

Minutes of the February 14, 2008 Meeting of the North Carolina Association of Hazardous Materials Responders Mooreville, NC

The February Meeting was called to order at 1:09 p.m. by President A.C. Rich. President Rich thanked the Mooreville Fire Department for hosting the meeting at the Citizens' Center and providing refreshments. Fifteen attendees were present.

The Minutes of the November 8, 2007 Meeting were then reviewed. Arlin Sechrist motioned that the Minutes be accepted as read. Frank Burns Seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Treasurer Frank Burns then provided the Treasurer's Report. The NCAHMR account totaled \$6,542.27 as of January 31, 2008. A motion was made by Arlin Sechrist to accept the report as read. Steve Williams seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Treasurer Burns then stated that invoices for dues were being sent out.

Old Business

NC Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors' Conference Sponsorship

President Rich stated that the NCAHMR was approached approximately a year ago regarding sponsorship of the NCSFRI Conference Hazmat Track. \$1,000 was requested and a survey was sent out to all voting members of the NCAHMR. Six votes were cast for the sponsorship and two against. President Rich introduced a period of discussion regarding the possibility of such a sponsorship. The comments were as follows:

- Arlin Sechrist: The only concern is the total amount proposed, as it is 1/6 of our total budget, but he will support it.

- Frank Burns: Agrees with the sponsorship, but how many classes does that support?

The NCAHMR receives \$2,400 per year in dues. Should we decide on a stop point in

spending? Training was what the money was originally intended for. Is \$1,000 the only amount for sponsorship?

- A.C. Rich: Any amount would be accepted.
- Frank Burns: Is there a chance of holding the May Meeting at the NCSFRI Conference?
- Arlin Sechrist: What is the attendance at the Conference?
- Glenn Clapp: The attendance is approximately 200.
- A.C. Rich: In the future, holding a Meeting at the NCSFRI Conference would be good.
- Frank Burns: What other groups sponsor the Conference?
- Wes Greene: The NC State Firemen's Association does sponsor the event.
- A.C. Rich: It would be a good idea to sponsor the Conference.

Frank Burns then motioned that the NCAHMR should sponsor the Hazmat Track of the NCSFRI Conference in the amount of \$500.00 this year, increasing to \$1000.00 in 2009 and aligning the May Meeting with the Conference. Arlin Sechrist then seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

Discussion on Changing the Meeting Schedule (i.e. three times per year plus a conference/training)

The discussion proceeded as follows:

- Arlin Sechrist: The NCSFRI sponsorship will be a good test to see if three Meetings per year plus a conference/training would work.
- A.C. Rich: The possibility of holding a Meeting at the NCSFRI Conference next year is good.
- Steve Williams: Already the attendance at the NCAHMR Annual Meeting held at the NC State Firemen's Conference is enhanced.
- Wes Greene: NCAHMR Meetings could possibly move around with the Regional Firemen's Association Meetings to enhance visibility.
- Frank Burns: Is a good idea. We should look at once per year meeting on same day as the Firemen's Association, while the other Meetings could remain the same. Our Annual Meeting should be in the Greensboro area, as it seems to encourage attendance.

- The possibility exists that we can hold the annual Meeting as is (at the Firemen's Association Conference). The February Meeting could be held in Greensboro and the November Meeting could be held in conjunction with the Regional Firemen's Association Meeting.
- Steve Williams: We could have two fixed and two floating Meetings.
- Frank Burns: We should encourage our members to invite our neighbors.

New Business

2008 Gateway Conference

The 2008 Gateway Conference will be held in Raleigh on February 20, 21, and 22 at the Holiday Inn Brownstone.

Nominating Committee

President Rich stated that this will be his last term as President. A Nominating Committee will be formed to look at Officer nominations for the next term. Normally we have one representative from the West, one from Central North Carolina, and one from the East. Frank Burns stated that Abby Moore could represent the West. A.C. Rich stated that Warren Ritter could possibly represent the Central Region, and Frank Burns stated that Jimbo Peele could represent the East.

Conference Planning Committee

President Rich gave the report in Abby Moore's absence. There is only one speaker slot left. Arlin Sechrist and Steve Williams stated that they would serve on the Committee. Steve Lovette from High Point will also be contacted to serve.

Education and Outreach Committee

President Rich asked for feedback on recent course offerings.

- Steve Williams: Could the Street smart Hazmat course be offered in the East or West, as it has not been offered in those locations.

It was also mentioned that RRT money could help pay for the training.

President Rich stated that Joey Davis will be contacted regarding updating the NCAHMR Website.

Training Reports

- Hazmat Technician will be offered in Raleigh from 4/21 - 5/2
- Chemistry of Hazmat will be offered at Mocksville in April by Davidson County Community College. Contact Jerry Grubbs or Tad Bynum for information.
- Hazmat Technician will be offered in Greensboro in April or May.
- The BEST Conference will be held in Raleigh in February.

Certification Discussion

President Rich then led a discussion regarding the State Certification Committee. President Rich and Steve Williams are currently on the Committee, representing the NCAHMR. Jim Hanline is the Chair. Frank Burns motioned that A.C. Rich and Steve Williams be reappointed. Steve Williams seconded. Frank Burns asked if the makeup of the Committee should remain as is. He also stated that it is important to write a letter supporting the existing makeup and President Rich will send it to Steve Sloan of the OSFM. President Rich stated that a position statement may be warranted, in favor of leaving it as is, with Chief's and Firemen's Association Representatives continuing to serve on the Hazmat Subcommittee, with an additional Certification Board Member included. It was also stated that there may not be a need for Community College or NCSFRI representation on the Hazmat Subcommittee.

Glenn Clapp then reported that EnviroSafe Consulting had some surplus hazmat equipment for sale at a reduced cost. An e-mail was to be sent out to all members.

Frank Burns stated that the Intrastate Mutual Aid Plan passed. There is a possibility that the Intrastate Mutual Aid Plan could be aligned with the DPPRS designed to regionalize grant funding efforts.

Team Reports

Raleigh - Incident involving mortar rounds at a scrap yard.

Wes Greene then thanked everyone for allowing the Monroe Fire Department to sponsor the Meeting. He then mentioned the need to remember to use seatbelts to reduce the line of duty deaths and the benefits of residential sprinklers. He also mentioned the partnering of the State Firemen's Association with US Communities to aid in grant work and equipment procurement.

Steve Williams then motioned to adjourn the Meeting, which occurred at 2:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Glenn Clapp

Secretary

NCAHMR

Minutes of the May 8, 2008 Meeting of the North Carolina Association of Hazardous Materials Responders Monroe, North Carolina

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 P.M. by Treasurer Frank Burns. Twenty-four members and visitors were present.

Treasurer Burns welcomed all members and visitors to the meeting and thanked Monroe for hosting the meeting.

Treasurer Burns presented the minutes from the February 14, 2008 meeting, in Secretary Glenn Clapp's absence. Arlin Sechrist made a motion to accept the minutes and the motion was seconded by Steve Williams.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Frank Burns. As of April 25, 2008 the balance is \$8,972.81. Treasurer Burns asked that you look at the spreadsheet to determine if your dues are paid. Warren Ritter made a motion to accept the report and the motion was seconded by Garry McCormick.

Old business:

1. Gateway 2008 Report

The report is not out yet. Sprinklers and firefighter safety are two items that came out of the meeting.

New Business:

1. NCSFRI

Most of membership is in favor to become a part of the conference. We voted to fund \$500 for the first year at the last meeting. We may look at \$1000 next year. We also hope to align the quarterly meeting with the conference next year.

2. IAFC

Chief McCormick stated he has been working on the Hazmat Fusion Center. You can access the IAFC webpage for further details. The IAFC Conference at Hunt Valley, 5/28/08 – 6/1/08, will be the rollout of the Center. This will be a repository for after action Hazmat team level reports. It will be beta-tested in Houston and Chicago. Garry will make sure the teams statewide are aware of the program. There will be a process for validation of teams so accurate information can be entered. You will be able to enter unique events and solutions similar to the firefighter near miss program. Identifying information will be stripped by a "gatekeeper." This can be a useful tool if marketed and well used. We can add a link on the Association's webpage.

Committee Reports:

1. Conference Updates

There will be a full-day course on ammonia systems and transport. We are collecting prizes for the Hazmat Challenge.

TRAINING REPORTS:

First meeting of the DOI/Hazmat Certification is next week. Cleveland County Community College will have a tech. class soon. See the website for additional information.

Team Reports:

Charlotte is working on a training program/skill set for technicians for sampling WMD evidence with federal EPA and law enforcement. They may beta-test the program on the Charlotte HAZMAT teams. Program includes evidence collection, chain of custody and product identification when there is a small sample.

A brief presentation about the Scott facility was provided.

The next meeting of the NCAHMR will be held at the conference in August.

Arlin Sechrist made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Steve Williams. The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 P.M.

A tour of the Scott facility was provided for interested attendees.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sherry G. Rigouard, MPH

Minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting of the North Carolina
Association of Hazardous Materials Responders
August 28, 2008
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

The 2008 Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Association of Hazardous Materials Responders was called to order at 1:06 p.m. on Thursday, August 28, 2008 by President A.C. Rich. Thirty-one members and visitors were present.

Secretary Glenn Clapp then read the minutes from the May 8, 2008 Meeting. Past President Jimbo Peele made a motion to accept the minutes as read, with a second by Abby Moore. The motion was passed unanimously.

Treasurer Frank Burns then presented the Treasurer's Report. As of this date the checking account has a balance of \$9,134.23. Expenses included \$500.00 to the NC Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors for the Instructors' Conference Sponsorship and

\$99.00 to renew the NCAHMR Website for a period of five years. Treasurer Burns also conveyed the need for all members to check the Dues Spreadsheet to ensure that dues are paid. Chief Arlin Sechrist then made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as read, with Jeff Styers seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

1. Officer Elections

The Nominating Committee – consisting of Abby Moore, Chief Warren Ritter, and Chief Garry McCormick – report was given. The nominations for NCAHMR Officers were as follows:

President: Current Secretary Glenn Clapp

Treasurer: Current Treasurer Frank Burns

Chief Ben Nichols motioned that nominations for the two preceding offices be closed and a vote taken. Past President Peele then seconded the motion. A vote was held and the two nominations passed unanimously. The floor was then opened for nominations for Vice President and Secretary. Chief Nichols nominated Chief Hieu Sifford for the office of Vice President. The motion was then seconded by Chief David Hines. A vote was held and the nomination passed unanimously. Treasurer Burns then nominated Sherry Rigouard for the office of Secretary. Chief Sifford seconded the motion. A vote was held and the nomination passed unanimously.

The Officers of the NCAHMR for the 2008-2010 term are as follows:

President: Glenn Clapp

Vice President: Hieu Sifford

Secretary: Sherry Rigouard

Treasurer: Frank Burns

2. Hazmat Fusion Center

Chief Garry McCormick then provided a presentation on the Hazmat Fusion Center, as follows:

- The Hazmat Fusion Center is an entity sponsored by the DOT, PHMSA, and the IAFC to collect data from hazmat incidents and serve as an informational resource for hazardous materials responders.
- A key component is the development of Regional Incident Survey Teams (RIST's) that will be deployed in their region to gather information on significant hazardous materials incidents. The IAFC is currently taking applications for RIST Team members and leaders.
- The first step in the Fusion Center's operational development is an on-line survey, which will also serve to register contact information for hazmat teams.
- A secure internet-based portal will be developed and will serve as a forum for discussion.
- The IAFC Website contains further information regarding the Fusion Center.

Committee Reports

1. Conference Committee

Chair Abby Moore stated that the Ammonia Safety Day will be held on Friday starting at 7:30 a.m. The afternoon proceedings will be held offsite and six vendors have been secured. Abby then thanked Mike Chapman for coordinating the event. Approximately two hundred fifty attendees are expected.

The Hazmat Challenge will be held on Saturday, with five teams registered to compete, including Fayetteville, Wilmington, High Point, and two teams from Greensboro.

In addition, Abby Moore stated that she would be willing to continue to serve as Chair of the Education and Outreach Committee.

A discussion then ensued on the possibility of the NCAHMR contributing \$1,000.00 to help defray the cost of the Ammonia Safety Day. The total cost is \$14,842.00. Past President Peele made a motion to contribute the \$1,000.00 as stated. Chief Sechrist seconded. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

Abby Moore then asked for any suggestions for training be directed to her.

Mike Chapman then provided more detail on the Ammonia Safety Day. He was assisted by Gary Smith of the Ammonia Safety and Training Institute. Lunch will be provided

and the offsite portion of the training will be held at the Fairgrounds. Abby Moore thanked the ASTI and others involved in making the Ammonia Safety Day possible. She also thanked Chief Steve Williams for assisting with coordination efforts. Sherry Rigouard stated that she would bring Ammonia Fact Sheets for distribution. The possibility of a Winter Training Conference was also mentioned.

Training Reports

Derrick Clouston with NC OSFM stated that the OSFM Awareness and Operations Classes were being rewritten to reflect NFPA 472. Vince Marks then stated that the 2008 Edition of NFPA 472 at the Operations Level will consist of core competencies and mission-specific competencies, such as PPE, Air Monitoring, and Decontamination. It will be written in JPR format. President Rich asked when the program will be phased in. It was stated that the program should be in place in the Spring of 2009.

There will also be three Technician Classes upcoming.

Raleigh will be conducting a Technician Class in the Spring of 2009.

Winston-Salem will be holding a Chemistry of Hazmat Class in the beginning of 2009.

Jim Barrett stated that Smith's Detection will provide two days of training classes with the purchase of their equipment.

Team Reports

Raleigh – Gasoline/Ethanol DOT 406 tanker rollover. President Rich urged all teams to check the compatibility of their foam with Ethanol.

The OSFM stated a training program was being developed for Ethanol response.

Chief McCormick stated that a Task Force has been established in Charlotte for tank and Ethanol response. Charlotte has required that retrofitted tanks meet new standards, that alcohol tanks be fitted with fixed foam and dry chemical nozzles, and certain quantities of foam are required on-site at affected facilities. Chief McCormick then stated that tanks are required to be cleaned at six to twelve year cycles. In Charlotte, tanks are required to be brought up to the current standard during the required cleaning.

Greensboro – Jim Robinson stated that Greensboro had an Ethanol tanker rollover the same day as the Raleigh incident. There is a location in Greensboro where Ethanol is shipped by rail to a transfer station for offloading.

Secretary Clapp then passed out literature on Liquefied Natural Gas powered vehicles that was provided by Chief McCormick.

The Meeting was then adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Glenn Clapp

Secretary

NCAHMR

Minutes of the November 13, 2008 Meeting of the
North Carolina Association of Hazardous Materials Responders
Gastonia, North Carolina

The meeting was called to order at 1:20 P.M. by President Glenn Clapp. Twenty-nine members and visitors were present.

President Clapp welcomed all members and visitors to the meeting and thanked Gastonia for hosting the meeting and providing lunch.

Secretary Sherry Rigouard presented the minutes from the August 28, 2008 meeting. William Thompson made a motion to accept the minutes and the motion was seconded by Garry McCormick.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Frank Burns. As of November 9, 2008 the balance is \$7,760.03. Treasurer Burns stated \$1609.92 had been paid out of the account for the Hazmat class, Hazmat Challenge, and door prizes at the conference. He also stated T-shirts are available for \$5 and golf shirts for \$15. William Thompson made a motion to accept the report and the motion was seconded by Hieu Sifford.

Old business: None

New Business:

3. Meeting Locations for 2009
2/12/2009 – Fayetteville – Hieu Sifford

May – NCSFRI Conference. The conference location was unknown. Discussion regarding incorporating the meeting with the conference ensued. Garry McCormick made a motion we combine the meeting as long as it will not compete with other events of the conference and leave the date and time selection to the conference directors. William Thompson seconded the motion.

August – NCSFA Conference in Raleigh

11/12/2009 – Gastonia – William Thompson

4. NCSFRI Conference Involvement/Sponsorship

Frank Burns stated we should have plenty of money and bills for dues will go out in February so he made a motion to sponsor up to \$1000 at the officers discretion. Garry McCormick amended to motion to allow the President and Vice-President to take action up to \$1000 if the by-laws allow and do not take an email vote. The motion was seconded by William Thompson.

President Clapp asked everyone to advise him if you know someone to present and what topic they could present. General ideas for topics included: CAMEO class: how to store data, ethanol with OSFM speakers, and Chemistry of Hazmat Refresher with Debbie Hilliard.

5. Hazmat Fusion Center Update

Garry McCormick stated a pilot partnership was formed with IAFC, federal DOT, PHMSA about a year ago. The group will share information and look at the data collectively. For example, why are gas tankers rolling over on average 2 per day in the United States? Then look at the information and potentially create training documents; then provide the information and to the appropriate persons (chief versus firefighter) throughout the nation. This is a work in progress.

North Carolina has 22-27 Hazmat teams. Nine teams had self registered in August. Last month a focus group for the Southeast US was created that includes FL/KY/Greensboro/Law Enforcement – Nashville, TN

The RIST is ready to stand up. Applications are on line. This group will respond to incidents where federal agencies do not get involved. They will conduct a blameless investigation, gathering what went right and what went wrong, along with accident information. The deadlines for applications are: Team Leader 11/14/2008 and Team Member 12/12/2008. This encompasses all disciplines. Local jurisdictions would have to sign off for you to apply. This would be as a contract employee for IAFC. For information see the website www.iafc.org.

Chief McCormick also discussed Tier II E-Plan change over effective 1/1/2009. Everyone should register as emergency responders to have access to information. Currently there are only 300-400 companies that have self reported. Users have access to information for mutual aid in each county throughout the state.

Another topic mentioned was a one day summit on ethanol. Who addresses enforcement issues from a regulatory standpoint? How do you determine jurisdiction from the rail yard to the local authorities? IAFC has an online presentation used for National Fire Academy that is available on DVD.

6. NFPA 472 Update

Operations level Hazmat Responder competencies have changed. OSFM is working on a program to be rolled out in the Spring. There is a matrix that shows training necessary to meet qualifications.

7. E-mail Updates

Secretary Rigouard passed a spreadsheet with current information to be updated to ensure everyone receives e-mails from the Association. Joey Davis will be emailed minutes for updates to the website.

8. Hazmat Team Typing

Past efforts included utilizing the PA standard or FEMA/NIMS standards and self policing was an issue. IAFC and NCAFC joined to make interstate mutual aid plan. Emergency Management will use the plan. The State will be divided into 7 regions. Go to NCAFC webpage for the plan. IAFC will test the plan in January. This will be Type I teams, not just RRTs. GO to FEMA.gov for NIMS and resource management. North Carolina mirrors those typings.

Committee Reports:

2. Education and Outreach Committee

President Clapp presented the report in Abby Moore's absence. The committee would like to work on joint efforts and sponsorship training opportunities. One item could be WMD Specialist Certification. The committee is also looking at bringing in classes, since the membership indicated an interest in bringing in lesser available courses.

TRAINING REPORTS:

- High Point: Chemistry of Hazmat possibly in March through the community college.
- LSU courses have 30 spots, but are currently full for 12/2, 12/3 & 12/4. Additional information will be sent out if spots become available.
- City of Raleigh – Tech course in the Spring

- Check OSFM website for upcoming training since they are increasing the frequencies of courses
- VA Hazmat Association also has good opportunities

Team Reports:

- Gastonia: fire caused by heater on acid vats shorted out, melted the vats and spilled acid.
- High Point: 300 gallons of diesel released was a non-event, because the wastewater treatment plant stopped it before it got to the plant.
- Cary responded to an unknown container that turned out to be a home beer brewing keg.
- RRT 3 had a white powder incident in Sanford that turned out to be talc powder.
- Gastonia had a hoax where a bag was left in a van and “powder” was determined to be flour.

Vendors:

Trelleborg & Fisher Scientific – provided chemical suit information

The next meeting of the NCAHMR will be held in Fayetteville, February 12, 2009.

William Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Brian Amerson. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sherry G. Rigouard, MPH