

NCRC Winter Meeting 2013 Minutes, Walker County Georgia, Feb 23

Call to order 09:10

Approval of Summer 2012 Minutes – Distributed electronically prior to the meeting and paper copy provided at meeting.

Motion to Accept Northeastern Region

Medical Officer Seconds

No oppositions no Abstentions

Staff Reports

Finance Report Appendix A

IT Report Appendix B

Officer Reports

National Coordinator Appendix C

Training Officer Appendix D

Medical Officer Appendix E

Diving Officer Appendix F

Regional Coordinator Reports

Caribbean Region Appendix G

Central Region Appendix H

Eastern Region Appendix I

Northeastern Region Appendix J

Pacific Northwest Region Appendix K

Rocky Mountain Region Appendix L

South Central Region Appendix M

Southeastern Region Appendix N

Southwestern Region Appendix O

Western Region Appendix P

2013 Seminar – New York Set price at \$525.00 Received permission that everything they wanted only issue is Food. Trying to get better option than to have Emily cook all the meals. Change in school staffing may help the matter.
Greg M. – Registration need for students. Call to regional to get students.

2014 Seminar – Colorado Rick – Contracts have been sent to National and Signed and sent back. Support from local caves. Registration should be open by the end of 2013 seminar.

2015 Seminar – Kentucky Presentation from Central Region for the Rock Castle Shooting Center.

Education Committee Report and Action Items

See Appendix D for specifics.

Walk Through Mock Lesson Plan - Motion to accept as written; Southwestern Region Medical seconds (PNW abstain) No opposition.

Management - Move to accept Levels 1,2,3 Management lesson plans and power points. Western Region; Seconded Medical. Southwest Region and Central Region Abstains.

Hazardous Atmosphere – Medical; Moves to Accept Hazardous Atmospheres Lesson plan and Power point. Northeastern Seconds. Southwest abstains.

Medical Assessment – Move to accept Level 1 Medical Assessment power point and lesson plan; Western Region. Southeastern seconded. Central Region abstains.

Water Problems - South Central moves to accept Level 1 Water Problems Lesson plan and power point with the understanding that the definition of Cavern, Sump and Cave divers will be added. Medical Seconds. No Abstentions, or Against.

Patient Packaging – Medical. Move to Accept Level 2 Patient Packaging Lesson plan and Power point with the Editorial Changes as stated by Pacific North West Region. North Eastern region Seconds.

Pacific North West Region Editorial Changes: Two inches slack upper V.
Lower extremity no extra webbing, Foot loop only not the diamond lashing.
Central Region Abstains.

Search – South Western: Moves to accept Level 2 Search lesson plan. Medical seconds John Evens Abstains

SRT – Pacific North West Moves to accept Level 2 SRT exercise lesson plan. North Eastern Regions Seconds. No, Abstentions or Oppositions.

Proposed Changes to Level 3

Delete Fixed brake lower for the entry test, Remove Water Problems from the Schedule – Medical moves to Accept proposed changes to Level 3, the removal of The Fixed brake lower from the entrance skill and removal of water problems lesson. South Central Seconds, No oppositions or abstentions.

Instructor Handbook - No vote needed. Please contact Steve Hudson if there is anything that is not in the information that you would like to see put there.

Elections:

Education Committee member at Large -
Rebecca Land-Segrest and Stephen Bishop
Vote

Rebecca
12
Bishop
2

Online BORC Votes were Acknowledged

OLD BUSINESS

Fixed Sites – Proposal for the Park Mammoth site for a fixed site following the 2015. May also look at Colorado as a fixed site following 2014.

Scholarship report – The NSS Cave Rescue Scholarship Fund is now an Endowment. They are still looking for monies to add to this fund.

Code of Conduct – Progress has been made. Also looking at mechanism for the chain of command and how to report. Asking for further direction. Present a list of 19 things that they are calling Attributes of a good instructor. Question is after hours or during class. Revisit the old Code of conduct. It does not have enforcement. March 28 proposed Dead line for Chain of Command with Proposal and what you have you come up with for the other two sections.

Mob/ Demob/ Registrar etc. for seminars – March 28 proposed for update and proposal. After main stuff about 4-8 hours and 4-5 people, on the back end. Roger M will Chair the Committee now. Please bring this back to BORC if there is some thing that needs addressed.

MRA Cave Rescue Certification – John Panches has been added to this Committee. Mel Eady-Pumplin added to this Committee.

Webinar for the NSS – Anmar will be coordinating this.

IT Committee – Fees for hosting the database online could be too expensive. Other options need to continue being examined and will report back.

New Business

David Comstock - Board Recognizes the contributions of David Comstock and deeply regrets his passing. *A letter is to be written by the National Coordinator to his family on behalf of the NCRC.*

Pacific North West makes a motion to Deposit \$2000.00 from general fund to NSS Cave Rescue Training Fund in Memory of David Comstock.

South Central Region Seconds. Motion carries unopposed.

Change to OCR policy – John E Move Education Board present with new OCR material for approval. No Second

Motion South Eastern_ A variety of OCR materials are available on the NCRC Curriculum Web site which may be adapted to meet the regional needs Central Seconds Motion Withdrawn by South Eastern Region

Copyright – EC is working on a release and making sure that we will own the copyright.

BORC Meeting at Convention -

NTC Moves to petition the NSS BOG to Modify their Requirement that the NCRC BORC meet in conjunction with the NSS Convention each year. We suggest every other year so that on alternate years the BORC can meet at a National Seminar. Seconded by South Eastern Region.

Amended by NTC. - That we suggest that we be allowed to alternately meet at the National Seminar.

Discussion- It was pointed out that we are not required to have a business meeting at Convention, to quote the charter:

“To hold at least one meeting of the Commission each year at the NSS Annual Convention. This meeting will be open to the public and provide a forum for the Commission to present recent accomplishments and future plans to the Society membership and solicit membership feedback.”

NTC withdraws his motion.

We will figure out how to make next BORC elections normally held during the summer meeting.

Next meeting 9:00 February 22, 2014 to be held at Walker County

Motion To Adjourn By Central Region
No opposition no abstention.
Meeting Adjourned at 13:44EST.

Appendix A

February 2013 - NCRC Finance Report

NCRC currently has \$78,763.63. The following shows a breakdown of the total amount in each account as of January 31st, 2013:

Account	Balance as of 1/31/2013
West	\$4,896.54
Southwest	\$970.80
South Central	\$1,567.91
Southeast	\$1,559.60
Rocky Mt	n/a - no account
PNW	n/a - no account
Northeast	\$4,708.53
Eastern	\$2,954.03
Central	\$4,337.15
Caribbean	n/a - no account
National Seminar	\$495.76
National	\$57,273.31
Total	\$78,763.63

I am currently troubleshooting access issues to the NCRC QuickBooks file on the NSS Server. As soon as this has been resolved, I will email out a detailed report showing the breakdown of expense and income over the 2012 calendar year.

To continue to improve accounting for NCRC, I recommend the BORG consider the following:

1- Establish a merchant account for credit card processes. Currently credit card charges for the National NCRC training is run through PMI's account. Setting up a merchant account for credit cards is more appropriate from an audit perspective, eliminates the fees that PMI incurs on NCRC's behalf, and allows other NCRC trainings to accept debit and credit cards.

2 - Consider reducing the number of Regional Accounts. Most of the accounts have little, if any, activity. Having numerous accounts adds overhead to the NSS to manage and increases the amount of bank fees NCRC pays. If an account is not

needed, I recommend closing the account and using the NSS National Account to hold Regional funds.

Thanks,
Marty Reames
NCRC Finance Officer

Appendix B

2013 Database Coordinator Report

Most OCRs have started using the new Excel Spreadsheet that is available on the website. After a couple of minor issues, this is now a workable procedure and we should continue to use it. I believe all the OCRs I'm aware of in 2012 have submitted information and it has been uploaded to the database.

No feature request changes have been submitted.

The database sub-committee did not meet this past year, but will attempt to meet in the coming year.

Backups continue to be sent to Anmar and Steve as major changes to data or the webcode occurs.

There was one request from the BOG for information which was provided in December. I have attended most if not all EC meetings and phone conferences.

Submitted by Greg D. Moore

Appendix C

Worked with the Education Committee on curriculum, and attended the Fall and Winter EC meetings and all of the monthly conference calls.

Fielded numerous requests from media for cave rescue footage and material.

Filed the NSS BOG reports.

Handled numerous requests from NSS officers for information regarding cave rescue or NCRC information.

And as usual, dealt with the business of running the NCRC, paying the bills, and interacting with the caving community to represent NCRC.

Appendix D

National Training Coordinator Report to the BORC
February 23, 2013

Progress:

The Education Committee continues our regularly scheduled monthly conference calls. It also held a face to face meeting in Walker County Georgia on 12/1 & 2 /2012 and again 2/22/2013.

The EC is continuing its comprehensive review of all curriculum materials level by level to ensure consistency within each subject, covering lesson plans, PowerPoints, handouts, field work, skills, and the book. We have developed more of the suggested changes from November 2011's Instructor Summit as approved by the BORC in February 2012 and have more for your review and we hope approval today.

Beck Jones has continued doing a great job as curriculum coordinator and for the most part, our curriculum materials are now organized. Greg Moore continues to function as our IT guy and continues to make curriculum materials available to instructors via the internet.

As reported at the summer 2012 meeting; The May 2012 seminar had 84 students and 40 instructor. We taught Levels 1, 2, & 3 plus TOFE and IQ. Unfortunately we had to cancel the Caving and Wilderness Medicine pilot class for lack of registered students. We managed to make a profit of \$1,743.53 while paying the food and lodging expenses of all the instructors and staff. This is only possible through generous donations of copy machine use, materials and cash from several friends of the NCRC. In addition we had 3 paid up students cancel their registrations very late that did not request refunds on hardships grounds and that helped increase the bottom line. I did refund one student's last minute cancelation due to a family medical emergency. He was very grateful. A full accounting for the 2012 national seminar has been handed over to Mary Reams as the new NCRC treasurer.

The Education Committee have chosen 5 new candidates for the 2013 IQ class and 4 have already registered. Selected were; Carl Amundson, Mark Dickey, Rick Speaect, Sonny Lawrence, and Stephen Bishop.

Since the Summer 2012 BORC meeting the NTC with the assistance of the Education Committee has received and replied to 360 emails, held 2 in person work weekends and 6 conference calls for the Education Committee, assisted with the 2013 National Seminar registration process, and approved 4 OCRs and one regional weeklong seminar.

Plans:

Assist with the July 2013 National Seminar in New York as NTC.

Review of all curriculum materials to continue.

Continue to develop instructor resources that will be available to NCRC instructors via the internet.

Continue ongoing efforts to review portions of NCRC text, to ensure curriculum and book are consistent, under editorship of Anmar Mirza

Work with Roger Mortimer and others on the Medical Specialty pilot course for inclusion at the 2014 National Seminar if the BORC is still interested.

Consider other new material for additional class offerings.

Problems:

Prompt follow through of BORC committee assignments as well as the Education Committee's own assignments in a timely manner is a problem in delivery of improved service to our student customers and our internal customers. We are a volunteer organization but we need to be more professional in our ability to hold each other accountable for our assigned jobs. If any of us are too busy or burned out to perform our volunteer job as required, we should step down or at least not accept the assignment.

Action items for the Winter BORC meeting:

The Education Committee has a number of ballots for the BORC to approve at this meeting if you so please.

Walkthrough Mock FW LP

L1, 2 & 3 Cave Rescue Management lessons

L1 Hazardous Atmospheres

L1 Medical Assessment

L1 Water Problems

L2 Patient Packaging – add flotation and water packaging

L2 Search LP

L2 SRT

Proposed changes to L3

Delete Fixed Brake Lower from L3 Entry Testing

Remove Water Problems FW from Schedule

Instructor Handbook

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hudson,

National Training Coordinator

Appendix E

Report to the Board of Regional Coordinators, NCRC, February, 2013

Since the last BORC meeting:

I have:

1. Participated in Education Committee phone conferences as scheduling allowed.
2. Attended the November Education Committee work Weekend in December.

In the future, the Medical Coordinator will need to:

1. Continue to update and refine all Medical lectures. There have been suggestions for revisions of Medical/First Aid curriculum, and suggested changes will continue to be reviewed.
2. Review and update as needed the Medical Consideration chapters in the text
3. Continue to monitor Patient Packaging techniques, learning objectives and testing criteria; work on Level 2 Packaging "advanced" techniques.
4. Assist and evaluate the new Medical elective.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Mosberg
20444FE

Appendix F

Diving officer's Report
February 23, 2013
NCRC BORC Meeting

July 21, 2012

An open water diver with only one light, and without the proper training or cavediving gear went into the cave, pulled his gear off and pushed it ahead of them through a narrow restriction. He lost the gear (it wasn't tethered in any way) while going through as there's good flow in the restriction and the BC was positive. He probably kicked up a bit of silt squeezing through and couldn't find his gas; and didn't have time (and it wouldn't take much time) to let the silt flow out. Victim drowned.

August 17, 2012

Edd Sorenson saved another diver today. A family of open water divers are up touring all the springs in Florida they can. They went to see Twin, after they we're told if you go there don't go in. Well they went in, things got bad and the daughter got lost. Edd was at J.B teaching when the call come in. He loaded up, went to his boat and on to twin. Long story short, he found the girl in zero viz and reunited her with her family. The dad got several lectures from both Edd and the Sheriff's dept. Three saves this year, pretty damn good!!

October 15, 2012 a team of four experienced cave divers from various parts of the country dove into Blue Springs.

The initial dive was like any other until the team followed a line, onto the wrong path. Two of the men turned around and two got stuck. One of the men managed to free himself, but the other was not as fortunate.

He somehow managed to continue through the cave hoping to come to a better spot, when the line he was following snapped. He then found himself trapped against the ceiling and running out of air. When his tank ran out, he found a tiny air pocket, hoping to buy himself a few last breaths.

When the three other divers made it to shore, they called the dive shop Edd Sorenson owns in Marianna for help. He said, he could have never made the rescue without the help of his employees.

"My shop manager, Frank Gonzalez, did an unbelievable job getting all my stuff ready. He sat in the back of my truck while I drove almost 100 MPH down to Blue Spring - laying in the back of the truck putting my equipment together. So when we got here, all I had to do was put a suit on."

Sorenson recounted Monday's rescue. "The air pocket was so small it should have never sustained life that long" said Sorenson. "I figured I was going to be doing a body recovery."

Sorenson recounted the conversation he had with the rescued diver once the two made it safely to shore. He said the diver had told him he had already accepted his fate. "He knew the carbon dioxide in the air pocket was going to take over and put him to sleep. So he said, 'All I could think about was, at least it would be painless.'"

Edd Sorenson did three rescues in 2012, saving a total of 4 people..

Reminder: There is a rescue call-down list on the BORC forum, at cavechat.org

Appendix G

February 22, 2013

San Juan, Puerto Rico

To: BOARC

RE: Caribbean Region Report

Dear Friends:

Sorry that I was not able to be with you guys on this meeting. I am including the Caribbean Region Report on this letter.

1. I am submitting my Proxy to Anmar Mirza, to cover my votes.
2. No accidents to report.
3. A total of 3 activities were performed during the year 2012. One BCRO, a patient packaging and movement, and SRT are the detail of these activities. Money regarding insurance and NCRC tuition will be sent shortly.
4. A couple of years ago a collaboration agreement was done with FREMS a Pro Bono institution that gives paramedic services in the metropolitan area. The deceased Wilfredo Lopez, was part of that group and after he died both parties wanted to start working together. The benefits that we receive as NCRC are the recognition that FREMS posses in PR as well as their gear cache, vehicles and meeting place. A formal report regarding the details of this collaboration agreement will be submitted for the summer meeting.
5. We are still trying to be recognized by the government to see if it's feasible to receive its aid, to buy gear. Until know all the efforts have not delivered, still our plan is to keep pushing it. We are hoping that this improves with the collaboration agreement that we have with FREMS.
6. The calendar of activities for the 2013 year is as follow:
 - a. 3 BCRO's are planned
 - i. March 23 and 24, Isabela PR, Instructor Karel Hilversum is in charge of it.
 - ii. May 25 and 26, San Juan PR, Instructor Carlos Ruiz is in charge of it.
 - iii. August 24 and 25, Camuy PR, Efrain Mercado is in charge of it.
7. Our goal is to do a Regional Seminar on PR from the 12th of April to the 19th, on 2014. Receive this notification as our Formal Request regarding this matter. If this is not sufficient, please let me know and a separate notification will be submitted. A more robust report regarding this matter will be submitted for the summers meeting.

Respectfully,

Roberto "Bull" Miranda
NCRC Coordinator

Appendix H

Date of Report: February 20, 2013

Trainings

Past Orientation to Cave Rescue

July 14-15, 2012; Wayne County, Kentucky EMS

October 20-21, 2012; Lonestar Karst Preserve, Louisville Grotto

Future Orientation to Cave Rescue

April ?, 2013; Greyson County, Kentucky

June 14-15, 2013; Nicholasville, Kentucky EMS

Potentially OCR in Missouri; Date TBD

Rescues

None

Plans / Work in Progress

2015 National Cave Rescue Operations and Management Seminar

Park Mammoth Resort; Edmonson County, Kentucky

Dates TBD

Formalized a new Central Region call-out list

Distribution of Central Region gear cache.

Problems

None

Other

Representative of cave rescue at Indiana Department of Homeland
Security SARTAC Committee

February 16, 2013: Meeting

April 13, 2013: Meeting

June 20-23, 2013: Conference

Appendix I

Verbal given at the meeting.

Appendix J

Northeast Region NCRC

Winter 2013 Regional Report

February 21, 2013

Rescues – None

Training Held – Orientation to Cave Rescue Workshop October 22&23, 2012 in Canaan, New York. 25 Students attended. Lead Instructor – John Evans

On November 10th Greg held an afternoon session with the Berlin, NY Fire Company they are the local EMS group for Bentley's Cave an NCC Cave Preserve.

Plans – Working on the 2013 NCRC National Seminar – July 6 thru 13, 2013 in Schoharie, NY

2013 Seminar Planning

Winter Report

Following discussions at the Summer BORG meeting the seminar fee was established at \$525.

Permission has been received to use LaSalle Park in The village of Schoharie, Three Area NSS Cave Preserves, Northeast Cave Conservancy Caves (9 Caves), and Bensons Cave. All but two of the caves are within a 35 minute drive of the seminar site. The Schools kitchen staff has changed and we are re-entering negotiations to see if we can have them prepare Breakfast and Dinner.

John Evans – Northeast Region Coordinator

Appendix K

NCRC PNW Region. Report. Winter 2013.

Collaborated with Eddy Cartaya on presentation to Oregon State Sheriff's Association re Cave Rescue in Oregon. Sep 12, 2012.

Collaborated with Deschutes Mountain Rescue on cave rescue training event for MRA groups in Oregon. Sep 15, 2012.

Submitted revised patient packaging handout to Ed Committee.

Assisted with revisions to NCRC policies per NTO and NTC.

Anticipating May or early June OCR at Oregon Caves.

Anticipating June OCR in Central Oregon in conjunction with Deschutes Mountain Rescue.

Appendix L

NCRC Rocky Mt. Region Report for 2013 Winter Meeting

**Marc Ohms
Rocky Mt. Region Coordinator**

**Rick Speaect
Proxy**

Training

There was an OCR in Utah this fall. I have not yet received any report from that event.

There is an OCR planned for April 13th and 14th in Colorado. Mel Eady will be the lead instructor.

Appendix M

National Cave Rescue Commission South-Central Regional Report Winter Meeting 2013

DJ Walker

Recent Events/Activities

- February 1, 2013, our friend and fellow Instructor David Comstock passed away after a courageous fight with ALS. He was a great man and did a lot to forward the awareness and capabilities of cave rescue in our region.
- We hosted a very successful Regional Seminar February 8-16, 2013. We had 31 Level 1 students and 11 Level 2 students. We had students, instructors and staff from all over the US attend. There was a large turnout of students from local rescue agencies.
- The Instructor Recertification Test was offered at the February Regional Seminar. 3 Instructors took the exam.
- In 2012 and 2013 a number of Instructors from our region allowed their Instructor status expire because they did not feel it necessary to take an exam to prove their worth to the organization. At least two of these individuals participated in NCRC events for over 20 years. They contributed significantly to the organization and it is

sad to loose them. In discussions with one of the expired instructors he expressed the following:

“We did take the initial required exam. The fall out was over the requirement to take additional exams. Little, if any, consideration was given to our positive student evaluations, initial exam performance, historical contributions to the organization, or our continued support of regional activities.”

- We purchased 4 mini-field phones, 3 smart phone patches, and 3 external speaker connectors for use with the hardwire communication system. Jantzen Cardy made these products. Initial field use of these items has proven them to be very valuable tools. The external speaker connector proved to be very valuable during the mock rescue at the last seminar.

Appendix N

Coordinator Report

Winter Meeting - February 2013

- April 2012 Cave rescue presentation to Tennessee State Park system
Fall Creek Falls, SP
- May 2012 TerrAdaptor demo to Tennessee State Park system with
Chattanooga-Hamilton County Rescue, Inc.
Fall Creek Falls, SP
- May 2012 Supported the NCRC Weeklong Training
Mentone, AL
- August 2012 Supported the HCRU Cave Rescue Class,
Huntsville, AL
- November 2012 Added cell phone patch and pocket filed phone to
equipment cache.

There were reported 6 cave rescue incidents, 5 required an official response and 1 was a small party rescue.

They were in the states of Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee.

Appendix O

NCRC Southwestern Region Report for 2013 Winter Meeting

Two OCR will be held in the Southwestern Region
Feb 23 – Carlsbad, NM
Mar 31 – Tucson, AZ

Both courses have been approved and will occur. Instructors will consist of certified NCRC instructors and NCRC Trained technical personnel.

Plans for a Level 1/2 seminar in New Mexico have been set aside. No joy on cave access because of the BLM restrictions in the state. Reassessing possibility of the seminar utilizing US Forest Service caves since the WNS restrictions have not been placed on them, but access to caves have been somewhat restrictive to the conducting of a NCRC seminar.

The NCRC-SW Regional Coordinator employment load has somewhat been reduced and will now re-start his involvement in Cave SAR issue in the region. Better said, I now know what I am doing and the office is running more efficient.

Rescues in Region
None to report

Appendix P

Western Region Report

Rescues: Caver fall with cervical fracture in Hawaii. Caver doing well.

Trainings: OCR in Hawaii led by Bill Frantz

Worked on several book chapters and nagged others to do same. Had a planning meeting for the Western Region. Attended WMS meeting in July. Met with incoming president and executive director about doing an OCR with them as a pre-program activity.

Plans: OCR in Sequoia NP in April. Weeklong level 1 in Lava Beds in June.