

ALAMOSA VOLUNTEER SEARCH AND RESCUE

Meeting Minutes: Tuesday September 26, 2017 1800 Hours

Location: Alamosa County Sheriff's Office

The monthly meeting of the Alamosa Volunteer Search and Rescue (AVSAR) team was held on Tuesday September 26, 2017 at 1800 hours Mountain Daylight Time. It was held in the Alamosa County Sheriff's Office classroom.

Board Members Present: Suzi Hopper, Bruce Morrison, Rob Mabry and Merida Zerbi.

Team Members Present: Kraig Fairhurst, Stephen Cline, Crystal Wilson, Clifford Wagner, Nicole Matthews, Francis Song (arrived late and left early due to an EMT call), *Darrell Elder, *Helina Alvarez, *Kellie Hill, *Alex Winch, *Morgan Barnes, *Robin McClure and *Kenna Gonzales. (*All these members left at 2005 hours, prior to adjournment).

Board Absent: Don Thompson.

Guests Present: Kevin Wright.

Call to Order: Suzi Hopper called the meeting to order at 1808 hours Mountain Daylight Time. Merida 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: Kevin Wright, former AVSAR President and author, was introduced as our speaker. He was given the floor first. He gave highlights of his life and what brought him to SAR. He pointed out the dangers of being on a SAR team and what it takes to be a dedicated team member. (A five minute break was given after Kevin's talk before we continued the meeting).

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: The August minutes were emailed to the team and are on our website for review.

Treasurer's Report: Suzi updated the team on our financials advising we had over \$26,000.00 and that we had also received our DOLA grant making a total of over \$29,500.00. She also advised we had received a donation from the Barney Cruz family in the amount of \$3,000.00.

Correspondence: REACH Air Medical (RAM) lift ticket cards were received and handed out to those members present that attended the training. Suzi has taken copies of all cards and placed them in the member files.

A letter was received from Sheila Huss and climbing partners (June 11, 2017 mission), along with a \$50.00 donation. She stated how much she appreciated our help and relayed the importance of SAR.

Committee Reports: None.

Announcements: The WFR course has been confirmed for November 9-13, 2017 through the Colorado Mountain College. The training will cost \$5,000.00 and by bringing the instructor to Alamosa we will be saving \$400.00-\$700.00 a member, depending on the training sites throughout the state. All participants will need to complete the online hybrid portion, available October 9, 2017, in order to attend the 5 day hands on portion. Suzi advised the eight members that confirmed they could attend the training were; Stephen C., Crystal W., Kraig F., Morgan B., Kenna G., Merida Z., Helina A. and Donna M. She also announced that it would be a good idea to have alternates lined up in case one of these members listed above were unable

to attend the WFR course. Brian with CMC said they could go ahead and take the online course in preparation of this. No one at the meeting indicated they wanted to be an alternate but Suzi said she will send out another email letting team members know about being an alternate. Please let her know ASAP if you are interested.

Due to the WFR course taking place after our scheduled Medical Scenario training on October 29, 2017, we will be switching trainings and have the 72 Hour Pack training on October 29, 2017 and the Medical Scenario training on December 3, 2017, so all who attend the WFR, as well as those that are WFA certified, can gather to go over what they have learned.

We have received the DOLA grant for the Rigging4Rescue training and will decide at a later date who will attend this training. We will also try to have some rigging trainings through CMC, which will be at a substantially reduced cost.

Old Business: The oil in the Rescue Rig was changed on October 21, 2017.

The team briefly touched on the subject of an online voting site and Suzi advised that GroupMe has it available. Since we are already using GroupMe at no cost and the other options have an annual rate, it was agreed that a test poll be sent out for the teams review. **UPDATE:** A test was sent to a few members and it was determined that although the poll showed how many votes were cast, it did not show who voted for what.

Options for accepting credit cards by AVSAR were reviewed by Merida, Suzi and Donna. All sites had similar fees and Square proved to be the most secure site available. With the donation of the swiper and chip reader by Crystal (Thanks Crystal!), we should be up and running soon. Suzi will advise when everything is in place.

New Business: Suzi made a proposal, since we have received so many donations and that the 4x4 Specialists are an invaluable tool for the team, that we give them \$2,000.00 to help offset their costs. Kraig made a motion and Crystal seconded it, and a majority of the members present approved the motion.

With our training season approaching, Suzi reminds all members, current and new, that you need to attend all scheduled trainings. The team roster was passed around for members to check and see if their information was correct and to see what certified trainings they still needed to take. All trainings are yearly except the certified ones such as; WFA, WFR, R4R, EMT, ICS-100 and any others in which you received a certificate. Copies of certificates need to be made and kept in member folders.

After Meeting Training: No after meeting training due to the scheduling of the Low Angle rope training the previous weekend.

Training: Our next training will be October 1, 2017 on High Angle rope and will take place at Bishop's Rock in the Rock Creek area from 0900-1600 hours, approximate.

Next Meeting: The next regular monthly meeting of the AVSAR team will be held on Tuesday October 24, 2017 at 1800 hours Mountain Daylight Time at The Bridge in Alamosa for our annual Awards Banquet.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 2023 hours Mountain Daylight Time.

Respectfully submitted,
Merida Zerbi
Executive Secretary