Search and Rescue Subcommittee
Quarterly Meeting

Date:	Tuesday, June 27, 2023
Time:	10 am – 12 pm
In-person:	Fort Harrison, HAFRC, Room 113
Remote:	Via Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

Introductions *Scott Secor (Chair); Scott Van Dyken (Vice Chair); Nanette Gilbertson (MSPOA); Jake Ganieany (DES)*

Attendees
Scott Secor, Chair, Gallatin County SAR
Tim Jurgonski – Madison County SAR
Landon Kotesky – Cascade County SAR
Kevin Wright – Lewis and Clark County SAR
Tom Curtis – Lake County SAR
Ralph DuConzo – Lewis and Clark County SAR
Cindy Super – Missoula County SAR
Chris Richter – Valley County SAR
Jon Trapp – Carbon County / Red Lodge SAR
Frank Pelli – Carbon County / Red Lodge SAR
Curtis Burleigh – Ravalli County SAR
Brad Belke – Silver Bow County / 1590 SAR
Tom Boyer – Valley County SAR
Stacey Bradley – Lewis and Clark County SAR
Gary Burke – Yellowstone County SAR
Kent O'Donnell – Yellowstone County SAR
Jon Lopp – Meagher County SAR
Dave Welch – Madison County / Ruby Valley SAR
Stacy Bradley – Lewis and Clark County SAR
Skylar Steele – Stillwater County SAR
Jason Jarrett – MT Sheriffs Mutual Aid
Jake Grainery - DES
Gretchen Grove - DES
Nanette Gilbertson - MSPOA

Review and approve minutes from previous meeting (4-4-23)

Motion to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2023 meeting as distributed via email (DeCunzo). Second (Wright). Passed unanimous.

Old Business (Issues previously discussed which require follow-up)

- ➢ Common Mapping System
  - o Jon Trapp provided an update from the conference he attended
    Conference was hands-on, skill- based learning. Reviewed Land SAR Software which has been updated to a regional format and utilizes a different functionality for search operations and search management to ensure an entire area is being covered. Also reviewed CALTOPO and SARTOPO and some of the functionality that the company is incorporating into SARTOPO, such as a live feed via drone option. SARTOPO seems to be the most prevalent mapping system at this point. Landstar is available and government owned which means people have access.

  - o OnX statewide coordination options (Jurgonski)
    Jurgonski spoke with one of the owners of OnX, and they are currently working on additional SAR features (similar to SARTOPO with live tracking), but likely about a year out from full implementation.

  - o *Chair Secor reminded people that the subcommittee is gathering information on available mapping software solutions with the goal of presenting the viable options to teams. The subcommittee has no authority to require any team to use a specific mapping software; however, goal is to explore the possibility of a common mapping system that could be used statewide, which will ultimately help during mutual aid assistance between teams and agencies.*

- ➢ Online Reimbursement Form – Must use starting 7-1-23
  Starting July 1, 2023, all reimbursement requests must be submitted via the online system (https://mtsar.org/reimbursement/). The PDF reimbursement forms will not be accepted. The online form is intuitive and easy to use and will ensure that there is a cloud-based record of all reimbursement requests submitted. This should eliminate reimbursements being inadvertently overlooked in someone's email inbox.

- ➢ Unique Local Number
  Reminder that the unique local number is specific to your agency/county and the purpose is to track expenses/debts and income/credits for your finance officer. Not all agencies/counties have a system in place requiring the use of a unique identifier for all credits/debts. The submitter determines the number in order to track the money per the requirements in your county. A number must be entered, so enter any number (such as 1111) if your county does not require a tracking number.

New Business (Emerging issues which require attention from the SAR Subcommittee)

➢ Chair Secor Retirement

Chair Secor is retiring in September. There will be a new SAR Subcommittee Chair. The Chair is selected by the MSPOA President. A new person will be in place and present at the next meeting. As soon as the new Chair is named, an email will be sent to ensure all subcommittee members have a direct point of contact for SAR related issues. You should not notice much difference or impact beyond a new point of contact.

On behalf of the subcommittee, Gilbertson thanked Scott for his work as Chair. Scott dedicated a significant amount of time, energy, and expertise to the SAR subcommittee.

➢ Reimbursement Amount Adjustments

On July 1, 2023, the maximum reimbursement amount changes from $50,000 to $12,000.

The maximum of $12,000 is per submission for mission, training, and equipment reimbursement requests. The Chair will continue to try to ensure teams get the full amount of reimbursement possible.

➢ Reevaluate reimbursement process

For the first time there is a larger amount of reimbursement requests than there is cash and authority for reimbursements.

Secor suggested reevaluating how reimbursements are approved and specifically the timeline by which reimbursements are reviewed and voted with the goal of ensuring a fair and equitable distribution of funds. Asked the subcommittee to consider holding all reimbursement requests until the end of the year to ensure money is disbursed on a fair and equitable basis.

Chair Secor also reminded the subcommittee that all reimbursement requests are reviewed prior to being placed on the agenda to confirm the reimbursement is SAR appropriate, meets the requirements as prescribed in the operating procedures, have the proper documentation, and all of the numbers add up. Beyond that, it is not really the responsibility of the Chair and subcommittee to make a subjective value judgement on the reimbursement request.

Super: Since 50% of the appropriation must be utilized for mission reimbursements, those could continue to be reviewed on a quarterly basis and then training and equipment reimbursements could be held until the end of the year.

There are different resources available in the different counties/areas of the state, which makes costs and reimbursements vastly different.

Trapp: As far as reimbursements are concerned, the following should be considered: dedicated SAR mill levy; however, those are not equitable across various counties, if the SAR Team utilized the lowest cost option(s) first, priority of mission, training, equipment. We do not want

reimbursement or lack of reimbursement to negatively impact the citizens we serve.

O'Donnell: SAR Teams need to keep each other apprised of available resources.   National Guard in Billings will likely have a SAR helicopter up and running in the next year.   Also asked if there are statutory prohibitions for SAR Teams billing people for the service rendered.

DeCunzo: Data suggests that a fee for SAR services is not the best and safest option.

Secor: Concur that we do not want the state of Montana to go down the road of a fee for service model because in the long run it can result in worse outcomes for the recipient of the SAR service and more dangerous conditions for the SAR team members to conduct missions.

Bradley: Worth looking at the ability a team has to pay and using that as part of a weighted calculation to help determine how to disburse available funds. The subcommittee could create a weighted calculation for the counties based on their ability to pay.

Jurgonski: You would then also have to add in call volume as another factor for a weighted calculation.

Secor: In an effort to be fair and equitable across the state, a weighted system will not likely result in the best distribution of funds because there are so many factors and variables for counties, agencies, and teams across the state.

Curtis: It would be very hard to put teams on a scale and measure them against each other. Want to have clear criteria for reimbursements but caution against a value-based system.

Super: For a long time it was a struggle to get counties to ask for reimbursement, especially those who do have a mill levy, so it is good that teams are actually asking this year. Sliding scale/partial reimbursement is likely the best option. Waiting until the end of the year might be a hardship for some counties.

DeCunzo: There is the expertise within the committee to evaluate the training reimbursement requests and evaluate their merit.   Prior to the availability of state funding, mission, training, and equipment were all funded at the local level. There is no guarantee on the state funds.

Jurgonski: Recommend evaluating and approving mission reimbursements on a biannual basis with a conservative approach in order to hold back funds for mission reimbursement for the end of the year. Reimburse on a partial basis and if there is money left at the end of the year partial reimbursements could be made whole or have an additional reimbursement.

Belke: Chair Secor has given a lot of thought to this and support his recommendation to evaluate the reimbursement process and appreciate Gallatin County pulling their requests.

Steele: Could the reimbursement form include some sort of a matrix or list of local resources that have been exhausted prior to asking for state resources?

Secor: The question at hand is how often we want to evaluate and vote on reimbursement requests for missions, trainings, and equipment. Do we want to do reimbursements once per year for all three in an effort to make sure the money is distributed in a fair and equitable manner?

Burke: Has there been discussion about assigning a set budget for reimbursements on a per county basis?

Jurgonski: Make a proposal to approve missions quarterly and trainings and equipment on an annual basis.

Gainieany: Asked if holding both training and equipment reimbursements to the end of the year would cause issues on the financial side.

Gilbertson: All reimbursements could be submitted throughout the year and DES could have a running balance of how much money has been requested throughout the year to make sure both the authority and cash are available when it comes time to approve reimbursement requests and/or equitably allocate the funds.

Motion to accept mission, training, and equipment reimbursement requests throughout the year, but review and approve/deny reimbursement requests at the final meeting of the state fiscal year (Curtis). Second (Jurgonski).

DeCunzo: Do not support the motion. Funds for missions should be disbursed throughout the year and the priority should be on missions. Should offer a caveat at the beginning of the year that the funds are on a reimbursement basis and there is no guarantee of mission, training, or equipment reimbursement.

Amendment to the Motion: Review, vote on, and reimburse mission reimbursement requests on a quarterly basis. Accept training and equipment reimbursement requests throughout the year, but review and approve/deny training and equipment reimbursement requests at the final meeting of the state fiscal year (Curtis). Second of the Amendment to the Motion (Jurgonski). Passed unanimous.

Wright: Functionally, the only change from status quo is holding training reimbursement requests until the end of the year as is currently done with equipment requests.

Welch: Request the subcommittee finalize reimbursement requests 30 days prior to the end of the state fiscal year which will help teams with their budget planning.

Secor: The subcommittee can decide when the final meeting of the state fiscal year takes place and have a process in place to review and vote on reimbursement requests which are submitted after the final meeting.

SAR Financial Update
- ➢ Funds Balance
  DES FWP Account: $81,841.35 (to be used for mission reimbursement)
  SAR DES Off Road Vehicle Account: $104,303.05

Training
- ➢ 2023 Trainings
  None planned at the current time.

- ➢ Share upcoming training opportunities
  Red Lodge – Rescue Task Force Response for Active Shooter. Contact Jon Trapp.

Resource List
Updated Lists Provided via Email

Reimbursement Requests
- ➢ **Mission**
  - → Gallatin County SO SAR
    March 28, 2023
    Total = $ 5,025.00
    Approved = $5,025.00
    Reimbursement Purpose = Helicopter flight time
    Resources: 26 SAR Volunteers 1 SAR Deputy Central Copters 14x
    Narrative: The patient was involved in a snowmobile accident on Green Mt. Pt stated that he had a broken leg and was unable to move. He was alone but dressed for conditions. He was 6 miles up in technically challenging steep terrain. His track was the only one up there, and his vehicle was parked at the bottom by the locked gate. GCSO Deputy #655 was able to talk with the patient via cell phone numerous times to monitor his condition as SAR teams were mobilized and a rescue plan was initiated. Weather conditions were deteriorating with blowing snow and temps. in the 20's as teams mobilized. Air ambulance would not respond. Due to the terrain, injury, and weather conditions ground teams and heli team were deployed, Snowmobile Team 1 and helicopter 14X reached the patient at1745 and were able to load him into the helicopter near the incident scene. He was flown down to Jackson Creek Road to a LZ near the Staging area where he was transferred into the care of AMR1.
    Resolution: Patient was flown from accident scene via helicopter to an awaiting ambulance.
    Motion to approve the Gallatin County SAR Mission SAR Reimbursement for $5,025.00 with funding authorized by State DES utilizing the appropriate fund source (Jurgonski). Second (DeCunzo). Approved unanimous.

→ Silver Bow County – 15-90 SAR
April 8, 2023
Total = $ 1,032.41
Approved = $1,032.41
Reimbursement Purpose = Mileage
Resources: 29 members responded to the mission call out. All 29 members deployed. 20 members drove personal vehicles. 2 SAR vehicles responded. 1 member brought UTV. 14 snowmobiles were brought by members responding.
Narrative: On 4/8/23 at 1757 hours the 15-90 SAR Commander received an alert that a snowmobiler (In Reach contact thru Sheriffs dispatch) had gone off a 100 ft cliff and had a broken back and other serious injuries. Members were notified and responded. Lat/Long was received which modified search location. Three access points, none convenient, snow conditions bad. Plan was to access site from 2 directions and extricate by sled if necessary. In route IC identified an LZ and requested Lifeflight (also a lifeflight pilot riding with victim). Lifeflight responded. 15-90 hasty team arrived on scene 1925 hours and unloaded equipment, second team with recovery equipment, board, rescue sled sent to second location at 1930 hours. Notified Lifeflight on ground at 1935 hours. Suspended operations until Lifeflight indicates recovery has occurred. Load up return to base, sign out at 2215.
Resolution: Victim extricated by Lifeflight, now in SLC, broken back, shoulder, sternum, etc.

→ Silver Bow County – 15-90 SAR
April 30, 2023
Total = $ 1,488.72
Approved = $1,488.72
Reimbursement Purpose = Mileage, Vehicle Repair
Resources: 8 members were called out to retrieve 6 skiers on Red Mountain. Dispatched the Trucker SnoCat, a tracked side by side, and 3 tracked ATVs to locate and bring them out.
Narrative: 8 members responded to Red Mountain to recover 6 skiers/1 dog. It was 70 degrees and snow was 10 ft deep, conditions terrible. All skiers recovered in good condition and returned to Butte. The Polaris side by side went into deep snow in open meadow and the sno-pack collapsed, depth of snow for approx. 1 acre dropped 2 feet in a second. It was not an avalanche area. The sxs buried itself down to grass with snow depth over cab of vehicle. Trenched to ramp up out of drift but the differential broke and the front tracks wouldn't turn. At that point brought Tucker snocat to pull it out. More trenching. Put front tracks of sxs in game sleds and pulled it back to town. Total time out approx. 6 hours.
Resolution: Six backcountry skiers and a dog were safely extricated from the backcountry.

→ Gallatin County SO SAR
   May 30, 2023
   Total = $ 2,010.00
   Approved = $2,010.00
   Reimbursement Purpose = Helicopter flight time
   Resources: Comms Team-2 Valley Section-9 Heli Team-4 SAR Deputy-2
   Narrative: On May 30, 2023, at 3:57 pm, Gallatin County Dispatch received a phone call from a stranded hiker at the Ross Pass Junction. The hiker started their expedition at Fairy Lake and planned on traversing the Bridger Ridge. The hiker encountered deep snow, was not equipped for the conditions, and was becoming hypothermic. The hiker had a charged cell phone and was able to send rescuers an exact location. Gallatin County Sheriff Search and Rescue (GCSSAR) members responded to the scene utilizing four wheelers and utility vehicles. The GCSSAR Heli Team was also deployed due to patent condition and terrain. The helicopter dropped off rescuers who were able to walk the patient to meet the ground team. Volunteers were able to successfully transport the hiker down the trail. Reimbursement request is for flight time only.

→ Fergus County SAR
   June 11-15, 2023
   Total = $ 950.00
   Approved = $950.00
   Reimbursement Purpose = Aircraft flight time
   Resources: Comms Team-2 Valley Section-9 Heli Team-4 SAR Deputy-2
   Narrative: On June 11th, 2023, a deceased male was found floating in the Missouri River several miles downstream from James Kipp Campground. Montana FWP Wardens and Fergus County Sheriff's Deputies responded to recover the body. Central Montana Search and Rescue responded with a Hasty team, and they worked with LE on scene to locate a camp, capsized boat or possibly other victims. On the morning of June 12th, an airplane from Skyline Aviation assisted with locating the deceased male's camp or boat and to look for other victims. Several jetboats searched as well. On June 15th, 2023, the deceased male's camp and fishing gear were located near the confluence of Bull Creek and the Missouri River. No other victims were located. Reimbursement request is for flight time only.

   Reviewed all Mission reimbursement requests as provided on the agenda and sent to the SAR email distribution list prior to the meeting and the following motion was made:

   Motion to approve all SAR Mission Reimbursement requests as submitted and recommended above with funding authorized by State DES utilizing the appropriate fund source (Jurgonski). Second (DeCunzo). Approved unanimous.

TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT REIMBURSEMENT OPTIONS
DUE TO LIMITED FUNDS, THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR FULFILLING REIMBURSMENT REQUESTS:

#1 *– FUND ALL TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT REIMBURSEMENTS AT 59%. *FAIR AND EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION FOR ALL TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT REIMBURSMENT REQUESTS.*
#2 *– USE 75% OF TRAINING/EQUIPMENT BUDGET TO FUND TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS AT THE RATE OF 85% BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT THE BUDGET WILL ACCOMMODATE. USE 25% OF TRAINING/EQUIPMENT BUDGET TO FUND EQUIPMENT REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS AT THE RATE OF 38% BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT THE BUDGET WILL ACCOMMODATE. * HIGHER PRIORITY ON TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS*
#3 *– FUND TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS AT 100% AND FUND 25% OF EQUIPMENT REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS. *HIGHEST PRIORITY ON TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS.*

Trapp: Fund training as the priority.
Jurgonski: Agree that funding training should be the priority. Equipment has always been reimbursed if there is funding left over.
O'Donnell: Support option #3
Secor: Also support option #3

Motion to utilize Option #3 which stipulates that training reimbursement requests will be funded at 100% and equipment reimbursement requests will be funded at 25% and approve all training and reimbursement requests as documented in the agenda with funding authorized by State DES utilizing the appropriate fund source and per the fund balance provided at the 6-27-23 SAR meeting. If additional funds become available, those funds will be disbursed utilizing a fair and equitable ratio to further fund the equipment reimbursement requests. (Jurgonski). Second (DeCunzo). Approved unanimous.

- ➢ **Training**
  - → Lewis and Clark County SAR
    December 3, 2022
    Total = $ 2,973.93
    Approved = $2,973.93
    Training Type: Medical
    Description: Wilderness First Aid Certification
    Training Provided By: Aerie Backcountry Medicine

  - → Lewis and Clark County SAR
    January 28, 2023
    Total = $ 12,869.86
    Approved = $12,869.86
    Training Type: Search and Rescue Management
    Description: Two trainings
    Lost Person Behavior Course (January 14-16, 2023) -- $4,344
    Search Management Course (January 28-29, 2023) -- $8,525.86
    Training Provided By: ERI

→ Cascade County SAR
February 20, 2023
Total = $ 5,185.00
Approved = $5,185.00
Training Type: Ice Rescue Technician
Description: Ice Rescue Technician Training. This training encompassed Ice Structural Safety, Basic Scene Survey, and various Ice Rescue technician problem solving techniques.
Training Provided By: WRI

→ Lewis and Clark County SAR
March 29, 2023
Total = $ 3,825.52
Approved = $3,825.52
Training Type: Snowmobile
Description: Snowmobile repair from training accident.
Training Provided By: In House

→ Madison County – Ruby Valley SAR
March 30, 2023
Total = $ 2,435.00
Approved = $2,435.00
Training Type: Managing Lost Person Incident
Description: The Managing the Lost Person Incident (MLPI) course is designed to teach the essential knowledge and skills necessary to perform as the initial response Incident Commander on a lost person incident with the primary focus on the Search element of SAR. The course prepares the student for the management responsibilities and leadership skills required during SAR missions. The course explains the tasks and procedures needed to effectively manage SAR operations from the initial response through the expansion phases of the search to the final demobilization of all resources. This is the first true management course of the NASAR series of SAR courses. The MLPI course explains and describes in detail the overall objectives, strategies, and tactics needed for a successful outcome of SAR missions. With further incident management training and field experience; the person with this training can perform as the Incident Commander on prolonged and more complex searches 5 Attendees plus required text
Training Provided By: Sergeant Rescue Training & Consulting, LLC

→ Carbon County – Red Lodge SAR
May 9, 2023
Total = $ 5,500.00
Approved = $5,500.00
Training Type: Drone
Description: The two-day training was focused on missing person search, fire mapping and law enforcement use. The class had over 30 students from around the state. GenPac sent five instructors that specialized in drone use emergency response.
Training Provided By: General Pacific, Inc.

→ Gallatin County SO SAR
May 18, 2023
Total = $ 6,365.00
REIMBURSEMENT RESCINDED DUE TO LIMITED FUNDS.
Training Type: Heli Team Flight Training
Description: Training Objectives: Technical Terrain Extraction and Rapid Extrication with Screamer Suit Training Plan: We will run through the Technical Terrain Extraction Tactic on the berm next to the hangar. There will be 2 stations operating simultaneously with one coach for both stations. At the same time, we will run 2 stations of Rapid Extrication with the "screamer suit" where one rescuer is inserted to the patient under the helicopter still attached, places the screamer suit on the patient without performing any assessments, and is extracted with the patient to a safe location to perform medical treatment. Reimbursement request is for helicopter flight time only.
Training Provided By: In House Training w/ Helicopter Services provided by Central Copters.

→ Lewis and Clark County SAR
February 4, 2023
Total = $ 200.00
Approved = $200.00
Training Type: Robotics
Description: Winter ROV training at the YMCA pool. Reimbursement for pool rental fee.
Training Provided By: In-House

→ Lewis and Clark County SAR
February 19, 2023
Total = $ 300.00
Approved = $300.00
Training Type: Dive Training
Description: Winter Dive training at the YMCA pool. Reimbursement for pool rental fee.
Training Provided By: In-House

→ Lewis and Clark County SAR
March 8, 2023
Total = $ 300.00
Approved = $300.00
Training Type: Dive Training
Description: Winter Dive training at the YMCA pool. Reimbursement for pool rental fee.
Training Provided By: In-House

→ Gallatin County SO SAR
May 20 & 21, 2023
Total = $ 4,250.00
REIMBURSEMENT RESCINDED DUE TO LIMITED FUNDS.
Training Type: Swiftwater/Flood Rescue
Description: Swiftwater advanced training course. While the primary focus of the Technician course is to provide students with the basic skills of self-rescue and the fundamentals of swiftwater rescue, the Advanced Technician course will give the Technician practical tools to quickly size-up a scene and conduct a contact rescue with a better understanding of his/her own limits. The course is compliant to the N.F.P.A. standards 1006 and 1670. The skills developed in the Technician course will be reviewed and expanded upon. Two-day course Date of Training: May 20-21, 2023.
Training Provided By: Whitewater Rescue Institute (WRI).

→ Missoula County SO SAR
May 18, 2023
Total = $ 12,805.00
Approved = $12,805.00
Training Type: Rope Rescue Technician
Description: Missoula County Search and Rescue participated in a four day rope rescue technician course (05/18/23-05/21/23). The course was hosted and instructed by the Whitewater Rescue Institute (WRI) of Missoula Montana. The Missoula SAR participants received certifications for completing the required curriculum. The course was structured around high and low angle rope rescue.
Training Provided By: Whitewater Rescue Institute (WRI).

→ Silver Bow SAR 15-90
May 20-21, 2023
Total = $ 3,908.42
Approved = $3,908.42
Training Type: White Water Rescue Technician
Description: Six 15-90 SAR members attended Whitewater Rescue Technician training and received a Rescue 3 International Certification. The training was conducted by Montana Rescue on the Clearwater and Blackfoot Rivers near Missoula.
Training Provided By: Montana Rescue

→ Carbon County – Red Lodge SAR
May 30, 2023
Total = $ 14,099.00
REIMBURSEMENT RESCINDED DUE TO LIMITED FUNDS.
Training Type: Rope Rescue Training
Description: Intensive 3 day to introduce Rapid Extrication Module (REMS) concepts and practices beyond the application of traditional vertical rescue training and tactics taught in Rope Operations and Technician courses. At completion of the workshop students should be aware of and able to articulate the unique mission demands of REMS and the options for various rescue systems and methodologies. Students will gain experience using new concepts and apply them to various likely backcountry rescue scenarios. The course was for a max of 12 students.
Training Provided By: CMC Rescue Inc.

→ Carbon County – Red Lodge SAR
June 16, 2023
Total = $ 3,900.00
Approved = $3,900.00
Training Type: Swift water rescue
Description: Three-day training course covering the following topics: River Rescue Principles: Risk Management & Prevention, Hydrology & Hazards Video Analysis: Incident reviews of rescue departments responding to real calls Knot Tying: Focus on rescue family of knots, hitches and bends for rope and webbing Swimming: Swiftwater Entries, Aggressive & Defensive techniques, Strainer Encounters Throwbags: Underhand, Overhand, Coil Tosses, Belay Techniques Shallow Water Crossings: Wading Techniques to effectively traverse the riverbed bottom Contact Rescues: Tethered Rescue Swims (Live Bait), Spinal Precautions, & Combative Patients Managing Entrapment: Two-shore vs. One-shore. Heads-up vs. Heads-down Anchors: Load Sharing vs. Load Distributing Mechanical Advantage: 3:1, 5:1, 9:1, Pig Rigs, Vectors, Tension Diagonals, Rope ferries, etc. Boat Maneuvering Scenarios: Practical hands-on scenarios
Training Provided By: Wilderness Rescue International

→ Jefferson County – Elkhorn SAR
March 19, 2023
Total = $ 483.75
Approved = $483.75
Training Type: CPR/First Aid
Description: Adult first aid/CPR/AED training and certification. Two-year certification.
Training Provided By: Outside Training.

→ Cascade County SAR
   May 5, 2023
   Total = $ 10,697.20
   Approved = $10,697.20
   Training Type: 5 day basic and Adv MISF Course-2 instructors
   Description: This was a 5 Day basic and Advanced MISF Course (Managing the Inland Search Function. Two instructors held in Great Falls, MT
   Training Provided By: Emergency Response International (ERI)

→ Cascade County SAR
   May 29, 2023
   Total = $ 843.32
   Approved = $843.32
   Training Type: CMC Rescue Training In Red Lodge
   Description: This was a CMC Rescue Training in Red Lodge that was approved through MSPOA and this was Cory Hanson's Motel and Mileage Sheet.
   Training Provided By: CMC Rescue, Inc.

➢ **Equipment**
   → Silver Bow SAR 15-90
     Equipment: Bumper, Winch, Lights, and Air Bags for Box for a new Dodge Truck
     Date Purchased: July 18, 2022
     Total Cost: $5795.00
     Local Match: $2029.00
     Requested Amount: $3,766.00
     Approved at 25 % = $941.50
     Documentation provided

   → Silver Bow SAR 15-90
     Equipment: 2023 Polaris Prostar S4 Titan Utility Snowmobile
     It will primarily be used for hauling the unit's patient rescue sled into and out of areas not easily accessed with a Snocat. It has a wider track and skis, a cargo box, and a passenger seat. The reimbursement request is for the sled and spare belt.
     Date Purchased: April 1, 2023
     Total Cost: $13,802.99.00
     Local Match: $4,831.05.00
     Requested Amount: $8,971.94
     Approved at 25 % = $2,242.99
     Documentation provided

→ Cascade County SAR
Equipment: Caltopo Mapping Software: This is subscription-based software used for planning, reporting and memorialization search and rescue operations. This subscription covers 1 year of the professional account and includes 50 devices within the team structure. The 50-device membership is distributed among the Cascade County Search and Rescue Coordinators, and the all-volunteer unit.
Date Purchased: March 10, 2023
Total Cost: $1000.00
Local Match: $350.00
Requested Amount: $650.00
Approved at 25 % = $162.50
Documentation provided

→ Madison County – Ruby Valley SAR
Equipment: Used 4 Door Ford 4x4 Truck used for transporting SAR personnel and towing SAR equipment.
Date Purchased: October 7, 2022
Total Cost: $5,000.00
Local Match: $1,750.00
Requested Amount: $3,250.00
Approved at 25 % = $812.5
Documentation provided

→ Madison County – Ruby Valley SAR
Equipment: Acquired 4 used snowmobiles from US D.O.D. Reimbursement requested is for the shipping cost from Fort Carson CO to Sheridan MT.
Date Purchased: October 25, 2022
Total Cost: $1,417.80
Local Match: $496.23
Requested Amount: $921.57
Approved at 25 % = $230.39
Documentation provided

→ Madison County – Ruby Valley SAR
Equipment: Dell Toughbook Laptop. Used for SAR incident management, field mapping software, SAR TOPO tracking, and GPS downloads.
Date Purchased: April 6, 2023
Total Cost: $2000.00
Local Match: $700.00
Requested Amount: $1,300.00
Approved at 25 % = $325.00
Documentation provided

→ Rosebud County Search and Rescue
Equipment: Rosebud County Search and Rescue (SAR) recently acquired an enclosed trailer ($9,190) and side-by-side ATV ($14,000) to enhance search and rescue capabilities in eastern Montana's challenging terrain. These assets not only improve response times and potentially save lives but also underline our commitment to mutual aid assistance, fostering collaboration with neighboring counties and SAR units for more effective emergency responses. Together, these acquisitions bolster our operations and enable us to navigate rugged landscapes with efficiency and effectiveness.
Date Purchased: April 3, 2023
Total Cost: $23,190.00
Local Match: $8,116.50
Requested Amount: $15,073.50
Approved at 25 % = $3,768.38
Documentation provided

→ Gallatin County SO Search and Rescue
Equipment: Drone batteries to keep drones airborne over a longer period with the ability to "hot swap" batteries. These batteries will double the flight time capability that we currently have. Drones are an essential search and rescue tool utilized often in Gallatin County.
Date Purchased: April 5, 2023
Total Cost: $1,400.00
Local Match: $490.00
Requested Amount: $910.00
Documentation provided
REIMBURSEMENT RESCINDED DUE TO LIMITED FUNDS.

→ Gallatin County SO Search and Rescue
Equipment: Cascade vacuum mattress, pump, and case. This is a vital piece of equipment used for immobilizing a patient for transport on a backboard/stretcher.
Date Purchased: April 17, 2023
Total Cost: $1,579.00
Local Match: $552.65
Requested Amount: $1,026.35
Documentation provided
REIMBURSEMENT RESCINDED DUE TO LIMITED FUNDS.

→ Gallatin County SO Search and Rescue
Equipment: Tent/canopy for drone pilots to keep warm and dry while operating drones on search and rescue missions/training.
Date Purchased: April 3, 2023
Total Cost: $599.97
Local Match: $209.99
Requested Amount: $389.98
Documentation provided
REIMBURSEMENT RESCINDED DUE TO LIMITED FUNDS.

→ Jefferson County - Elkhorn Search and Rescue
Equipment: Mystery Ranch backpacks for members to use for carrying gear during missions and training.
Date Purchased: August 8, 2022
Total Cost: $1,460.00
Local Match: $511.00
Requested Amount: $949.00
Approved at 25 % = $237.25
Documentation provided

→ Jefferson County - Elkhorn Search and Rescue
Equipment: Ranger compasses to be used by members for navigation during missions and training.
Date Purchased: December 7, 2022
Total Cost: $539.88
Local Match: $188.96
Requested Amount: $350.92
Approved at 25 % = $87.73
Documentation provided

→ Jefferson County - Elkhorn Search and Rescue
Equipment: Garmin GPS units for navigation by members during missions and training.
Date Purchased: November 22, 2022
Total Cost: $3,839.88
Local Match: $1,343,96
Requested Amount: $2,495.92
Approved at 25 % = $623.98
Documentation provided

→ Jefferson County - Elkhorn Search and Rescue
Equipment: PFDs (2 PFDs for water operation missions and training); Laptop case (One laptop case to protect laptop while in the field); Ratchet straps (For tying down ATVs and snowmobiles on trucks and trailers); E-Track (Mounted on trucks and trailers for tie-downs); Website (Annual fee for website registration).
Date Purchased: July and August 2022
Total Cost: $1,306.50
Local Match: $457.28
Requested Amount: $849.23
Approved at 25 % = $212.31
Documentation provided

→ Jefferson County - Elkhorn Search and Rescue
Equipment: Annual subscription to Terrain Navigator Pro, ESAR's search management software. There are three licenses – one for each coordinator.
Date Purchased: January 6, 2023
Total Cost: $432.00
Local Match: $151.20
Requested Amount: $280.80
Approved at 25 % = $70.20
Documentation provided

→ Jefferson County - Elkhorn Search and Rescue
Equipment: Honda Fourtrax ATV for use on missions in Jefferson County. ATV use includes trail searches, equipment delivery, road searches, and many other uses during missions and training.
Date Purchased: January 5, 2023
Total Cost: $8,612.00
Local Match: $3,014.20
Requested Amount: $5,597.80
Approved at 25 % = $1,399.45
Documentation provided

→ Jefferson County - Elkhorn Search and Rescue
Equipment: Radio chargers, SAR truck radio and installation, SAR truck flatbed extensions, street legal kit for SAR fourwheeler.
Date Purchased: May 2023
Total Cost: $6,837.45
Local Match: $2,393.11
Requested Amount: $4,444.34
Approved at 25 % = $1,111.09
Documentation provided

→ Cascade County Search and Rescue
Equipment: These are a light weight back country litter that can also be used for Air operations and can also be used for back country litter.
Date Purchased: October 7, 2022
Total Cost: $5,323.17
Local Match: $1,863.11
Requested Amount: $3,460.06
Approved at 25 % = $865.02
Documentation provided

→ Cascade County Search and Rescue
Equipment: 2 Kenwood Radios with trunking capabilities, Mounting brackets and cables. 2 Kenwood High power basic head kits 2 Kenwood GPS antennas for Mobile Radios
Date Purchased: January 5, 2023
Total Cost: $5,446.00
Local Match: $1,906.10
Requested Amount: $3,539.90
Approved at 25 % = $884.98
Documentation provided

→ Cascade County Search and Rescue
Equipment: 21 Kenwood Standard Key Models Portable Radios VHF 21 Kenwood Li-ion 3400 mAh 21 Kenwood Speaker Mic -Mil Spec 21 Kenwood Rapid rate single unit charger 21 EM VHF portable antenna Kenwood
Date Purchased: January 9, 2023
Total Cost: $20,209.10
Local Match: $7,073.24
Requested Amount: $13,135.85
Approved at 25 % = $3,283.96
Documentation provided

→ Cascade County Search and Rescue
Equipment: 3 Kenwood Nexedge 60 Watt 1 Kenwood GPS Antenna for Mobile Radios 1 Icom Air Band Mobile 1 Icom Programming Cable and Software 3 Laird 144-174 1 Laird 118-970 Upgrade for the command trailer
Date Purchased: July 12, 2022
Total Cost: $3,741.94
Local Match: $1,308.73
Requested Amount: $2,432.26
Approved at 25 % = $608.07
Documentation provided

→ Powell County Search and Rescue
Equipment: 2018 Argo Frontier AT (Tracked amphibious vehicle) 2021 flatbed trailer for hauling Argo
Date Purchased: March 21, 2023
Total Cost: $10,500
Local Match: $3,675.00
Requested Amount: $6,825.00
Approved at 25 % = $1,706.25
Documentation provided

Lake County SAR Equipment reimbursement request was inadvertently omitted from the agenda and as such will be considered as a separate item to ensure transparency.

→ Lake County Search and Rescue
Equipment: Medical trainer for Stop the Bleed instruction and tourniquets (15) for members to carry in medical bags.
Date Purchased: August 5, 2022
Total Cost: $2,149.62
Local Match: $752.40
Requested Amount: $1,332.76
Approved at 25 % = $333.19
Documentation provided
Motion to approve the Lake County equipment reimbursement request at 25% per option #3. (Wright). Second (Jurgonski). Approved unanimous.

Open Comment
Secor: Thank you for participating in this meeting and through this process. This subcommittee is for all of us and I appreciate your input and expertise. Don't let this prevent you from participating in the future and discourage you from submitting reimbursement requests in the next fiscal year. This is a starting point and demonstrates the need for additional SAR funding.

Trapp: Great work that is getting done through the subcommittee. The cross trainings are valuable and an excellent opportunity to work with other agencies. Thanked other agencies and teams for support in a major search effort.

O'Donnell: Hoping to add a long-line to the Yellowstone County Helicopter to help with extractions and always willing to work with and support other teams.

Welch: As far as funding goes, want to thank Gallatin County for rescinding reimbursement requests. Also thanked Madison County for the agency assist.

Next Meeting
➢ Tuesday, October 10, 2023