



Mountain Rescue Association Rocky Mountain Region

Rocky Mountain Region Winter MRA Meeting

05 December 2020

Attending: Alison Sheets (RMRG), Scott Messina (Aspen), Lynda Wacht (ART), Pat Caufield (Fremont), George Jansen (Larimer), Andreas Schmitt-Sody (AMRC), Dale Wang (RMRG), Brian Steube (ART), Erin Greenlee (AMRC), Woody Woodward (ART), Gerrit Padgham (ART), Helen Rowe (Summit), Greg Foley (Grand), Jeff Fladung (El Paso), Jane Mather (Grand), Kate van Schaak (Vail), Daniel Knudson (Park), Jack Mitchell (Atalaya), Amy Allbritton (WMRT), Roman Bukary (Douglas), Paul Ashton (Douglas)

Start 17:02

Old Business

- Approval of spring minutes. Sheets recommended. Messina seconded..

New Business

- Re-accreditation 2021
 - Scott Messina (Vice Chair) is coordinating with 2021 teams since August
 - Request to National BOD to postpone another year
 - Request of Bylaw change to National BOD
 - Woody is providing verbiage
 - Backup plan if not successful several discussions are needed
 - Re-accreditation light
 - Implication on lead evaluators/scenario lead requirements and way forward
 - Article X Policy 1
 - Lead: have participated in at least three A/R exercises (not including 166 their own teams) in the past five years.
 - Scenario lead: must also have participated in at least two A/R exercises (not including their own teams) in the past three years
- Bylaw Change Discussions
 - Region Article XI Section 3: 3 month notice before meeting for Bylaw changes
 - Region Article XI Section 4: $\frac{2}{3}$ approval vote by all region team
 - Currently: see Region Article V, Section 3

- Vice Chair: 2 two year terms
- Treasury/Secretary: 4 one year terms
- Director at Large: 2 one year terms
- Discussion on the following:
 - remove or change term limits for some positions
 - propose to remove or extend term limit for Treasurer/Secretary
 - propose to remove or extend term limit for Vice Chair
 - propose to change Director at Large term from 1 year to 2 years or extend term limit to 4
- Comments included
 - Term limits can be limiting when there are good people on the board
 - Term limits allow a break for the individual
 - Term limits allow for “new blood”
 - General agreement that all terms should be two years
- Regional PIO
 - Dawn Wilson (Alpine), is stepping down at the end of the year
 - The MRA has been working on establishing a PIO program to support the local teams. This includes a designated PIO for each region. Dawn Wilson from Alpine was doing this role for our region but is unable to continue. If anyone has interest in this role, please contact Alison Sheets (Vice President, MRA) directly at alisonsheets@usa.net or Andreas at schmittsody@gmail.com
- Field Coordinator Meeting Representative
 - National Board approved funding to cover attendance and travel to Regional Field Coordinator meeting, Current representative
 - Colorado: Kevin Harner (RMRG)
 - Alternate Colorado: Greg Foley (Grand County SAR)
 - New Mexico: Spenser Morland (AMRC)
 - CSAR State Coordinators/Board published information related to potential winter safety and SAR issues related to COVID
 - There is a specific push towards getting winter backcountry safety information out to the public in light of the increased traffic due to COVID-19
- Update from National Officer Committee
 - Winter meeting all virtual, Feb 6-7 2021
 - Meridian: Winter issue target release Dec. 5, PMR Memorial Day rescues, Covid issues and responses
 - Spring issue deadline Jan. 1, 2021
 - Consider contributing
 - MRA Third Thursdays Training started, remind your teams to attend
 - Bruce Fosdick to conduct a review of the MRA finances as part of standard business practices
- Diversity and Inclusion
 - Region BOD approved scholarship

- <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cfwnpXr3HKKjeVRJMNDW51Ecee-iqeP63wjMg8prAXI/edit?usp=sharing>
- Understanding that mountain rescue can be a significant financial investment, we believe there should be no financial barriers to volunteering. In alignment with that, the MRA Rocky mountain region would like to offer a scholarship to individuals who face financial hardship which may prevent them joining a team. The MRA Rocky Mountain Region provides three scholarships per year, up to \$300 per scholarship to cover application costs or necessary gear including, but not limited to, harness, helmet, carabiners, boots and team jackets.
- Lynda Wacht is going to lead committee to further address D/I in the region
- Funds. The current budget is \$3279.56, so dues will be waived for next year.
- Elections
 - Vice-Chair: Roman Bukary
 - Secretary/Treasurer: Jack Mitchell
 - Officers at Large:
 - Helen Rowe
 - Daniel Knudson
 - A special thanks to Scott and Lynda for all their work on the Board.
- Et Cetera
 - From Helen: <http://www.dolomitirescuera.it/en/>
 - “This is the link to the race site. whilst it’s a race it is very inclusive and more about celebrating so many teams coming together”

Adjourned 19:05 Knudsen motioned, Sheets seconded