

Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue
Meeting Minutes: Tuesday November 15, 2016
Location: Alamosa County Sheriff's Office

The monthly meeting of the Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue (AVSAR) organization was held on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 1800 hours Mountain Daylight Time (MDT). It was held in the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office classroom.

Board Members Present: Suzi Hopper, Bruce Morrison, and Andrew McClure.

Team Members Present: Helina Alvarez, Morgan Barnes, Chris Lavery, Darrell Elder, Cindy Gebo, Joshua Hudson, Rob Mabry, Mark Martinez, Nicole Singer, Gunnar Tokar, Adelaide Whitehead, Levi Wilner, and Mérida Zerbi.

Board Absent: Don Thompson and Deanna Wagner.

Guests Present: Zak Skelton

Call to Order: Suzi Hopper called the meeting to order at 1810 MDT. Mérida Zerbi recorded the minutes. A quorum of members were present and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Introduction of Guests and New Members: Zak Skelton was introduced as a possible new member. He works for the National Park Service at the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve.

Awards: Suzi Hopper presented framed awards to the following team members who could not attend the awards banquet: Josh Hudson, Chris Lavery, Levi Wilner, and Mérida Zerbi. Suzi Hopper identified the sponsor awards that still need to be delivered. Rob Mabry agreed to help deliver them.

New Business Taken Out of Order:

1. **ELECTION of EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:** Suzi Hopper noted that Mérida Zerbi had volunteered to take the minutes, as Deanna Wagner was absent, and suggested it might be best to handle the election of the board position for Executive Secretary prior to conducting further business. A motion was made by Suzi Hopper to nominate Mérida Zerbi for Executive Secretary. Rob Mabry seconded the motion. The team voted to approve the motion with no objection.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: The September minutes have been emailed to team members and will be available online at the AVSAR website. There were no objections to the September minutes.

Administrative Tasks: A hard copy of the current roster was passed around so that team members could correct or update their contact information and certifications. The corrected roster was returned to Suzi Hopper.

Correspondence: None.

Treasurer's Report: Suzi Hopper reviewed the team finances as Don Thompson was absent but had sent an email update. The \$1000 DOLA grant for WFA training was received and it will be used to send eligible team members to the spring training. Our current balance is \$19,406.31.

Committee Reports: None.

Announcements: None.

Old Business:

1. **MEDICAL COMMITTEE:** The discussion from September's meeting regarding the elimination of the Medical Officer as a board position in favor of the creation of a Medical Committee continued. Team members who have agreed to be on the committee are: Helina Alvarez, Joshua Hudson, Francis Song, Gunnar Tokar, and Levi Wilner. Andrew McClure and Nicole Singer will assist as circumstances allow.
 - a. Gunnar Tokar and Levi Wilner are WFR certified and would lead the committee.
 - b. The potential committee members have received the Training List from Suzi Hopper and will receive additional forms via email. They will meet to discuss trainings and other prospective committee business.
 - c. Joshua Hudson is certified to conduct CPR and First Aid trainings. Access to training dummies was discussed. It appears plenty of team members have access to training dummies when we do a training.
2. **HATS:** Team orange hats arrived. They are available to team members who have not been issued one yet, at no cost to the team member. The promotional hats have also arrived. They are different than anticipated and do not have the white background like the team patch; rather the logo has a dark background. The manufacturer will correct the background behind the logo. These will be available at cost to team members and for \$15-20 to the public.
3. **COSAR Card Sales:** Stickers for COSAR card sales arrived. The card sales process was reviewed.
4. **DRONE:** Suzi Hopper reviewed previous discussions about obtaining a drone to assist with search operations. Mineral County obtained a drone through REACT program but the insurance to cover it is expensive. That factor is prohibitive for

our team due to the requirement for approval by the county commissioners and the current financial limitations of the county. DOLA has indicated that grant applications for 2017 will not be available to cover drone purchases. Mineral County would likely respond with their drone if requested and available. No action on drone at this time.

New Business:

1. CALENDAR for 2017: The proposed calendar for trainings and team meetings in 2017 was passed around. There were no objections.
2. TRAININGS for 2017: Andrew McClure has stepped down as Training Director. There is no designated successor at this time. Team members are needed to step up to conduct trainings in their areas of skill and knowledge. Team members can volunteer to conduct a training event by emailing Suzi Hopper.
3. CREATION and ELECTION of MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Discussion was held regarding the need to create a Member-at-Large position on the Board to replace the Medical Officer position that can be eliminated in favor of the Medical Committee. Suzi Hopper motioned for the creation of the member-at-large board position and nominated Rob Mabry to fill it. Mérida Zerbi seconded the motion. The team voted to approve the motion with no objection.
 - a. An after meeting email was sent to all members at the meeting to approve the new Bylaws, as it was discussed at September's meeting to eliminate the Medical Officer and replace them with the former position of the Member-at-Large, and as it was an oversight on the President's part to call for a vote at the November meeting. The motion was approved during the online vote.
4. ELECTION of TREASURER: Discussion was held regarding the Treasurer position on the Board. There were no volunteers for the position. Suzi Hopper nominated Don Thompson to be re-elected. Rob Mabry seconded the motion. The team voted to approve the motion with no objection.
5. ELECTION of VICE-PRESIDENT: Discussion was held regarding the Vice-President position. Mérida Zerbi nominated Bruce Morrison to be re-elected. Suzi Hopper seconded the motion. The team voted to approve the motion with no objection.
6. ELECTION of PRESIDENT: Discussion was held regarding the President position. Mérida Zerbi nominated Suzi Hopper to be re-elected. Multiple team members seconded the motion. For record keeping purposes the motion to second will be credited to Rob Mabry. The team voted to approve the motion with no objection.

7. **COPIES:** The team was advised that Suzi Hopper will continue to make needed copies for trainings and other forms at 5¢ each. This will not cover her cost but is part of her donation to the team. Black and white copies are 10 cents and the color copies range from 40 to 50 cents at the local copy stores, depending on the amount of copies needed.

After Meeting Training: Andrew McClure conducted a SAR Operations and Radio Communications training. Team members are encouraged to come in for additional practice with the radios on their own time.

Next Training: Saturday, November 19, 2016, at 0900 hours MDT, the team will conduct a training session on 72-hour packs in the classroom and conduct an inventory of the rig equipment afterwards in the parking lot at the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office.

Next Meeting: The next regular monthly meeting of the AVSAR organization will be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 1800 hours MDT in the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office classroom.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 1949 hours MDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Mérida Zerbi
AVSAR Executive Secretary