

Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue
Meeting Minutes: Tuesday April 25, 2017
Location: Alamosa County Sheriff's Office

The monthly meeting of the Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue Organization (AVSAR) was held on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 1800 hours Mountain Daylight Time (MDT). It was held in the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office classroom.

Board Members Present: Suzi Hopper and Mérida Zerbi.

Team Members Present: 'Little Sippy' Archuleta, Darrell Elder, Chris Lavery, Francis Song, and Clifford Wagner.

Board Absent: Rob Mabry, Bruce Morrison, and Don Thompson.

Guests Present: Kraig Fairhurst, Stephen Cline, and Crystal Wilson.

Call to Order: Suzi Hopper called the meeting to order at 1805 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: Kraig Fairhurst is a new Victim's Advocate and is interested in joining the team. Stephen Cline and Crystal Wilson recently moved to the valley from Tennessee and are also interested in joining the team.

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

Treasurer's Report: None due to Don Thompson's absence, but Merida and Suzi briefly reviewed expenses.

Correspondence: None.

Committee Reports: SUDS for SAR committee: Suzi Hopper reports that there are two bands already in place to play the event, that the permit applications are in the process of being submitted and AVSAR has already paid our part of the permit fee. Suzi will be updating the list of merchants that individual team members will be asked to contact regarding donations.

Announcements:

1. Francis Song announced that the SLV emergency managers and their teams are setting up a mock drill to test the local part of medical countermeasures planned in

case of an emergency situation on June 15-17. They will need volunteers to go test the process (e.g. showing up at a designated location, standing in line, filling out forms and obtaining 'medicine'). Francis requested team members to consider participating and indicated that more information would be available on slvemergency.org.

Old Business:

1. GPS UNITS: There are now two (2) of the team GPS units being kept in the bottom drawer of the training filing cabinet. Team members must use the provided sign-out sheet and follow the rules for checking out the GPS units for non-mission uses. Team members are encouraged to ensure that they are familiar with the team GPS units.
 - a. The old GPS units were all donated to the INSPIRE program who will be able to use them to support their mission to connect youth with the outdoors. Rob Mabry delivered the GPS units to Mick. There is discussion of a setting up a group photo so team members and INSPIRE participants can meet each other.
2. TEAM HIKE: The hike proposed and led by Joshua Hudson went well. The hike location moved from the Crestone area to the Continental Divide Trail near Wolf Creek due to weather. The hikers still experienced snow and used snowshoes.
3. HOIST TRAINING: Mark Martinez attended the National Guard Hoist Training. Morgan Barnes was unable to attend due to an emergency. Mark indicated that the training went well, but that it is very important for participants to have rope fundamentals down prior to attending.
4. ICS TRAINING: Francis Song attended the Managing Land Search Operations training offered through the Colorado Search and Rescue Board (CSRB). He brought the books he received at the class for other team members to look at.
5. LAPTOP: Francis Song will be available to set up trainings on ICS uses for team members on the team's Toughbook laptop. Francis has installed the MARPLOT (mapping) and WISER (Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders) programs. However, the Toughbook's internal Wi-Fi antenna needs to be replaced. Cliff Wagner and Mérida Zerbi may have OEM programs/components for the laptop. Mérida will try to bring a large computer bag to donate for the laptop.

New Business:

1. RADIO CHANNELS: Suzi Hopper has contacted CSRB to clarify which channels are properly licensed for AVSAR to use. There is an on-going effort to get a blanket VHF license. Suzi handed out the revised communications sheets.

After Meeting Training: The team watched the Flight For Life (FFL) Lift Ticket training video. The training session concluded at 1925 hours MDT.

Next Trainings: FFL Lift Ticket training and certification on Sunday, May 7, 2017, at 0830 hours MDT. Meet in the classroom at the Alamosa Sheriff's Office to review the training video (for any members who missed the meeting). The team will then clear hazards from the helicopter landing zone. Flight For Life will arrive for hands-on training in the helicopter at 0900 hours MDT. Team members should wear their orange AVSAR hats and/or vests.

Low Angle Ropes Training on Saturday, May 13, 2017 from 0900-1400 hours MDT. Meet at the Bishop's Rock pullout at Rock Creek. Bring personal gear (proper clothing layers, helmets, harnesses, etc...), lunch, and plenty of water.

High Angle Ropes Training on Saturday, May 20, 2017 from 0800-1600 hours MDT. Meet at the Bishop's Rock pullout at Rock Creek. Bring personal gear (proper clothing layers, helmets, harnesses, etc...), lunch, and plenty of water.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 23, 2017, 2017 at 1800 MDT at Alamosa County Sheriff's Office classroom.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned, after training, at 1925 hours MDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Mérida Zerbi
AVSAR Executive Secretary