman):

- **Team Medical POCs to Skeet (glatterer@comcast.net)**

An update on Medical Committee plans was given by Skeet Glatterer , the new Med. Com. Chairman.

A restructuring of the Med Com is being done to create both a working committee and an advisory/resource group. The working com will not be just physicians, but also other interested medical people with diverse backgrounds such as P.A.'s , paramedics, flight nurses, EMT's, etc., in order to have a more diverse, and hands on point of view. In addition, the advisory group will consist of well known and higher profile medical authorities that will be a resource and counseling group on an as needed basis.

Plans are to create increased participation with other groups, such as the Widerness Medical Society, for our mutual benefit. This is already in effect.

Via Meridian and the Listserv, a series of questions will be sent to teams so that the Medical contacts can give feedback regarding what they think the MRA can best do to improve a cohesive approach to medial issues.

A repository of medical info will be created consisting of weblinks, powerpoints, and sample protocols, etc., that can be easily accessed. These training systems and protocols could be implemented or used as a framework by teams with less access to medical expertise.

Eventually, thought should be given to some sort of standardization of level of medical training required by MRA members. This was originally addressed, on purpose, in a vague way. Now, with planned government oversight by FEMA with resource typing and credentialing, it may be time for us to set our own standards before they do. A tiered system approach will avoid mandating what anyone has to do, and yet will reward the teams that make the effort to have more medical training. The suggestion was to adopt a nationally recognized and standardized system, such as the OEC program (Outdoor Emergency Care) used by the National Ski Patrol. Initial contact with them has shown that they are very eager to enter into an effort with the MRA. Plans are to review this proposal for feedback via the Listserv and at future meetings.

A/R Exercise & Scenario Guidelines (Alperti):

- Directive to establish a three person committee chaired by Woody, including George Janson (LCSAR), Chip Lamar (WSCMRT) and Troy Nelson (GCSAR) to develop and present scenario guidelines by the December meeting for acceptance or approval by the board

2010 A/R Schedule (Alperti):

- Propose adjusting A/R schedule to 3 teams per year (moving one volunteering team up a year) for post-2010 A/Rs for discussion
- 2010 (no change): ART, DCSAR, GCSAR, RCSAR
- 2011 (no change): CB, EPCSAR, VMRG
- 2012 (no change): ABQ, Atalaya, Aspen
- 2013: RMRG
- 2014: WSCMRT (to 2013?)
- 2015: ART, DCSAR, GCSAR, RCSAR

A/R Evaluator Spots (Alperti):

- **Need evaluators (especially Lead Evals and Scenario Leads) to volunteer**
- Evaluator participation (by team) tracked by Woody

SB 1041 and how it may affect SAR (H. Paul):

- SB 1041 (Fire Protection Districts could bill for rescue services) and NASAR position on billing for SAR ops distro'd (attached)
- SB 1041 grants ability to fix fees for rescue (of trapped or injured parties), vague as to specific definition of rescue
- Vague enough to mean whatever the district board of directors means
- Concern about possible delaying calls for help
- Possibly best approach for SAR teams is to contact (or ask the Sheriff) and educate FPDs re: issues and concerns
- No regional-level PIO, teams presenting CSRFB, MRA, and NASAR position papers on billing for SAR
- Recommend teams maintain awareness of FPD actions and intentions, teams should establish and maintain a relationship with the state representatives in their response areas (i.e., counties), such as inviting them for visits to team buildings or trainings

Review of Action Items (action items in red)**Motion to Adjourn (Chappell, Paulsen), unanimous as of 2038**

Adjourned