



## KCSARA Governing Body Meeting

Bellevue, Washington  
Minutes for February 11, 2013

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### Attendees:

<b>Garth Brown</b>	Ameeta Chainani	<b>Mike Arnold</b>	<b>Mary Beebe</b>
<b>Jennifer Brenes</b>	<b>Martin Chisholm</b>	Christina Erickson	Drew Fletcher
Tracie Griego	Brian Kassa	Matt Kurjanowicz	<b>John MacDuff</b>
Kathy Matsen	Katie Miller	Peter Montefusco	<b>Rebecca Potter</b>
<b>Randy Riggs</b>	<b>Richard Smith</b>	<b>Todd Stone</b>	Glenn Wallace
<b>JD Wallace</b>	<b>Joe Wardlaw</b>	Jon Wartes	<b>Janelle Wierenga</b>

**Guests:** Bill Rengstorf and Tim Kovacs

*Note: Names in bold print are KCSARA Unit Reps*

### Call to Order/Introduction of Guests/Approval of Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Garth and guests were introduced. Minutes were approved by a motion from Richard.

### Elections

Glenn Wallace, sole nominee (current PIO), was voted in as the Vice President for the remainder of the term, until December 2013.

### Treasurer's Report (Garth)

Presented P&L Pro Forma for January. There shall be a monthly amortization of the insurance coverage. For the 2012 year, he presented a draft year-end report, but knows there will be future adjustments due to inventory issues. We had received a grant from Puget Sound Energy for the 5.11 replacement.

### Mission Activity & KCSO/WSSARCA Report (Tracie)

- Claim form: The name has to be on the roster!
- Communications to KCSO: All comms must go to sar.coordinator@kingcounty.gov. Don't contact deputies directly!
- Training Rosters: KCSO hasn't been receiving the Training Rosters either.
- Core Competencies: SPART & SMR have submitted applications. The final KCSO application will be passed on to SARVAC.
- State SAR Conference: King County is hosting it in 2015. (There are limited spots for camping/RV for the 2013 conference.) KCSO can assist, but the onus is on the volunteers.
- Ops meetings: KCSO Ops meetings have been getting cancelled due to a perceived lack of interest. If there is a topic, then send on to sar.coordinator@kingcounty.gov.
- There will be an after-action meeting for Mt Si Missing Skydiver on Feb 19. (Tracie's take: It is primarily a KCSO-based after-action meeting, not a general brainstorming session.)
- Garth: Many months ago the KCSO PI (Cindy West) approved that a media group can go on a mission. The current plan is that they will go with a 4x4 unit, but details haven't been finalized.

## Executive Committee Reports

**Mapping (Garth for Matt Kurjanowics):** Mapping committee is making updates/tweaks on the Academy training course. Still a split online/classroom route. Long term, trying to figure out what the various units are doing about mapping in the future (e.g. GPS check stations). Contact Matt if you have ideas, cool projects, etc.

**Benchmarks (Garth):** Nothing to report

**Merchandise (Garth for Isaac Ginsberg):** The excited committee wanted to do an inventory, but the container was rusted shut in a Schrodinger's Cat manner! Due to the delay of seeing the inventory, there is no update.

## Standing Committee Reports

**Training (Garth for John):** John is under the weather.

### Operations/UL Meeting:

- **ELT (Brian):** No update.
- **RAD:** Nothing to report.

**Communications/Repeater (Brian):** The radio shop would like to see some modern equipment. The current repeater is circa 20-30 years old. The grant allows us to add 'satellite' receivers/transmitters and replace Rattlesnake and Sobieski. The stretch goal is to add Dodge Rige (behind 'West' at Snoqualmie).

Todd: Is there a plan for the Middle Fork? Brian: There's no good spot for power to aim down the valley. Sometime the antenna at Rattlesnake got moved around on the tower, now it's near the top, which is promising.

**Database (Garth):** Nothing to report

### Publicity/PIO (Glenn):

- We're up to 267 'Likes' on Facebook. 220 followers on Twitter.
- Done several interviews with Sammamish, KING 5, Sno Valley Record.
- Community Outreach: Attended a Des Moines Cub Scout. Dogs attended a Mercer Slough outreach.
- Mt Si Skydiver Media coverage. Cindy needed additional manpower, and asked Glenn to help.
- We focus on telling the story about volunteers, but we will tell additional details when asked by KCSO.
- Chair Peak mission: KCSARA tweeted something about a mission (Chair Peak), and it was a slow news night and the media contacted West directly, and she was busy at the time.

**Equipment (Garth for Jeff):** Access to our container still not working reliable; need to add drip edge to keep water from running into it, heater working fine, keeping things dry.

## Member Unit Reports

**4x4 (Richard & JD):** Had a unit election. New VPA elected: Mike Mayfarth. Will be partnering with ESAR's Course III.

**PNWT (John):** Responded to Anacortes mission.

**ESAR (Mike):** Training ongoing. Roughly 160 went to orientation. We had 64 people pass Course I so far, and 22 passed Course II so far. Last weekend's had some interesting events: A guy stuck in the mud, Two packouts, A sick guy, A team that quit in the middle of the night... We also got a PSE grant (\$10 thousand), but for the replacement of our Communications Van. The total cost is about \$200 thousand.

**IST (Ameeta):** Had elections. Four new members in last two months. Looking in to GPS training. Cleaning up the roster from deadwood, with only about 10-15 active members now. Brian: Would like to see a concerted effort between IST and the Mapping Committee, so that IST can do more mapping technology during missions. Tracie: IST is working towards making that happen, but is it not our primary responsibility and if more technical people available, they will be called on for this purpose.

**NWHSAR (Joe):** Horse/rider evaluation on the 23rd. 15-18 applicants.

**SMR:** Introducing Drew Fletcher as a 'delegate in training'. Wrapped up Avalanche training for the year. Did Avalanche II for people who did Avalanche I last year. Did technical operations in the snow as well. Also deployed snowmobiles on Wednesday's mission in the Watershed. Snowmobiles are a low-frequency tool, but they are very useful when they actually do get used. Doing some joint training with EMR. SMR has been doing aggressive social media, and will be developing a plan for the next board meeting. It is a great community outreach, and gives some opportunity for subjects/families to give feedback. SMR had some issues with shore power plugs being redirected at ESFR, and it sounds like there was some discipline involved, and should be solved now.

**KCSD (Janelle):** Did several demos. Jen is the delegate-in-training for KCSD. Opening up for applications soon. The orientation is in April. Send interested parties their way. We'll take both trained and untrained dogs. 'Contact Us' on the KCSD web site. Or contact Susan Taller directly.

**SPART (Randy):** Several new people have joined. Finishing up avalanche courses in the next month or so. In April there will be an Avalanche I Refresher. Exact date not set.

### Old Business:

**Bylaws (Garth):** There was a Bylaws proposal made last meeting, that any board member may not hold a similar position of a unit. The change is to add 'Elected' position as a qualification. The intent is that Secretary and Treasurer may not be bound by this restriction. Section 5.2 "An elected executive board member of KCSARA may not serve in a similar board position in a member unit." Motion made by Garth, seconded. Motion carries. Garth moves that we appoint Ameeta as Secretary. Seconded. Motion carries.

### New Business:

**Mountain Rescue Honor Guard seeking funding:** We've historically been inward-focused, since we've been busy enough with our own business. MRA is the national Mountain Rescue Association.

Bill Rengstorf: They provide funerals for any and all search and rescue personnel who would otherwise get no honors. Not just MRA.

Costs & Needs:

- \$1500 each for uniforms, x10 = \$15,000, loaned out to the member just as team equipment is
- Casket flags and hold-down cords. \$200 per event.
- \$15 for Teddy Bears.
- Flag Stands, \$600.
- Flag Poles, \$600.
- Unit Flags (US, WA, etc.) \$1000.
- White Gloves, \$750/year.
- SAR Sympathy Cards, \$250/year.
- Flags (Canada/US) to family members, \$125 each.
- Framed 'Never Forgotten' certificates to surviving families. \$80 each service / \$8,000 per year. Sponsors get their logo on frame.

To remember: Compact multi-media projector for memorial picture shows at WASAR events, \$2,500.00.

Help the family: Bury cost assistance for needy families: \$1500/event (trying to get sponsors).

Garth: The request is that local members want to be a part of it. Ten uniforms at \$1500.00 (\$15 thousand total). Because this is ceremony-only, it's not expected that they will already have the uniforms. The volunteers are expected to pay their own airfare, etc.

Mary: The money donated to KCSARA was donated specifically to KCSARA, and sees an ethical problem with re-gifting the funds, even though it may be a great cause.

Mike: Can recall three funerals over 16 years that had an Honor Guard presence. They were indeed special. When our long-term member Jim Telgenhoff died last year, we had a uniformed officer from KCSO.

Mike: Moves that we provide \$15,000 to the WA Coordinator of the Mountain Rescue Honor Guard. Seconded.

Todd: Suggests that KCSARA pledges a match, rather than a pledge, because the burden should be shared among users.

JD: The mission of KCSARA is to support our member units. As a 4x4 rep, this is a valuable service.

Todd: Do we have \$15000? Garth: There's approximately \$167,000 of unrestricted funds.

Brian: What's the total funding request? Would there be more funding from other counties since this is WA-wide?

Bill: Budget of \$17,500 for this year. Asking MR units for \$300/year for the recurring costs. Will also be pursuing grants from other sources. There is no plan to come back to KCSARA for future funds. Will be pursuing other organizations.

Rebecca: Likes the service. But we're having fundraising problems to buy radios, rather than making unit disbursements to member units.

Mike: In the three years as President, had three people die and nothing to do for them.

Tracie: This should be considered on the merits, rather than the finances.

Joe: In support of supporting. We shouldn't carry the entire burden of the startup cost.

Martin: Echoes Mary's comments that it feels strange for us to give to another organization. Also echoing that we share the cost/glory with other counties.

Brian: Maybe we should create a committee so that it's part of KCSARA.

Joe: Make an amendment that if we donate \$15,000.00, that KCSARA maintains ownership of the equipment. Seconded.

Mike: Thinks that retaining the ownership liability will complicate things greatly. Does not support amendment.

JD: Does not support the amendment.

Amendment does NOT carry.

Matt: We're proving a resource for other units. We should either spin it up, or make it available.

Martin: Amendment: That we fund \$10 thousand instead, so that other counties can participate in the funding. Not seconded. Amendment is dead.

Janelle: What are the alternatives? What have other states done?

Tim: Started small, not asking for funding, and building as we go. Have asked many other organizations already. Feels as they have done due diligence.

Mike: Called the question. Seconded. Carried.

Voting. Motion Carries.

**Miscellaneous -**

- Garth points out that the Bylaws require an executive member represent us on SARVAC, but due to a lack of time he's just going to do it in the meantime.
- Joe would like to request funds for two laptops for the Horse Unit. It will be done over email.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.

***Next meeting will be held on April 8, 2013 at Master Builders Association in Bellevue.***

**Recorded by Martin Chisholm**