



NATIONAL SEARCH DOG ALLIANCE  
**Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors**

May 22, 2014

*certified*

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Search Dog Alliance was held by conference call on Thursday, May 22, 2014. President Norma Snelling called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. EDT.

The following Directors were present and constituted a quorum:

Susan Fleming	Gloria Howard	Sherry Scruggs
Norma Snelling	Sue Wolff	

Absent were:

- Cameron Daggett
- Julie Gibson conflicting engagement
- Jan Meyer
- Robert Noziska - working
- Shayla Price, Executive Director (K-9 standards do not apply to her job)

Also present on the call:

Suzanne Elshult

At the request of President Norma Snelling, Sherry Scruggs began the meeting by giving the background of the NSDA Disaster Standard and its evolution into the Disaster First Responder. Sherry said that she had written the first draft of the Disaster First Responder with Janet Yatchek and the second draft with Kathleen Kelsey. Sherry said that the choice now is whether to accept the original one she wrote with Janet Yatchek, select the FEMA document word for word or accept the FEMA document making our own changes.

Sue Wolff made a motion, with a second by Susan Fleming, to write/accept our own standard. The motion passed unanimously

Sherry Scruggs pointed out that the original test is easier to set up and has a smaller rubble pile. She says it does not incorporate a ladder, a downstay or a figure eight obedience with other canines present. She said that all of these components are incorporated in the FEMA test.

Gloria Howard asked how NSDA's original standard compared to NASAR's and Sherry responded that that organization used the FEMA document.

Susan Fleming stated that she liked NSDA's original test as it is more practical. Sue Wolff said that she liked the original one also as it incorporated all the skills needed to work disaster unlike the FEMA pre-test which required handlers and canines to work on skills strictly for the test.

Sherry Scruggs made the comment that a more difficult standard could always be added. President Norma Snelling said NSDA could start with a Type II and add Type I later. Sherry said that there are two standards now completed: the original test which could be the Type III and the FEMA pre-test with revisions could be the Type II. Sherry also suggested that there should be separate Evaluators for each level.

Gloria Howard wanted to know why Level I was being left open. President Norma Snelling responded that nothing had been written yet that was up to the FEMA Level I test.

President Norma Snelling asked that Sherry Scruggs send out the proposed Level II and Level III to the Board. It was mentioned that the Board had already approved the Disaster First Responder. Sue Wolff located the October 19, 2013, approved motion made by Sherry Scruggs, seconded by Susan Fleming, to accept the HRD and Live Find First Responder Disaster Standards as to the content of the material with the understanding that they would be put into the final format over the next couple of weeks.

Susan Fleming inquired if Jan Meyer would be putting these documents in final format. President Norma Snelling responded that, since Jan had formatted all the other standards, it was nice to have continuity in the layout of all of the Alliance's standards. President Snelling also mentioned that Jan Meyer is going to be the Chair of the Standards Review Committee.

President Norma Snelling thanked Sherry Scruggs for all the work she has done on this standard both previously and now. Susan Fleming also recognized Sherry for all the work prepared.

There being no further discussion, Sue Wolff made a motion to adjourn with a second by Susan Fleming. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m. EDT.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Sue Wolff', is centered on the page.

Sue C. Wolff/Secretary/May22, 2014