



VASARCO Membership Meeting

Meeting Minutes 07-18-09

Meeting convened 1030 hours

Motion made and passed to approve minutes from April meeting.

Attendees: ASRC; Angel-SAR; Appalachian Professional Tracking Group; ATT Search Dogs; BD-SAR; B&G Search Dogs; BRMRG; CAP; CSAR; GARD; Orion; SARTA; SARTI; SMRG; SWVAMRG; TSAR; TROT-SAR; VDEM; VSRDA;

Reports - Officers:

- President (Bob Allam) – n/a
- Vice President (Bryan Saunders) – n/a
- Secretary (Leah Coffman)
- Treasurer (Sharon Jones) – 501c3 status is pending complete financials for submission

Reports - Committees:

- Awards (Bryan Saunders)
 - Lisa Hannon award – Recipient was Sharon Jones
- Bylaws (Leah Coffman) – motion made and passed to adopt revised By-Laws as posted on the VASARCO web site.
- Exercise (Rick Christ)
 - FSE will be held in Montgomery County, VA on the weekend of 10/31/09. Planning to take place Friday night.
 - Objectives are currently being worked out
 - Red Cross will provide shelter
 - Base; ground, K-9 and equine teams welcome
 - ASRC is sponsoring a multi-state coordinated exercise the second weekend of April 2010
- MOU (Bob Wingfield)
 - Orion – Pending creation and approval of management group standard
 - Halifax – On-hold at their request
 - BRMRG status – Paperwork to be updated
 - APTG status – Motion made and passed to recommend for MOU
- SAR Conference (Roy Hutchinson)
 - Tentatively planned for 04/24-26/2010 at Holiday Lake
 - Nathan Brown and Leah Coffman will co-chair
 - Call going out to membership for volunteers and recommendation for topics and presenters
- Website (Leah Coffman) – clarification of purpose of different sites:
 - Website – Public face and marketing
 - VASARCO Yahoo – Business of the Council; membership restricted to official member group representatives
 - SAR-VA Yahoo group – Open to entire SAR community
 - VDEM message board – Open to SAR community but requires access approval by VDEM

Standards:

- Development of standards template based on NIMS format in process (Bryan Saunders)
- Communications (Roy Hutchinson/Butch Burke) – have requested additional committee members; still waiting for clarification of goals. Suggested goals include:
 - Group minimum for dispatch
 - Radio dos and don'ts
 - Required radio licenses
 - Butch to serve as FCC point of contact
- Equine (Leah Coffman) – Working on creation of mounted evac standard
- FTL (Sharon Keith) – in process working with Billy Chrimes to improve flow of information/updating course material
- FTM (Bob Wingfield) – see FTL
- FTS (Rob Speiden) – n/a
- Ground group (Bob Wingfield) - Revise to document evaluation requirements
- IC (Bob Koester) – n/a
- IS (Dave Carter) – coordinating with Bob Allam and Mark Eggeman
- K9 Air Scent (Jane Servais, Sharon Jones) – n/a
- K9 Cadaver (Pete Suitt) – n/a
- K9 First Responder (Pete Suitt) – n/a
- K9 Trailing (Pete Suitt) – n/a
- K9 Water (Pete Suitt) – n/a
- Management group (Bob Allam) – answers to feedback were posted on 05/03; evaluation details are in progress.
- Team Accreditation (Bob Koester) – n/a
- Wilderness Rescue Technician (Bryan Saunders/Sharon Keith) – standard has been referred back to Billy Chrimes for compliance with VDEM. Black Diamond is doing pilot testing.

Old Business:

- Post group reports on Yahoo prior to each meeting – Q2 not posted as of 07/16:
 - BRMRG
 - CAP (Q1 either)
 - CSAR
 - Dogs East
 - MSAR (Q1 either)
 - MAD
 - Old Dominion (Q1 either)
 - RASAR
 - SMRG (Q1 either)
 - Top of VA (Q1 either)
 - VSRDA
- Email rosters to Leah Coffman and Billy Chrimes prior to each meeting.
- Reminder: Dues payments were due by 06/30/2009. These groups still owe:
 - RASAR
 - SARTA
 - Top of VA
- Reminder: Map datum switching to WGS-84 as of 08/01; be sure to confirm on all missions.
- Reminder: Narrow band radio takes effect in 2013; presentation at January meeting on this; interest in placing group order or pursue deal from manufacturer?

- Reminder: Requirement for NIMS courses:
 - FTM: IS-100, IS-700, IS-800, IS-809 (if IS-809 is required, must take IS-800b).
 - FTL: IS-200.

New Business

- Motion made and passed for National Park Service to be accepted as a member under the provision of A.2.II of the Bylaws (state or federal agency with no MOU). Pete Schula is the contact.
- VASARCO to send an official letter to VDEM recommending APTG and NPS for MOUs.
- Pursue requesting a SAR license plate – David Wyttenbach (VSARDA) took the lead; not enough interest. Access to survey site was closed down weeks before deadline. Have requested survey be reposted.
- Officer nominations with the elections at the October meeting.
- VASARCO vehicle decals for sale – someone want to take the lead. Evan Koepke with BRMRG will work on graphics.
- Leah: Motion to adopt Bylaws changes (tentative)

VDEM Update (Billy Chrimes)

- Standards approvals:
 - IS – in process.
 - Wilderness Rescue Technician – in process.
- MOU approvals:
 - SWVaMRG – Approved; going through signature process.
- Proposed moving the VASARCO meeting date 1 week earlier in October due to VDEM training conflicts. **Please note:** October meeting date is 10/17/09
- Learning Management System (LMS) – on hold due to budget. May create an Access database.
- Training course registration will typically open 90 days prior to the course and close no later than 30 days prior.

Training:

- 10/31 – SWVaMRG full scale exercise

Next meeting: 10/17 at 1030, location: VDEM (Trade Court)

Upcoming meetings:

Date	Location	Presentation
10/17	VDEM	Tracking resources (Kevin Brewer)
01/23	VDEM	Narrow-band radio, FCC license implications, copliant radios (Butch Burke)
04/10	VDEM	
04/10	Holiday Lake?	SAR Conference

Meeting adjourned 1230 hours

Respectfully submitted:
Leah K. Coffman, Secretary