

Maine Association For Search & Rescue Meeting Minutes

2/2/97

Called to order at Sidney Warden Service office at 1300 by President John McDonough.

Present - John McDonough, Chris Wiebush, Randy Armour, Steve Hudson, Dave Martin, Peter Laveway, Deborah Palman, Bob Baribeau (Mahoussic Mtn.) Phil Duperry, Paul Magoon, Lt. Pat Dorian, 3 representatives of Lakes Region SAR.

ACADIA PARK SEARCH - Jan. 12 & 13

Steve Hudson and Chris Wiebush discussed this search. There was some discussion of the need for early notification of volunteer resources. It was pointed out that the MASAR OD was not contacted until approximately 0730, Jan. 13, and that by that time, most volunteers were en route to work or school, making contacts very difficult and time-consuming. Weibush pointed out that the 112th FLIR unit was unable to see the body because the terrain configuration made it impossible to obtain the right viewing angle. Otherwise, it appears that this search and body recovery went extremely well.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Lakes Region stated that they did not administer fluids to the victim in the Mexico Search, as indicated in the minutes of the previous meeting. With this correction, the report was accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Peter Laveway reported that he has been working of straightening out the accounts, and has so far worked only on the checking account, which has a balance of \$1204.62

Motion by Al Martin for teams to take over paying for their own pagers rather than continue funneling payments through MASAR. Motion carried. Peter will work with the teams to determine when to put this into effect.

Dues need to be collected. Invoices for 1996-97 have not yet been sent, but Peter has them ready to send, and will mail them shortly.

Motion by Steve Hudson to accept the Treasurer's Report - carried.

PAGERS

MASAR is the proud owner of four tone-only pagers, apparently left over from conversions to alpha-numerics. If anyone has any use for these, please contact Pete Laveway.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE - Steve Hudson

A request for grand fathering has been received from MDI. A quick standards committee meeting will be held following the general meeting to vote of this request.

Steve will schedule a committee meeting during March primarily to finalize the BASAR curriculum.

Only four teams have applied for grand fathering to date. The committee requests that everyone else get grand fathering paperwork in as soon as possible.

MESARD will shortly have several dog/handler teams ready to test. Steve would like to get the Dog Standard changed to allow the unit to do it's own testing.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE - Al Martin

Al is in the process of updating the MASAR OD handbook. He has already eliminated some detail from the procedures section; several members suggested other details that could be eliminated, and Al will make those changes also. Al and Randy will update the resource sheets, and Lt. Dorian will provide the most recent WS roster.

There was a discussion of the pager codes system presented by Wilderness Rescue at the previous meeting. Wilderness is prepared to start using the system internally, and would like anyone who adopts a system to use the same one. Several members expressed serious reservations about using the system on a statewide basis. Wilderness will evaluate it and report back.

Al reported that radio license applications have been sent, and he will try to check on their status.

ID CARDS

Further discussion of the medical ID cards presented by Lakes Region at the previous meeting. These can be printed with the MASAR logo, and would be \$99 for 500. Teams are asked to discuss this and report back to the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

MAY TRAINING - Planning is progressing. MDI is soliciting suggestions for a guest speaker. MDI and Acadia Park will plan the search scenario.

MAPPING - Discussion of the Tactical Mapping system vs. Earthvision. We will try to have both systems on line for a demonstration at the next meeting.

GPS - Lt. Dorian reported the WS is still having some problems with the Sylva GPS units. Lakes Region reported that Points North Outfitters is selling Magellan and Garmin at substantial discounts, and would be willing to do a demo and/or class; they will be invited to the spring training.

BAXTER PARK - Steve Hudson brought forth three questions with reference to Baxter's proposal for a stand-by first response team.

1. Under whose medical authority will the team operate?
2. What is the situation on liability coverage?
3. What is the situation on Worker's Comp.?

John will send a letter to Baxter Park and attempt to get written answers.

EMS - Steve has been working a proposal to clear up the ambiguities in reference to SAR teams performing medical care. He will continue to work on this, but feels strongly that the actual proposal to the Bureau of EMS should come from the Warden Service. He will coordinate this with Lt. Dorian.

NEW BUSINESS

WS GRANT APPLICATION - Debbie Palman reported that the WS is working on a grant application for training. They need from each team an estimate of their total personnel-hours for searches and training for 1996; this is needed by Wednesday, 2/5. John will call each team and collect this data.

SURVIVAL TRAINING - Lakes Region has scheduled a winter survival course to be taught by the Brunswick SERE school. They inquired whether this would meet the BASAR requirements. Steve Hudson stated that as long as the objective listed in the standard are met, this would be fine.

NEXT MEETING

April 6, at Sidney Warden Service office, at 1300.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 1525.