

MAINE ASSOCIATION FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE (MASAR)  
MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 8, 2004  
DISTRICT WARDENS HEADQUARTERS  
SIDNEY, MAINE

Called to Order: Pres., Jennifer Fisk, 13:10 hours.

Recent Searches: (Reported by) Pat Dorian, Warden Service. Burlington, ME - Victim was located by Warden Wayne Carter's K9 approx. 750 feet from vehicle buried under the snow. Newport, ME - Missing three-year-old, found quickly by parent.

Secretary's Report: Susanne noted that some pertinent information seemed to be lacking from meeting minutes. Al Martin - Motion to accept / one opposed.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance: \$3003.09. Al Martin - Motion to accept / unanimous.

Al Martin requested that before future meetings, we make introductions of attendees.

Committees:

Standards (Mounted Team):

Acceptance of Mounted Team Standard: Discussion - Steve Hudson sent out mounted team standards to team leaders and did not received any feedback from anyone by the deadline. Al Martin - Motion to accept / unanimous.

Standards (Dog Team):

Steve Hudson updated us that he and Deb Palman are reworking some of the dog standards (water and cadaver). The 'basic skills' are trying to be kept in one part, and the more 'advanced' in another part. There will be no substantial changes. It is anticipated that by this summer (2004), the standards will go out to MASAR for discussion and vote.

Member Training Documentation:

Mike Sawyer and Brad Rounds will work on developing a standardized form / document to help track training. Teams will send this form to Mike to announce their training: when and where it will take place; who the instructor will be; and what the training will consist of. Afterwards the teams will need to send a list of attendees. Mike will keep this for all of the MASAR teams.

Educational Committee - Surveys: only seven (7) surveys have been returned. No information can be determined until more surveys are received. Questionnaires need to be in to Brad by March.

BASAR Curriculum Changes - Brad will go to YCERRT to see their changes before making any modifications.

Old Business:

Duty Officer (DO) Responsibilities & Procedures have been updated (02/06/04) and discussed. It is to be noted that this is a personal responsibility, not a team responsibility. Brad Rounds - Motion to accept / unanimous.

Spring Training: April 24, 2004, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., (Brewer or Unity, ME) Tentative Topics: Crime Scene, Homicide Evidence, Scene Safety, Recap of the Past Year, Working with K9 Partner, NH Search (missing boy), and Talk Regarding Workers Compensation.

Old Business Cont.:

Joint Training: Pat Dorian informed us that Warden Service and State Police will conduct a joint training on June 23 / 24 at Bog Brook (Newry) to encompass child abductions, outdoor crimes, lost persons, etc. This is in the planning process - they may ask to bring in MASAR people to help role play.

Billing for a Search: Gilead Fire Dept. has billed Oxford Hills School Dept. \$1000 for their part in the search. Warden Service doesn't know where this will go in the future.

Worker's Comp.: Mike Sawyer reports that this subject is continuing to be worked on. Only four teams have returned their informational forms back to him. We will have new I.D. cards at the spring training. Reminder, Mike will need to have a training notification before and after training. *No one will be covered until they are a fully certified ground searcher.* Regarding a trainee, you can take a trainee with you, but there is a liability - a gray area with risk management towards liability. Discussion - at what level should a trainee be able to go along with a certified member? Mike Sawyer replied that teams should come up with criteria on what the level should be. DIRIGO mentioned that they, as a unit, carries liability insurance. David Martin was volunteered to look into this insurance to see if it might be able to cover all the MASAR teams under one policy.

Basic SAR Skills Development - Dave Martin: Postponed until next meeting.

Baxter State Park Update: Chris Drew updated us on Baxter and to solicit assistance for EMS coverage for weekends. Wilderness and Mahoosuc will be training in Baxter.

New Business:

EMS Protocols and SAR Medical Personnel - What are the regulations? Patient care / transporting, incidental - no license required by Regional Director. Licensed people can provide basic care if you are not operating under a licensed service. Defined in EMS Procedures.

Discussion of Training Time Needs: Initial Certification / Recertification: Discussion - How much time do ground searchers need to main certification? K9 and equestrian teams will be different. Each team is tasked to figure out how much time it takes from the beginning to the maintain certification. Each team leader needs to have a breakdown of their training. Brad will gather the information from the teams, AI will compile data.

Discussion of Definition of Terms to Worker's Compensation: Steve Hudson proposed that this be postponed until the next meeting.

Sponsor for Fall Exercise: North Star will host - area will be somewhere in Aroostook County. Mike suggested Clayton Lake.

Date of Next Meeting: Due to the Easter Holiday, the date of the next MASAR Meeting will be: April 4, 2004. Steve Hudson - Motion to accept / unanimous.

Grants: Dave Martin announced that DIRIGO was has received a CERT grant in the amount of \$10,000. To be eligible for these, you must go through MEMA or your local Emergency Management Agency. Congratulations DIRIGO!

Meeting Adjourned: 15:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Julie R. Jones, Secretary - Pro Tem.

Those in attendance: Jennifer Fisk (MESARD); Steve Hudson (MDISAR); Julie Jones (MESARD); Brad Rounds (WRT); Mike Sawyer (IF&W); Patrick Dorian (MWS); Chris Drew (BSP); Michele Fleury (MESARD); Paul Magoon (MESARD); Bruce Weaver (MESARD); Dave Martin (DIRIGO); Al Martin (DIRIGO); Lisa Michaud (NS-SAR); Susanne Kynast (Sunrise); Chris Morin (NS-SAR); Dave Woodin (MMESAR).