

Minutes of the February 9, 2006 Meeting of the North Carolina Association of Hazardous  
Materials Responders  
Concord, North Carolina

The meeting was called to order at 1:16 P.M. by Vice President Ben Major. Fifteen members and visitors were present.

Vice President Major welcomed all members and visitors to the meeting and thanked Concord Fire and Life Safety for hosting the meeting.

Secretary Glenn Clapp read the minutes from the November 10, 2005 meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Mark Brown and the minutes were unanimously accepted.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Frank Burns. As of the time of the Meeting, the balance is \$7,176.04. Treasurer Burns stated that invoices had been sent out for the Association fees.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 2006 Conference Planning Progress  
Abby Moore was absent due to snow in the Asheville area, therefore no report was given.
2. Association Sponsored Seminar  
Abby Moore was absent due to snow in the Asheville area, therefore no report was given.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Foundation Donation  
Treasurer Burns stated that the NCFFF was dedicating their memorial statue in Raleigh on May 6<sup>th</sup>, and asked if any member would like to make a motion to provide a contribution to the NCFFF for the memorial. As the Association has in excess of \$7,000 in savings, a contribution would not place an undue financial hardship on the Association. Jim Barrett then asked how any donation would be used and what would be an acceptable amount. Arlin Sechrist then stated that such a donation would most likely be used for ongoing maintenance and the like, and donors would be recognized by being listed on a plaque. Mark Dalton then made the motion that \$1,000 be donated to the NCFFF as a one-time donation from the NCAHMR towards the memorial statue. Jim Barrett seconded the motion, which was then unanimously approved.
2. Discussion on Instructor Certification

Steve Williams stated that the Technician Instructor certification process may need to be examined, as it is tough to re-qualify under the new standards, which are very stringent. This could lead to a reduced ability to train Hazmat Technicians within the State. Chief Williams stated that the requirement for all current Tech. Instructors to repeat the qualification process was too stringent. Jim Barrett then commented that you only have to sit through the portion of the class that you desire to teach. The new qualification process is as follows:

1. Take the portion of the class that you desire to teach as a student.
2. Pass a job-knowledge test.
3. Teach the specific portion of the class with a certified instructor.
4. Teach the section and be evaluated by students and instructors.

It was then stipulated that the NCOSFM was trying to offer four Tech. Classes per year. Chief Williams then stated that the need may exist for a letter to be sent to NCOSFM/DOI stating the need for additional Hazmat Technician Classes.

Treasurer Burns then mentioned the possibility of a petition to request additional Technician Classes, and that it should be sent to Commissioner Jim Long. After continued discussion, Arlin Sechrist motioned that an e-mail poll be distributed to all teams to determine if the need for additional Hazmat Technician Courses.

Mark Dalton seconded the motion, which was then unanimously approved.

## TRAINING REPORTS

### Technician Classes

Fayetteville, Starting April 10<sup>th</sup>

Raleigh, April 17<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>

### NFA Chemistry of Hazmat

Salisbury, First two weeks of May

### Dills/Exercises/Miscellaneous

February 22, 23, &24: A meeting of all hazmat teams bordering Charlotte to discuss equipment capabilities. An invitation was also extended to other teams, with the contact e-mail being [pbosche@ci.charlotte.nc.us](mailto:pbosche@ci.charlotte.nc.us)

## TEAM REPORTS

### Charlotte

Charlotte Hazmat has written a letter of non-support to the SBI regarding operations at Clandestine Drug Labs. In three calls involving such labs, the SBI conducted operations with no decon, safety officer, or backup team. The Charlotte-Mecklinburg Police Department now has two Technicians rolling over to the Fire Department. Mark Dalton then asked why Command is allowing entries to be conducted under such conditions, since such scenes are still considered a hazmat scene. Lt. Dalton then stated that he will contact SA Pam Tully regarding the level of SBI training.

### Rowan County

Rowan County then asked the question if OSHA and NFPA Regulations prohibit Operations Level personnel from supporting Technician-Level responses. A consensus was reached that such actions oftentimes occur, especially in the areas of decon and defensive operations.

### VENDORS

- Arran Bibby presented information on the "First Defender" IR Detector
- Eric Ogden presented information on the WeatherBug and ADASHI Systems
- A teleconferencing presentation was scheduled, but technical difficulties resulted in the postponement of the demonstration to a later date.

The next meeting of the NCAHMR will be held in Winston-Salem on May 5, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.

At 3:14 p.m., Arlin Sechrist motioned that the meeting be adjourned, which was seconded by Steve Williams.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Glenn Clapp CHMM, CFPS  
Secretary, NCAHMR

### Minutes of the May 11, 2006 Meeting of the North Carolina Association of Hazardous Materials Responders Winston Salem, North Carolina

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 P.M. by President A.C. Rich. Thirty members and visitors were present.

President Rich welcomed all members and visitors to the meeting and thanked Winston Salem/Forsyth County for hosting the meeting.

President Rich read the minutes from the February 9, 2006 meeting, in Secretary Glenn Clapp's absence.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Frank Burns. As of May 9, 2006 the balance is \$7,199.87. Treasurer Burns stated dues are still coming in. The check issued to the Fallen Firefighters Foundation for the Memorial will be reissued because it was lost in the shuffle somewhere. President Rich read a thank you letter received from the Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Chief Peele made a motion to accept the report and the motion was seconded by Chief McCormick.

## OLD BUSINESS:

### 1. 2006 Conference Update

- a. Information was sent by Mike Chapman through President Rich. Mike Cowen will present two seminars: Response to Energy Infrastructure Emergencies (8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.) and Response to Pipeline & Utility Infrastructure Emergencies (1:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.). His presentation will conflict with the Keynote Speaker. His presentations will be repeated at the same time on Saturday, but this will be during the Hazmat challenge. Someone is needed to introduce Mr. Cowen before his presentations.
- b. HAZMAT Challenge currently has one team registered. Registration forms will be emailed to the Association.
- c. Chief Peele added that opening day will be big this year and will be a celebration of the 5<sup>th</sup> year anniversary since 9/11. There will be a lot of good speakers, including a firefighter from New York.

## NEW BUSINESS:

### 3. Hazmat Specialist Certification – Re-evaluation

President Rich stated e-mails have been sent to the Association with only one reply received regarding this issue. The WMD Hazmat specialist certification has several layers, but no safety layer and is under re-evaluation. After discussion of the necessary qualifications and accessibility, President Rich stated the e-mail will be resent to the Association. He would like comments back and asked do we have the capability to obtain this, and how do you define specialty level of air monitoring or PPE? The WMD Specialist requirements are listed on the webpage.

### 4. Survey Regarding the Need for Additional Hazmat Technician Class Offerings

President Rich stated that Secretary Clapp has received two replies both indicating additional Hazmat Technician Class offerings are warranted in addition to those already offered and/or planned to facilitate training adequate numbers of Hazmat Technicians.

### 5. No additional new business

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### 1. Team Typing Review Committee

Two documents were handed out, one based on Pennsylvania's guide and the other from FEMA. There was much discussion on the need for Team Typing. Issues include number of training classes available, getting NC and FEMA to align, would typing be self or peer certified and who would be the owner of typing. A consensus was reached to have the Association define it and then talk to SERC, EM, etc. A new committee was formed with the following members:

Kevin Gordon (Charlotte FD), Derrick Clouston (OSFM), Chip Osborne (Dept. of Community Colleges), and Steve Lovette (High Point FD).

2. Education and Outreach Committee

Abby Moore asked for topic or resource ideas needed or wanted to help Association Members. She would like for everyone to be able to bring someone to the meetings and leave having learned something new or gotten ideas. President Rich also stated that next year they are hoping to have at least one activity sponsored outside of the conference and quarterly meetings that could be one-day or overnight and they are looking for ideas for it as well. Ideas should be e-mailed to Abby.

TRAINING REPORTS:

Derrick Clouston stated there are changes in requirements to get money for training. These changes are the reason that Fayetteville's Tech Class was cancelled. There are also problems getting per diems for instructors paid through the State. Right now money remains uncertain.

TEAM REPORTS:

Chief Peele stated that from an RRT perspective there are difficulties with EM. Equipment has been out of service for months and looks like most trucks will go out of service because of expired tire life.

GUESTS and/or VENDORS

Presentations were made by:

Chris Lins – Smiths Detection – Gas-ID-RAMAN IR detector  
Trip McGarity – Frham Safety – Radiation Protection Equipment  
Walter Fournet – MSA – Monitoring Equipment

The next meeting of the NCAHMR will be held in Greensboro at the annual meeting. Date and location will be announced via e-mail.

Chief Sechrist made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chief Burns. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sherry G. Rigouard, MPH

## Greensboro, NC

The meeting was called to order at 1: 10 p.m. by Past President Jimbo Peele, as President A.C. rich was to arrive shortly. Thirty-three members and visitors were present.

A discussion regarding team responses and reports then ensued as follows:

-- Greensboro: Jim Robinson and Warren Ritter stated that a Hazmat Technician Class would be offered from October 9<sup>th</sup> through October 20<sup>th</sup> at Guilford Technical Community College in Jamestown. An Awareness and Operations Hazmat Instructor Class will be offered at the Greensboro Fire Department Training Center on December 4<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. A Hazmat Technician Instructor Qualification will be offered at the Greensboro Fire Department Training Center on August 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

-- Guilford County: Steve Marks discussed recent events, including an overpressure involving HTH containers.

-- Winston-Salem: Steve Williams discussed the utilization of the use of bomb squad robotic equipment.

-- Charlotte: Gary McCormick stated that Charlotte is researching various OSHA topics/regulations as applies to hazmat. Charlotte also responded to an aircraft incident involving a peroxide.

-- Asheville: Gary Cornett stated that Asheville responded on an RRT call to a white powder incident in a neighboring county, which was determined to be insulation. An exercise will be held with the N.C. National Guard (42<sup>nd</sup> Civil Support Team) during the first week of November.

-- Williamston: Jimbo Peele stated that an exercise was planned with the 42<sup>nd</sup> CST also.

-- North Carolina Community College System: Scott Bullard introduced Todd Dettman, Emmett Page, and Chip Osborne, who are Fire/Rescue Regional Training Coordinators.

-- Derrick Clouston, Lee County Fire Marshal (formerly OSFM) introduced Vince Marks, who will be the Hazmat Training Coordinator for NC OSFM. Funding opportunities were also discussed, as well as upcoming training classes.

-- Robeson County: Robeson County now has a technician-level team up and running.

-- NC HSEES: Sherry Giles stated that a meeting was scheduled with poultry industry representatives to discuss chlorine usage.

### OLD BUSINESS

President Rich had arrived during the preceding discussion, and then disseminated copies of the minutes of the previous meeting and an agenda for the current meeting. President Rich then also stated that he was returning to the line, and Battalion Chief Brad Harvey would be assuming the duties of Hazmat Coordinator.

President Rich then read the minutes from the May 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting in Winston-Salem in the absence of Secretary Clapp. Chief Ritter made the motion to accept, with Chief Peele seconding. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

It was stated that there will be several NCAHMR-related events transpiring at the NC Firemens' Association Conference, including Mike Callan as a guest speaker (sponsored by the NCAHMR), the Hazmat Challenge on Friday, and an equipment display by RRT – 5 on Saturday. Chief Peele also stated that there will be an action-packed opening to the Conference, lasting from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. with several speakers. In addition, the Hazmat Challenge has seven teams registered at the present time.

### NEW BUSINESS

Officer Elections: Chief McCormick of the Nominating Committee asked if the present Officers would agree to serving an additional term. All agreed to serving an additional term. No persons had been nominated for any of the officer positions, therefore nominations were closed. Chief Williams made the motion to accept the recommendations of the Nominating Committee, with Chief Peele seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

Sherry Rigouard introduced Kathleen Buckheit from UNC, who is the Director of Continuing Education for the Occupational Safety and Health Education and Research Center. She discussed possible avenues in which the Center could assist the hazmat community.

A discussion then ensued regarding tire problems on the RRT vehicles and the replacement of the tires.

The next NCAHMR Meeting will be held in Wilmington on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Glenn Clapp CHMM, CFPS  
Secretary NCAHMR

Minutes of the November 9, 2006 Meeting of the North Carolina Association of  
Hazardous Materials Responders  
Wilmington, NC

The November Meeting was called to order at 1:45 p.m. by President A.C. Rich. President Rich thanked New Hanover County for hosting the meeting at the New Hanover County Emergency Operations Center and providing lunch for all attendees. All attendees then introduced themselves and the departments/agencies represented. Nineteen attendees were present.

The Minutes of the August 23, 2006 Meeting were then reviewed. The corrections suggested were the capitalization of the "A" in August and changing "HDH" to "HTH". A motion was made by Mark Dalton to accept the minutes with the stated corrections. Garry McCormick seconded the motion and the corrected minutes were accepted unanimously.

Frank Burns then provided the Treasurer's Report. The NCAHMR account totaled \$7,249.66. A motion was made by David Hines to accept the report as read. Mark Dalton seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**New Business**

The locations for the 2007 NCAHMR Meetings were then discussed. The proposed locations were as follows:

February: Fayetteville

May: Cleveland County

August: Winston-Salem

November: Parkwood

A motion was made by David Hines to accept the proposed meeting locations. Garry McCormick seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **-- Education and Outreach Committee**

President Rich discussed the upcoming “Street Smart Hazmat” Class to be presented by Mike Callan at the Guilford County Emergency Services offices in Greensboro. The class is scheduled for February 17<sup>th</sup>. Team leaders are to compile a list of interested persons. The NCAHMR share of co-sponsoring the event is \$1,750.00, with a total amount of slots to range from 20-30 persons.

Mike Chapman stated that Mike Callan also can provide classes in utilities and pipeline topics. There is a possibility for partnering with private industry for the aforementioned classes (i.e. Progress Energy, etc.). He also stated that we need to have signed contracts for Mike Callan’s provision of the “Street Smart Hazmat” Class.

#### **-- Team Typing Committee**

Garry McCormick and Kevin Gordon are co-chairs of the Team Typing Committee. A discussion of team typing ensued as follows:

The possible typing of North Carolina hazmat teams was developed prior to 2001. The present typing of teams is now NIMS-related.

Kevin Gordon then stated that a meeting occurred last Thursday of UASI hazmat teams and RRT’s. The personnel present compared ESF #10 to the proposed NCAHMR typing. Whereas NIMS typing is related to capability, the proposed NCAHMR typing is related to resources. There are also differences in the typing specifications between the two models in areas such as the minimum number of personnel. It was reiterated that FEMA believes that states should not do their own typing. There are also doubts as to self-typing and policing, as there is no clarity on who would perform any audits. Federal

credentialing is also on the horizon, with software to assist in that process being developed.

Frank Burns then stated that North Carolina Emergency Management started the NCAHMR typing process. President Rich then stated that funds from Department of Homeland Security Grants was being disbursed now and noted the tie-in to typing and other NIMS requirements. Kevin Gordon then stated that NIMS hazmat team typing was based on the hazmat “team” as the kind. Frank Burns then stated that a combination of both models of typing might be a viable option, as in a minimum equipment list for hazmat teams. Wayne Pearce then stated that the self-policing of typing may create problems, and we should differentiate between team typing and the requirements for federal reimbursement and grant funding.

Garry McCormick stated that the initial purpose of typing was to guard against ill-prepared hazmat teams and that a letter from the NCAHMR to appropriate State agencies regarding typing may be in order. He also stated that an audit of teams would be necessary. Frank Burns stated that the Mutual Aid Planning Committee of the International Association of Fire Chiefs may tie in to our typing efforts. Mary Young stated that NCEM does not have any policing power. President Rich then stated that the NCAHMR should draft a set of typing criteria that is a combination of NIMS and NCAHMR typing. Policing the typing would be a prime concern. Mary Young stated that Glenn Wisbey is the NCEM contact for the NIMS Integration Center.

## **Training**

OSFM Technician Classes:

Fayetteville December 11<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> (class is full)

Mocksville February 19<sup>th</sup> – March 2<sup>nd</sup>

There will be a maximum of four instructors qualified per class.

A discussion on the OSFM “Props Class” then ensued. It was stated that there has been no great success with the class, and a new direction for the class may be needed. Kevin Gordon noted that there is a \$50.00 per student charge for the class to ensure the trailer and props are maintained, but there is no charge for the technician class. President Rich stated that a \$10.00 charge per student would possibly cover maintenance costs. Kevin Gordon mentioned that the fee could possibly be suspended. Vince Marks stated that the NC Rescue Association receives the funds from the student charges. Debbie Hilliard stated that the Community College System could possibly support the class, and President Rich stated that the development of partnerships would be a key in ensuring the provision of the class. Mike Chapman stated that we could possibly use NCAHMR funds to support the class. Mark Dalton stated that it may be prudent to talk to Larry Hughes, OSFM on the matter.

### **Team Reports**

Raleigh discussed the response to the Apex EQ incident.

A tour of the New Hanover County EOC then ensued.

Mark Dalton motioned that the meeting be adjourned, with Frank Burns seconding. The meeting was adjourned at 1530 hrs.