



VASARCO Minutes

October 17, 2009

Meeting called to order at 10:30

Members Present: Bob Allam(PSAR), Bryan Saunders (BDSAR), John Proudman (TROTSAR), Tracy Orndorff (BRB), Evan Koepke (BRMRG), Gary Goodson (ASAR), Bob Wingfield (CSAR), Lee Younger (CAP), Mark Eggeman (VDEM), Ron Hedlund (PSAR), Kay Guy (VSRDA), Pete Suitt (K-9 Alert), Nathan Brown (TSAR), Kevin Brewer (SARTI), Leslie Roos (GARD), Elena Llewellyn (GARD), Misty Sampson (Blue & Grey), Dave Carter, Justin Stone (SMRG), Chris Stine (SMRG), Jane Servais (MAD), Chris Ronsisvalle (Dogs East)

Approve minutes from last meeting. – John Troutman made motion, Nathan Brown made second – no discussion – unanimously passed

Reports - Officers:

- President (Bob Allam)
 - Introduced Tracy Orndorff - starting a group of bloodhounds called Blue Ridge Bloodhounds; wants to let everyone know that they're around and will be working slowly to get their MOU. Trying to communicate with everyone about their new team.
 - All groups have paid dues – even past due.
- Vice President (Bryan Saunders)
 - Everything covered farther down
- Secretary (Leah Coffman)
 - N/A
- Treasurer (Sharon Jones)
 - 501c3 application – financial items included in the agenda and by the end of this month; data should be compiled to handle the rest of the 501c3 submission.

Reports - Committees:

- Awards (Bryan Saunders)
 - Team Awards and Lisa Hannon award to be due to me NLT Feb 1, 2010 so they can be presented at the SAR Conference
- Bylaws (Leah Coffman)
 - N/A since by-law changes at last meeting
- Communications (T'mi Finkle)
 - Would like each group to send the following info to her:
 - Preparations for narrow-band radio – Provide:
 - Number radios that need replaced due to non-compatibility
 - Group's FCC call sign
 - Radio frequencies legally authorized by group's FCC license
 - Work with VDEM to clearly define and document the alerting process (steps, expectation times for response to EOC, what groups get alerted and how, and who to contact at VDEM if updates are needed to group contact info, etc)
- Full scale exercise (Rick Christ) – no update. – October 31st, 2009 is full-scale exercise for SWVaMRG.
- MOUs (Bob Wingfield)
 - Orion – Pending creation and approval of management group standard

- Halifax – On-hold at their request – waiting to see about agreement with the Sheriff or not
- BRMRG status – Fee (paid), paperwork (submitted), attended VDEM FTM class – Question about local phone number, question about number of FTLs, amount of untrained persons
- APTG status – Complete
- SAR Conference (Nate Brown/Leah Coffman) - 04/24-26 at Holiday Lake 4-H Center
 - Expanding SAR Conference from April 22nd to April 25th. Originally expanded for ICS 300 - now hoping to have other items on the Wed-Thur. Early bird registration is much less than late registration. January-registration will open up and advertising will start. Bob W. asked about a one-day fee; one-day fee for Saturday will be close to the \$140. Send e-mails to vasar2010@gmail.com. Anyone with a topic or presenter - please forward to Nate.
- Website (Leah Coffman) – N/A

Standards:

- Development of standards template based on NIMS format and terminology and modification of existing standards (Bryan Saunders)
- Standards will be sent to committees to get section headings, and the rest of the standard NIMS compliant.
- Equine (Leah Coffman) – No change
- FTL (Sharon Keith)
- FTM (Bob Wingfield)
- FTS (Rob Speiden)
- Ground group (Bob Wingfield) - revise to document evaluation requirements plus other updates; can Billy help? Bob Wingfield asked if there was a requirement to be Incorporated. Mark E. advised groups need to prove that they're real groups and the Incorporation papers help – No requirement that all persons have a pack – it's a recommendation
- IC (Bob Koester)
- IS (Dave Carter)
- K9 Air Scent (Jane Servais, Sharon Jones)
- K9 Cadaver (Pete Suitt)
- K9 First Responder (Pete Suitt)
- K9 Trailing (Pete Suitt)
- K9 Water (Pete Suitt)
- Management group (Bob Allam) – Intend to post for the 30 day review process around 11/01, soliciting VDEM input now so the approval process goes smoothly.
- Team Accreditation (Bob Koester)
- Wilderness Rescue Technician (Bryan Saunders) – Billy advised that he will be sitting down with committee to finalize all changes and make sure it is where everyone wants it to be before the January meeting.

Old Business:

- Post group reports on Yahoo prior to each meeting – Q2 reports not posted as of 10/01:
 - BRMRG (missing Q1)
 - CAP (missing Q1)
 - MSAR (missing Q1)
 - MAD
 - Old Dominion (missing Q1)
 - RASAR – uploaded during meeting

- VSRDA
- Email rosters to Leah Coffman and Billy Chrimes prior to each meeting.
- Suggestions for future presentations? – Bob Allam requested future presentations for VASARCO meetings
- **Reminder:** Map datum switched to WGS-84 as of 08/01; be sure to confirm on all missions. – is official now and will be posted on VASARCO website.
- **Reminder:** Narrow band radio takes effect in 2013; presentation at January meeting on this; interested in placing group order or pursue deal from manufacturer?
- **Reminder:** Requirement for NIMS courses:
 - FTM: IS-100, IS-700, IS-800, IS-809.
 - FTL: IS-200.

New Business

- Nominations due to Bryan Saunders for Lisa Hannon and group awards by Feb 1, 2010 for presentation at the SAR Conference
- Motion that General Administrative Standards For All Teams be modified to add Section I.H requiring submission of the State Corporation Commission letter that formally recognizes the group as a bonafide legal entity in Virginia.—THIS ITEM REMOVED FROM AGENDA
- Will be posting a proposed changes to the General Team Accreditation - Recognition Standards for a SAR Ground Team:
 - Make this a separate document from the general accreditation document
 - Add evaluation details for ground groups
- Timing of April VASARCO meeting – Prefer to do it in conjunction with the SAR Conference but a voluntary session – Bob Allam would like to hold the council meeting on the Friday night of the Conference at 2000 hrs.
- VASARCO vehicle decals for sale – sell for \$2 each
- Motion for current officers to continue in those roles for another term (2 years based on Bylaws change): no motion needed – Officers’ term ends at the end of 2010. Motion made by Lee Younger that the current officers’ term ends at the end of the 2010 Calendar year. Nate Brown seconded. No discussion – unanimously passed.
 - President – Bob Allam
 - Vice President – Bryan Saunders
 - Secretary – Leah Coffman
 - Treasurer – Sharon Jones

Miscellaneous

***Someone at TSAR was dismayed about the license plate option, survey was cut short. He wants to re-open it and make sure that everyone has an opportunity to vote to see if there is enough interest in a license plate. Gary Goodson asked how many SAR persons we had in the council

VDEM Update (Billy Chrimes)

- 20 searches in this past quarter - progress made with RA’s. Specifically the despondent in Augusta County went better than the two young victims last year. They were extremely happy - lots of compliments on SAR personnel.
- Most searches been short – less than 48 hours with most in less than 24 hours. Really good numbers at most of the searches.
- Please refer questions to Billy about the SOG. We are compliant with US Nat’l Grid also. Can setup GPS to Military Grid reference which truncates the coordinate - helping clear up some coordinate issues.

- Several classes have been completed. BRMRG had 35 go through an FTM Class.
- Standards approvals:
 - IS - Submitted on 07/28/07; expect report on next steps and timing
 - Wilderness Rescue Technician - Submitted on 02/02/08.
- MOU approvals: N/A
- Billy is considering task books for all students to try to encourage students to stay active and interested after certification classes. There will be tasks and other skills that will have to be signed off by training officer once skills have been completed. Also, specified skills will need to be completed before moving on to the next level. Task books will judge competency and lead to easier re-certification and try to get people away from taking a test every three years – if you're active. If you're not active, you will have to take a test.
- Mark Eggeman passed out the search data through June 30, 2009 – for the first time Alzheimer's eclipsed children searches.
- Billy Chrimes advised that there will be three tests in the last quarter for testing of alerts and response. Page will say "This is an exercise" or "Exercise, Exercise, Exercise"
- Kevin Brewer asked how many e-mails can be setup for a specific group – or a call-out database which can be policed by agencies for EOC. For example tsar@vasarco.org, etc.
- Billy wants to define K-9 evaluators better so people can qualify; then anyone that needs to be evaluated can come through VASARCO and VDEM can administer the evaluation.
- Billy suggests that if you have not completed the NIMS classes, you are no longer call-out qualified. **Reminder: Deadline for FEMA NIMS classes is Jan 1, 2010**
- Learning Management System (LMS) – on hold
- Training course registration will typically open 90 days prior to the course and close no later than 30 days prior.
- 25th anniversary shirts -- Mark Eggeman has available

Training:

- 10/31 – SWVaMRG full scale exercise
- Dave Carter has become Wing Commander of the CAP – and one of the commitments he made is that the CAP will reconnect with SAR in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Lee Younger is the CAP representative to VASARCO and local squadrons will be contacting groups in their area.
- Bob Wingfield advised CSAR has relocated their PO Box to Roanoke from Daleville.
- Bryan Saunders advised that Black Diamond would be having their annual SAR Competition on March 27, 2010.
- Presentation: Tracking resources (Kevin Brewer)

Next meeting: 01/23 at 1030, location: VDEM (Trade Court)

Upcoming meetings:

Date	Location	Presentation
01/23	VDEM	Narrow-band radio, FCC license implications, compliant radios (Butch Burke)
04/??	VDEM	
04/24-26	Holiday Lake	SAR Conference

Motion made to adjourn with a second at 12:15 PM.

Minutes taken by Bryan Saunders.