



# KCSARA Governing Body Meeting

## Bellevue Washington

### Minutes for March 12, 2007

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#### Attendees

Kathy Decker	Doug Burchard	Mary Beebe	Doron Bar-Caspi
Tracie Griego	Jim Telgenhoff	Matt Cosand	Gretchen McCallum
John Wartes	Darren Emmons	Barbara Sly	Jim Etwiler
David Doll	Chris Madden	Ryan McNeill	Josh Gerstman
Rich Collingwood	Frank Rossi	Joanne Bottenberg	Dennis Brislaw
Doug Hutton	Rebecca Potter	Kevin London	

Meeting was called to order by President, Douglas Burchard.

Minutes from the 2/13/07 meeting were voted on and approved.

#### Mission Activity & KCSO.WSSARCA Report

On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, we had a turnaround for one of the project lifesaver subjects. He returned before the people could get out with their equipment.

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, Rescue 1 went out for a lost person on a snowmobile. They located him quickly.

On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, we had an out-of-bounds skier who was also located quickly.

#### Treasurer's Report

Laurie is on vacation, so there is no financial report.

#### Unit Reports for the Good of the Order

- **4x4:** Nothing to report.
- **ESAR:** ESAR Graduation will be on March 24<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00PM to 9:00PM. They will graduate 39 new trainees.
- **SAR Ops:** They have (4) new members joining.
- **KCSO:** They had a good avalanche training class.
- **NWHSAR:** They held a Map and Compass class that they did on foot. Fourteen people went through training.
- **PNWT:** Three new people came to their first training last week.

- **RI:** No Delegate present. Darren Pratt will be taking over. County will ask them to attend the meetings.
- **SMR:** They had no mission activity. Their annual rigging for rescue training is next month. A house bill in Oregon will put a beacon on Mt. Hood. Technically, they are not authorized to go to Oregon to assist at this time. However, a mutual aid bill is in work to allow it.
- **SPART:** Nothing to report.
- **ELT:** Nothing to report

### **Special Guest:**

We had a special guest: Mark Freeburg from OCENS, Weather, Email, & Satellite Communication & Information Services. They specialize in satellite communications and data services with satellite phones. They have two types, Iridium, and Globalstar.

Iridium came out first, in the mid 90s. Using Iridium, your call (or data) goes from you to a satellite. It then goes from satellite to satellite until it gets to a non military ground station in Arizona. There is a decrease in data speed as well as cell quality due to the bouncing from satellite to satellite. It works anywhere in the world. The phones cost between \$1400 and \$1500 each, and the typical usage cost is \$1.50 to 1.60 per minute. Everything was working, but it's Expensive to keep it running. The company ran into financial difficulties.

Globalstar came out with a system targeting remote users in populated areas. Using Globalstar, your call goes from you to a satellite to a ground station. If there is no ground station within sight of the satellite, you can't make a call. There is no service on the oceans, in Africa, etc., but it works in North America and the Caribbean very well. This company also ran into financial difficulties, and was bought out by a venture capital company. The phones are between \$550 and \$650 each and the typical usage cost is \$0.17 per minute. The downfalls to this system are the lack of satellites (only 30) and the lower in latitude you go, you get gaps in coverage of \_ hour or more. They have finished repositioning some satellites and will be launching eight more. They are already building the next generation satellites that will go up in 2010. However, in the meantime, the current satellites are wearing out.

If you are an emergency user and you need to pull out a satellite phone to use immediately, he would be hard pressed to recommend the Globalstar because of the satellites wearing out. Because of that, they are starting to sell more of the Iridium phones.

Neither phone works well in deep canyons or heavy forest. You would need to get to a location where you have broken cover, where you may be able to get your call out.

### **Old Business:**

No additional positions have been filled.

Maptech will give us a deal of \$99.95 for Terrain Navigator Pro Software. The software allows you to track units in the field. Dennis Brislawn is requesting that KCSARA purchase the software for the individual units. He is willing to purchase the software for any units that want

it, but needs to be paid back. If you are interested in the software, please contact Dennis Brislawn ([resqcat@hotmail.com](mailto:resqcat@hotmail.com)) by the next KCSARA meeting.

## **New Business**

Emergency Worker Categories discussion is tabled until the next meeting due to the presenter not being present.

We discussed the Emergency Worker Categories: Novice, Admin, Support, Field, Communication. Currently, Admin required NIMS only (no requirement for WAC), Support and Field require NIMS and WAC. The “Emergency Worker Qualifications”, WAC 118-04-100, and WAC 118-04-120 are attached to the file copy of these minutes. The discussion was to attempt to set minimum requirements for each Worker Category that would apply to all units. Each unit could require more stringent criteria, but not less. County would buy off on the Intro class covering as the qualification for Support people only (they can go to base camp, but not into the field). All categories require NIMS, it’s Federally mandated. The suggestion was to use the Academy classes for initial certification for all categories. ESAR would like to have a 3 hour or so course for parents who would be driving their members to the missions. That would enable them to be used in the van to answer radios, etc. The novice position can be used for that purpose until they get full WAC training. The decision was made that support must take the initial full WAC classes. Recertification would be waived for support. Kathy Decker will take that proposal to County.

The City of Sammamish has invited us to be part of their festivities on July 4<sup>th</sup> this year. They would like to set up a “lost and found” for lost kids, as well as some potential traffic/crowd control, etc.

If anyone needs to contact the Com Center during a mission, please have the Deputy make the contact. Don’t call KCSO Com Center when you are in the field unless absolutely necessary.

They would like to set up two different frequencies to use on missions: a primary and a backup. They would like to use F2 and the ESAR repeater (even though it is simplex).

Jon Wartes has started to realize he has a different outlook on changes that have been made as a person who has been away and come back. He is impressed with the innovations that have been implemented over the past 5 years. He realized that 4 subjects were all found in the flats and had no idea they were found so close together. This led to ideas for ways to locate people in the area easier. One idea was to produce custom maps for team leaders, vans, etc and for teams out overnight to light up the campsite so subjects can see them. Another idea was to use yellow barrier tape to block choke points and force the person out to a trail. He found we can use the tape as long as we pick it up at the end of the mission. Jon suggested creating a fund (perhaps \$2,000 per year) to be used to develop new innovations.

There is a new EMS section on the KCSARA website. Joanne Bottenberg is responsible for the content.

Rich Collingwood does not know all of the publications for all of the areas in King County. As PIO, he would like to know what they are. If anyone in any unit does anything outstanding, he

would like to know the publications in their area so he can put out a notification so we can get it out to the public.

We discussed Van Driver Training. There used to be County training as well as unit training required. The County Training is now done by 4X4, but there are only two units required to take the County Training. They are the only units that County pays the insurance on. The issue is whether County wants consistency in the training for the van driver position.

**Pratt Lake SOP committee:** They will be putting out their 4<sup>th</sup> draft later this week. Their third meeting will be held next month and they may not require another meeting. For the next phase, they would like to take a look at what happens at Lake Malakala when people turn the wrong way when heading towards Hemlock Pass. They want to contact people who have been lost out there so they can ask them questions about what happened. They would like volunteers to help make phone calls, go through old files, etc. Please contact Jon Wartes if interested.

*Next meeting will be held on April 9, 2007, at Master Builders Association in Bellevue.*

Meeting adjourned.