

## **VA Search and Rescue Council**

Meeting Minutes

October 25, 2008

Meeting Convened 1030

Attendees: TROT-SAR, PSAR, VSRDA, VDEM, DOGS-East, CSAR, BDSAR, Angel SAR, Black Diamond SAR, VAVRS, SARTi, TSAR, GARD, Blue & Gray, Mid-Atlantic Dogs, SMRG, Orion SAR, Va. Sheriff's Assn.

Motion by Bob Allam to accept the minutes of the July 26, 2008 meeting; Bryan Saunders 2<sup>nd</sup>: Motion passed

### Group Reports:

- Reports submitted by hand or electronically to Secretary by: Angel SAR, Black Diamond SAR, Blue & Gray, CSAR, DOGS-East, PSAR, SARTi, TSAR, VSRDA and Mid-Atlantic Dogs
- It was noted that the mileage allowance on the report should be corrected to .585 cents per mile

### Officer Reports:

- President – no report
- VP – no report
- Secretary – Leah Coffman will create a VaSARCo web site on the host server “Freeservers” since VDEM has not been responsive to VaSARCo needs
- Treasurer –
  - Beginning balance: \$3,028.14
  - Expenses: \$0.00
  - Deposits/Corrections: \$657.52
  - New Balance: \$3,685.66

### Committee Reports:

- IS – Still waiting for information from VDEM before proceeding.
- Equine Standards – Tomi Finkle reported that there are four new horse teams with CSAR
- ByLaw Committee – no report
- Cadaver Committee – no report
- K9 First Responder – no report
- Trailing Standards – Pete McClintock reported that there were no comments received during the open comment period. Pete made a motion that VaSARCo recommend that VDEM approve the proposed Trailing Standards, Bob Wingfield 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9 for and 6 abstain; motion passed
- Water Standards – no report
- Communications – Sharon Jones will contact Tonya Brown at VDEM to schedule a state wide pager/text message alert.
- Wilderness Rescue Technician – no report
- Full SAR Exercise – Tomi Finkle reported that group is still in the planning stages and is working to ensure that National Protocols are met and taught during the exercises.
- 2009 Conference – Roy Hutchinson announced that the dates of the conference will be April 24-26, 2009. Any suggestions for speakers should be directed to Roy.
- MOU Committee – Bob Wingfield stated that paper work from Halifax Rescue has been received CSAR has agreed to sponsor them as a member of VaSARCo.
  - Angel SAR requested that they be reactivated with VaSARCo. Pete McClintock 2<sup>nd</sup>; motion passed unanimously.
- Management Committee – Bob Allam reported that the committee is working on Management Standards and should have something in place by the next meeting.
- Lisa Hannon Award Committee – This award is to be presented at the conference in the spring. Bryan Saunders is chairing this committee so submit nominees to Bryan prior to Feb 1, 2009.

#### New Business:

- Elections – There was a run off for VP between David Carter, Alex McLellan and Bryan Saunders. A written vote was taken and Bryan Saunders won.
- Bob Wingfield made a motion to vote on the proposed slate of officers; Roy Hutchinson 2<sup>nd</sup>
- 2009 Officers are:
  - President – Bob Allam
  - VP – Bryan Saunders
  - Secretary – Leah Coffman
  - Treasurer – Sharon Jones
- Next VaSARCo meeting: Bob Allam informed everyone that the Trade Court building will not be available for the meeting scheduled for Jan. 2009. He is going to look into securing a place at the Chesterfield Town Center Building for our next meeting.
- Bob Allam suggested starting a Yahoo group for VaSARCo members. Tomi Finkle said she would set this up and would start it with the names from today's sign in sheet. The address will be [VASARCO@Yahoogroups.com](mailto:VASARCO@Yahoogroups.com)
- It was recommended that the April VaSARCo meeting not be held during the conference. This can be discussed further at the January meeting.

#### Old Business:

- Website status- Leah Coffman has agreed to create a web site for VaSARCo that will be on the Freeservers.com. There will be an annual charge of about \$20.00. This server will allow us to use paypal for conference registration and member dues etc...
- Orion status – Still waiting on Management committee to develop a set of standards for a base unit. They are scheduled to meet on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> to finalize the document.

#### VDEM Report

- Billy Chrimes, new VDEM SAR Training Coordinator informed us that due to budget cuts, they are still unsure about classes being offered after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year. Any new classes will need to be self funded until the next budget year, which begins July 2009.
- Billy will look into the progress of the state issued SAR ID badges.
- VDEM will be sending out electronic versions of the workman's compensation forms to each group.

#### Training:

- There are still PSO slots available for the Oct/Nov training at Hungry Mother State Park. If interested, contact Billy Chrimes.
- Inland SAR School is scheduled for Dec. 15-18/08 in Yorktown (USAF/USCG).
- Black Diamond Invitational is scheduled for March 29, 2009 @ Hungry Mother State Park. Contact Bryan Saunders at [Bryans@bomva.com](mailto:Bryans@bomva.com) if interested.
- FTM course scheduled for May 6-9 2009 at Prince William County Police Department
- Inland SAR School 4/20-24/09 in Yorktown (USAF/USCG)

#### VA Sheriff's Assn:

Scott Haas, Sheriff of Green Co was present at the VaSARCo meeting. He represents the Va Sheriff's Assn and had some valuable insight into how the SAR community is perceived within the Sheriff's departments. Bob Allam is going to contact the Sheriff's Assn and offer to provide some speakers at their meetings to help educate the departments in how the Va SAR community can best serve them.

Gary Goodson suggested we submit an article to the Va Sheriff's magazine explaining how different resources work and how SAR in general is used in the state.

Meeting was adjourned at 1230. Next meeting will be January 24, 2009 at the Chesterfield Town Ctr Building.