

MAINE ASSOCIATION FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE

MEETING MINUTES - 4 March 2007

Maine Warden Service Headquarters
Sidney, Maine

Called to Order: The meeting began at 13:05, with Steve Hudson, Vice President, presiding. President Jennifer Fisk was unable to attend due to work commitments.

Attendees: Steve Hudson (MDISAR); Patrick Dorian (MWS); Paul Magoon (MESARD); Harvey King (Waldo County SAR); Dave Martin (Dirigo); Eric Sawyer (YCERRT); Steve Yates (Franklin SAR); Janice Hatch (MMESAR); Colleen Hoyt (MMESAR); and Nancy Weeks (MMESAR)

Recent Searches: One search from the week before was discussed. A man went missing from an institution in Northern Maine. He was reported to be depressed and suicidal. When the wardens arrived on scene he was found relatively quickly, hitchhiking on a nearby road.

The drowning of a snowmobiler on Sebago Lake was briefly discussed, as was the drowning in Milford around Christmas Eve. There will be more investigation of the latter incident and MASAR may be requested to assist searching along the river this spring after the ice is out.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the last meeting were not available as the secretary was called away with a family emergency.

Treasurer's Report: None available; the treasurer was called away with a family emergency.

Committees:

By-laws: No report; no business pending.

Standards: Some minor revisions of the dog standard are underway. They should be posted out for review soon. The committee will begin work on a standard for Search Team Leader this Spring. Ideas and suggestions may be sent to Steve Hudson at <shudsonme@verizon.net>.

Education: No report was provided by Randy Michaud, as he was unable to attend. However, Eric Sawyer, Training Director for YCERRT, host unit for the Spring Exercise, reported on their plans. A BASAR track has been prepared, but may not be offered if there's insufficient interest. For everyone else, a variety of courses are planned, ranging from an introduction to the National Incident Management System to a presentation by the CAP on their aerial slow scan

picture collection system. On Sunday, the search for Coreen Wiese will be continued, assuming she is not found before then.

Meals will be provided by local volunteer organizations. Camping sites will be available for tents and trailers, and an area will be set aside for the horse teams. A local motel has agreed to provide rooms at the rate of \$55.00 per person per night. Those interested are responsible for making their own reservations. All units should, as soon as possible, provide York County with the number of members who plan to attend.

Old Business: Lacking minutes from the previous meeting, it was difficult to determine if any old business was pending. Harvey King did remind us that we had discussed getting a price for setting up a web site. Steve reported that he had received information on that topic but did not have it with him. It will be discussed at the Annual Meeting at the statewide exercise.

Eric Sawyer reported that the Duty Officer contact system has been set up by Bob Bohlmann and is ready to go, as soon as the Duty Officer schedule is organized. This system would automatically contact the scheduled Duty Officer or, if that person is unavailable, the backup Duty Officer. It would not be setup to contact or dispatch units.

Steve Hudson asked if anyone knew how the date for the Spring Exercise was changed to 21-22 April, after the membership voted to set the date on 5-6 May. Eric Sawyer reported that York County was told by Randy that it would be on 21-22 April, and planned accordingly. He also reported that the weekend of 5-6 May is open for YCERRT so there was no conflict there, as was reported previously. That the exercise is on the same weekend as the Kenduskeag Stream Canoe Race is quite unfortunate, as both Dirigo's and Lincoln's members are committed to the race and therefore can't attend the exercise.

New Business: Eric Sawyer suggested that, since the National Incident Management System (NIMS) is intended by the Federal government to be the standard incident management system in the United States, SAR personnel should be familiar with its organization, function, and implementation. He suggested that completion of IS-700, " National Incident Management System, An Introduction", should be considered as a requirement for certification of all ground searchers. Steve will pass this on to the Standards Committee for consideration. He also mentioned that Homeland Security recommends IS-300 be a required course for SAR team leaders. However, since it's aimed at incident managers and not field team leaders it doesn't seem relevant to our operations.

Next Meeting: 3 June 2007 at 1300 hours; Warden Service Headquarters in Bangor

Meeting Adjourned: 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hudson, Acting Secretary