



*Montana Sheriffs & Peace Officers Association*  
PO Box 794 • Helena, MT 59624 • (406) 443-5669 • [www.mspsoa.org](http://www.mspsoa.org)

## Search and Rescue Subcommittee

### Quarterly Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, June 11, 2024  
**Time:** 10:30 am – 12:30 pm  
**In-person:** Fort Harrison, HAFRC, Room 113  
**Remote:** Via Microsoft Teams

### MINUTES

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**Introductions** *Matt Boxmeyer (Chair); Scott Van Dyken (Vice Chair); Nanette Gilbertson (MSPOA); Jake Graieany (DES)*

Matt Boxmeyer, Chair – Gallatin County SAR  
Corey Hansen, Cascade County SAR  
Jon Kadner, Cascade County SAR  
Landon Kotesky, Cascade County SAR  
Kevin Wright, Lewis and Clark County SAR  
Bill Pandis, Lewis and Clark County SAR  
Anthony Jenson, Lincoln County SAR  
Amy Parks, Mineral County SAR  
Andrew Luft, Toole County SAR  
Brad Belke, Butte Silver Bow County – 1590 SAR  
Stacey Bradley, Lewis and Clark County SAR  
Curtis Burleigh, Ravalli County SAR  
CeCe Weldon, Madison County SAR  
Colette Daigle-Bert, Gallatin County SAR  
Darrin Wise, Flathead County SAR  
Frank Peli, Carbon County SAR  
Gary Burke, Yellowstone County SAR  
Mike Labeaty, Park County SAR  
Steve Bowman, Lake County SAR  
Ty Williams, Stillwater County SAR  
Luke LaLiberty, Jefferson County – Elkorhn SAR  
Crystal McQueen – DES  
Jake Graieany – DES  
Janea Grotbo – DES  
Nanette Gilbertson -- MSPOA  
Scott Secor -- MSPOA

## **Review and approve minutes from previous meeting (4-9-24)**

*Motion: Approve the minutes from the April 9, 2024 meeting as distributed via email (Pandis). Second (Hansen). Passed unanimously.*

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

- None

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

- None

## **SAR Financial Update**

- Funds Balance – See Final Page of Minutes for written report  
*Per DES: Cash balance is over \$314,000 as of May 31.  
Appropriation balance is just under \$101,000  
Revenue is about \$4,000 per month from the vehicle registration fund source*
- Additional Authority for SFY24  
*There is the possibility to get more state special revenue authority for SFY24 in order to cover a larger portion of the training and equipment requests. Likely the best route is to take authority from next fiscal year (SFY25). DES will have to complete a budget change document to pay out requests utilizing the additional authority. To shore back up SFY25, DES could put a request in, via HB 3, for a supplemental appropriation request for the amount needed. DES is comfortable with this plan, but will wait to make any official requests until the end of SFY24 to see if any additional mission reimbursement requests are submitted.  
It is also possible for DES to submit a change package to increase authority for FY 26 and 27 with the goal being covering current requests in full as well as adding additional authority for future years based on the demonstrated need the past two years.*
- Request more appropriation from legislature in 2025 session?  
*DES can submit a decision package via EPP to increase appropriation and increase the base going forward.  
Based on the past two years, the amount of the increase would likely be in the \$30K - \$50K range. Even if no more authority is granted, it is important for teams to submit all mission reimbursement requests as documentation of the need for additional authority.  
In addition to an increase in state population and annual SAR missions, the change from a mandatory fee to voluntary donation has likely created the appropriation situation in which the subcommittee has to partially fund training and equipment requests the past two years.*

## **Training**

- 2024/2025 Trainings  
*If your county/team will be hosting SAR trainings, email the information to Chair Boxmeyer and Ms. Gilbertson so it can be shared statewide and posted on <https://mtsar.org>.*

## **Resource List**

- Updated Lists Provided via Email
  - Review and send updates to Chair Boxmeyer

## Reimbursement Requests

- SFY24 Mission Reimbursement
  - *By June 27, 2024*
  - *Missions occurring June 27 – June 30 can still be submitted and the MSPOA team and DES team will try to ensure the reimbursements happen in SFY24.*  
***Submit missions ASAP if they occur between now and end of fiscal year. Voting will take place remotely.***
- Documentation
  - Required Documentation - legibility; clarity; accurate calculations; double dipping, reasonable and appropriate; template form  
*To ensure all reimbursement requests are properly documented and that it is not overly onerous on MSPOA and DES, please adhere to the following:*
    - *When purchasing food/beverage to be reimbursed via statewide SAR funds, request separate receipt for adult beverages. Adult beverages are not reimbursable and should not be submitted.*
    - *Ensure reimbursement requests are for appropriate and reasonable expenditures. It is reasonable to feed volunteers; however, it is likely unreasonable to provide filet mignons and lobster.*
    - *For vehicle mileage reimbursement (county owned/SAR owned/volunteer owned) reimbursement is based on the federal mileage rate (currently \$.67 per mile). Fuel receipts are not required for mileage reimbursement.*
    - *Fuel reimbursement for equipment, such as boats, jet skis, side by sides, 4 wheelers, snowmobiles, etc., is reimbursed based on actual fuel costs and the request must be accompanied by a receipt.*
    - *Documentation for training and equipment expenses must show the invoice has been paid. An invoice for the service is not sufficient as it does not document that the expense has been paid in full.*
    - *Reimbursement requests need to have all expenses/receipts added up with a reimbursement total. MSPOA and DES do not have the manpower to decipher and add up stacks of receipts to try to make the individual receipts equal the total.*
    - *Two template excel documents are attached as examples of how to add up all reimbursement expenses and show a total which corresponds with submitted receipts.*
  - Review Reimbursement Criteria
    - *Review reimbursement criteria prior to submitting reimbursement request.*
    - *MSPOA reviews all requests and will ask questions about the purpose/scope to ensure it is appropriate as well as check the math and calculations. The goal is to make sure teams get maximum reimbursement, the math is correct, and all documentation is provided prior to review by the SAR subcommittee.*
- Reimbursement Submission Deadlines
  - *Submit Mission Reimbursement Requests within **90 days of the mission**, when possible, to assist with record keeping, balance tracking, etc.*
  - *Timeline Expectations*

- *Even though training and equipment reimbursements are not considered until the final meeting of the state fiscal year, submit training and equipment requests as the year goes along. This will assist with record keeping, balance tracking and require less last-minute work.*

## ➤ Mission

→ Gallatin County SO SAR

February 2, 2024

Total = \$4,020.00

Reimbursement Purpose = Helicopter

**Resources:** *Big Sky SAR and Heli-Team comprised of 18 SAR Members*

**Narrative:** *On February 2, 2024, Gallatin County 911 received a call for an injured paraglider near Big Sky. The paraglider was “speed flying” when they hit a tree, fell roughly 20 feet and sustained a leg injury. A friend of the paraglider was able to call 911 to report the incident, set and splint the injured limb, and relay the patient’s location to emergency responders. Gallatin County Sheriff Search and Rescue volunteers from the Big Sky Section responded to assist. It was determined the patient’s location was technically challenging terrain and a helicopter rescue would be the best course of action. A helicopter rescue team from Central Copters Inc. responded to assist the injured paraglider. A short-haul rescue was performed. The patient was successfully transported to Bozeman Health Big Sky Medical Center.*

**Resolution:** *Patient was short hauled to the Big Sky Medical Center for treatment.*

→ Gallatin County SO SAR

February 19, 2024

Total = \$7,370.00

Reimbursement Purpose = Helicopter

**Resources:** *Big Sky SAR and Heli-Team*

**Narrative:** *On February 19, 2024, at 6:00 pm Gallatin County Dispatch received a text to 911 from a snowmobiler who advised two people were stuck and unable to provide an exact location. Volunteers were finally able to locate the two snowmobilers well after dark. One snowmobiler was found to have had a minor injury to the hand, but they were otherwise in good health. Rescuers attempted to lead the two snowmobilers out to the trailhead, however the conditions were unsafe to continue. Due to poor snow conditions and elevated avalanche danger, the decision was made to bivouac overnight and reassess the situation during daylight hours. The following morning, after confirming the poor snow conditions avalanche danger, it was determined that a helicopter extraction of all personnel and snowmobiles would be the safest, most expedient course of action. Central Copters was able to insert rescuers into the area and all personnel were transported to a landing zone on Taylor’s Fork Road.*

**Resolution:** *Stranded Snowmobilers were extricated from the backcountry.*

→ Gallatin County SO SAR

March 19, 2024

Total = \$5,984.00

Reimbursement Purpose = Helicopter

**Resources:** Valley SAR, Heli-Team 18 SAR members

**Narrative:** On Tuesday, March 19, 2024, just before 1:00 PM, a pair of backcountry skiers were ascending the northern ridge of Mt. Blackmore near Hyalite Reservoir when they triggered a substantial avalanche. One individual was able to escape the slide by sprinting across the slope out of the path, but the other skier was engulfed and carried more than 250 ft downhill and suffered a significant leg injury. Due to the location of the injured person and the severity of the injury, the decision was made to use the GCSSAR heli-team to short-haul the patient from the avalanche site to an ambulance waiting at Hyalite Reservoir. The patient was packaged for transport and the team made use of a long line to transport him to the waiting ambulance, which provided follow-on medical care and transported the patient to Bozeman Health Deaconess Regional Medical Center.

**Resolution:** Patient transferred to AMR and then Bozeman Health.

→ Lincoln County SO - DTSAR

December 1, 2024

Total = \$338.35

Reimbursement Purpose = Mileage

**Resources:** David Thompson Search and Rescue, 11 members Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, 3 members MT FWP, 2 members.

**Narrative:** On the evening of 11/30/23, an elderly male, was reported missing. It was later learned from security video he was last at his residence on the morning of 11/26/23 leaving on his ATV. Numerous members from DTSAR, Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, and MT FWP as well as members of the public began searching. Due to bad weather and inaccessible roads, the missing male was not located until the evening of 12/12/23. He was recovered by Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and DTSAR personnel the following morning.

**Resolution:** Missing male was found deceased.

→ Lincoln County SO - DTSAR

March 14, 2024

Total = \$109.86

Reimbursement Purpose = Mileage

**Resources:** DTSAR, 2 Trucks, CANAM Defender, 2 snowmobiles, 9 DTSAR members

**Narrative:** On 3/14/2024, an overdue snowmobiler was reported missing. The snowmobiler had not returned home the previous evening. Law enforcement located the missing person's vehicle on. DTSAR members responded with a CANAM Defender with tracks and snowmobiles. DTSAR members were able to follow tracks and located the missing snowmobiler who had broke down.

**Resolution:** Snowmobiler was located safe.

- Lincoln County SO - DTSAR  
April 5, 2024  
Total = \$48.91  
Reimbursement Purpose = Mileage  
**Resources:** David Thompson Search and Rescue, 4 DTSAR members, 1 truck  
**Narrative:** On 4/5/2024, a 16 year old juvenile was reported to have run away from a group home. The juvenile fell into a creek twice before running into the forest. As it was getting dark, DTSAR was called out to assist in locating the juvenile. The juvenile was located approximately 4 miles away from the group home and recovered safely.  
**Resolution:** The runaway juvenile was located safe.
- Lincoln County SO - DTSAR  
April 14, 2024  
Total = \$89.11  
Reimbursement Purpose = Mileage  
**Resources:** David Thompson Search and Rescue, CANAM Defender UTV, 5 DTSAR members, 1 truck  
**Narrative:** On 4/14/2024, a family was out snowmobiling when they located an abandoned stuck vehicle. The family continued riding and approximately 4 miles up the trail, they located a deceased elderly male. The elderly male had gotten stuck the previous day and attempted to walk to phone service, but succumbed to the elements. DTSAR was called out to assist with the recovery.  
**Resolution:** Deceased individual was recovered.
- Lincoln County SO - DTSAR  
August 29, 2023  
Total = \$54.94  
Reimbursement Purpose = Mileage  
**Resources:** David Thompson Search and Rescue, 12 DTSAR members, 2 trucks  
**Narrative:** On 8/29/2023, a hiker called 911 to report he had become stranded on a ledge above a waterfall. DTSAR members and ropes team were called out to rescue the hiker. The hiker was safely rescued off the ledge with ropes.  
**Resolution:** Hiker was safely rescued.
- Lincoln County SO - DTSAR  
September 6, 2023  
Total = \$96.48  
Reimbursement Purpose = Mileage  
**Resources:** David Thompson Search and Rescue, 11 DT SAR members, 2 trucks  
**Narrative:** On 9/6/2023, a hunter was reported missing after not returning home the previous evening. DTSAR was called out and located the missing hunter's vehicle parked at a trailhead. SAR members hiked up the trail and located the missing hunter safely.  
**Resolution:** Hunter located safe.

→ Lincoln County SO - DTSAR

September 8, 2023

Total = \$115.24

Reimbursement Purpose = Mileage

**Resources:** David Thompson Search and Rescue, 3 DTSAR members from K9 Team, 1 truck, 2 K9s

**Narrative:** On 9/4/2023, a hiker was reported missing in Boundary County, Idaho. On 9/7/2023, Boundary County Sheriff's office requested assistance from DTSAR K9 teams. On 9/8/2023, 3 members from DTSAR K9 team along with 2 K9's responded to Idaho to assist with the search. The missing hiker has not yet been found.

**Resolution:** Hiker is still missing.

→ Lincoln County SO - DTSAR

July 10, 2023

Total = \$131.32

Reimbursement Purpose = Mileage

**Resources:** David Thompson Search and Rescue, 3 DTSAR members, 1 truck

**Narrative:** On 7/9/2023, an 87 year old male was reported missing after not returning from mushroom picking. CANAM Search and Rescue initially responded. On 7/10/23, DTSAR also responded to assist with the search. The missing mushroom picker was located in Canada and safely rescued.

**Resolution:** Missing mushroom picker was rescued in Canada by Canadian Authorities.

→ Butte Silver Bow LE – 15-90 SAR

April 6, 2024

Total = \$248.77

Reimbursement Purpose = Mileage

**Resources:** 14 units in 10 vehicles

**Narrative:** The vice commander was called by dispatch and was told that a group of females had gotten their truck stuck the night before in the highlands. It was stuck in deep snow and after many attempts to get out they were unable. We were asked to assist in getting them back to town as we have the appropriate equipment. The location was known. Team members drove up and them out and brought them home safely.

**Resolution:** The individuals were located and brought back to town, and units were told they could go home.

→ Park County SAR

August 13, 2023

Total = \$8,667.50

Reimbursement Purpose = Helicopter

**Resources:** 11 SAR personnel, 1 helicopter from Central Copters in Bozeman

**Narrative:** Guide with 3 clients fell approximately 42 meters and was complaining of left side pain, along with a head injury. 14F left Valley Base with 3 on board. Guardian Air was also dispatched from Cody, WY. Patient and clients were short hauled to a LZ on Froze to Death Plateau, and then clients were shuttled to vehicles at W Rosebud. Another call came in at the end of this one in the exact same location. On-Scene Coordinator: 669 Capt Matt Boxmeyer.

**Resolution:** Patient and clients short-hauled to and LZ on Froze to Death Plateau. Then ground transported away from the scene.

→ Park County SAR

August 13, 2023

Total = \$8,667.50

Reimbursement Purpose = Helicopter

**Resources:** 11 SAR personnel, 1 helicopter from Central Copters in Bozeman

**Narrative:** Climber fell about 10 ft suffered large laceration to lower left leg. 14F was departing from Froze to Death Plateau from a previous call and circled back to find the patient. 14F transported the patient and their SO to Valley Base. Patient was then transported POV for further medical assistance. On-Scene Coordinator: 669 Capt Matt Boxmeyer.

**Resolution:** Injured Hiker and significant other flown to Valley Base and transported via private vehicle to a medical facility.

→ Park County SAR

March 11, 2024

Total = \$1,195.00

Reimbursement Purpose = Helicopter

**Resources:** 8 SAR Members, 2 swift water rescue personnel, 8 rural firefighters, 1 jet boat, 1 helicopter

**Narrative:** Park County Sheriff was notified of a welfare check on suicidal female. He vehicle was located at the 89 N state fishing access on the Yellowstone River. Hasty search teams were organized in order to search downstream. They consisted of Park County SAR and Rural fire personnel. A helicopter was requested from Central Copters. An air search discovered the suicidal female deceased in the river a short distance downstream from the fishing access cited. Incident Command was Deputy Joseph Luther Park County Sheriff.

**Resolution:** Female was located deceased in the Yellowstone River. She was removed via ground transport.



→ Gallatin County SO SAR

December 16, 2023

Total = \$3,350.00

Reimbursement Purpose = Helicopter

**Resources:** Comms, heli, valley, 20 volunteers

**Narrative:** An ice climber fell 40-50 feet while ice climbing Zach Attack. Ground teams and a heli team were dispatched. The heli team were able to access the patient and transport them to AMR at the Grotto Falls Trailhead. AMR transported the patient to BDH for further treatment

**Resolution:** An ice climber fell 40-50 feet while ice climbing Zach Attack. Ground teams and a heli team were dispatched. The heli team were able to access the patient and transport them to AMR at the Grotto Falls Trailhead. AMR transported the patient to BDH for further treatment

→ Jefferson County – Elkhorn SAR

August 28, 2023

Total = \$476.14

Reimbursement Purpose = Meals

**Resources:** 2 SAR members and 1 K9

**Narrative:** Request is for meals reimbursement for the two Elkhorn SAR members. Mission was a mutual aid request to locate a missing elderly male in the mountains above Lander, WY. Subject went missing from the parking lot heading to the lookout tower. This search was the second deployment with K9 to try and find the individual. Dave Kauffman was IC and k9 handler who coordinated the search for two days with three k9 teams from nearby areas. Tim Reilly from Elkhorn SAR was there to help support the K9 team. The search was under the direction of the Fremont County Sheriff.

**Resolution:** Subject was not located.

→ Cascade County SAR

May 5, 2024

Total = \$387.01

Reimbursement Purpose = Mileage

**Resources:** CCMP SAR (6), Meagher County SAR, FWP CCSO Deputies 51 and 58

**Narrative:** On Saturday May 4, 2024 Cascade County Search & Rescue received a page out for a stranded motorist in the area of Logging Creek Rd and Monument Peak Rd in the Little Belts Mountain Range. Due to its close proximity to the neighboring county, Meagher County Search & Rescue was called to assist to access the individual from their side of the mountain. CCSAR, MCSAR, and FWP all assisted in recovering the individual as well as another individual who was stranded on the way to the primary victim. All individuals were uninjured. The mission ended on 5/5/24 @ 0123 hrs.

**Resolution:** CCSAR, MCSAR, and FWP all assisted in recovering the individual as well as another individual who was stranded on the way to the primary victim. All individuals were uninjured. The mission ended on 5/5/24 @ 0123 hrs.

### **Discussion on Mission Requests**

*LaLiberty asked if Gallatin County SAR attempts to utilize free resources prior to using the paid resource of Central Copters?*

*Boxmeyer responded that Gallatin County Sheriff's Office SAR does use free resources to the extent possible. He also stated that Gallatin County Sheriff's Office SAR requests the most cost-effective option for helicopter from Central Copters.*

*LaLiberty asked if they use the National Guard?*

*Ganieny responded that teams must exhaust all local and contracted resources prior to requesting/utilizing the National Guard.*

*Pandis stated that the Lewis and Clark County SAR has tried to use the National Guard, but it is a difficult process and not always time efficient in an emergency.*

*Hansen confirmed that it is very difficult to use Malstrom and the fastest response was 1.5 hours.*

*Pandis asked Boxmeyer if the February 19 mission in which there were people and equipment extracted, if it was all done at one time. Were 6 riders and 6 sleds extracted at once?*

*Boxmeyer replied that they mission did include both people and sleds, but the reimbursement request was reduced and the invoice was adjusted to account for sled extraction. Only seeking reimbursement for the people.*

***Jake informed the subcommittee that DES will combine multiple agency/unit reimbursements into one payment.***

***Motion: Approve all Mission Reimbursement requests at 100% of the requested amount with funding authorized by State DES (Hansen). Second (Pandis). Passed Unanimous.***

### **➤ Training**

→ Butte-Silver Bow County – 15-90 SAR

July 8, 2023

Total = \$ 365.88

**Training Type:** *Montana Rescue Training, Emergency first aid and packaging and Helicopter extrication*

**Description:** *25 members responded to Highland Mountains July 8th, 2023. Where 4 victims in moulage were located by ELT and drone. Victims treated and packaged and transported to LZ, picked up 1 victim by LifeFlight. Training dealt with plane location by ELT, triage, treatment, triage, transport and helicopter procedures.*

**Training Provided By:** *In-House & Lifeflight*

→ Butte-Silver Bow County – 15-90 SAR

September 15, 2023

Total = \$1,200.00

**Training Type:** *Emergency Medical Technician*

**Description:** *EMT training for member with teaching experience. The course is 13 weeks long, approx. 150 hours for Basic certification. In 4th week of course now.*

**Training Provided By:** *Whiteline Training*

- Stillwater County – Stillwater County SAR  
September 30, 2023  
Total = \$4,740.00  
**Training Type:** *Swiftwater Tech Training*  
**Description:** *Training for 12 Stillwater SAR members to become certified swift water technicians. The class was taught by WRI out of Missoula. The training was opened to local fire departments, along with Sweetgrass County SAR and Carbon County SAR.*  
**Training Provided By:** *WRI*
  
- Toole County SAR  
March 15, 2024  
Total = \$757.43  
**Training Type:** *Fundamentals of Search and Rescue*  
**Description:** *Hosted by Lewis and Clark search and rescue. These courses focus on those brand new to Search and Rescue and many jurisdictions use them as the basis for their SAR Academy training for new members. We focus on the National SAR System, what happens on a SAR mission, followed by practical exercises on how to search and operate safely in any environment.*  
**Training Provided By:** *ERI*
  
- Gallatin County SO SAR  
October 15, 2023  
Total = \$13,065.00  
**Training Type:** *Helicopter*  
**Description:** *Technical Rescue on Ross Pass*  
**Training Provided By:** *In-House utilizing Central Copters*
  
- Gallatin County SO SAR  
February 11, 2024  
Total = \$8,710.00  
**Training Type:** *Helicopter Short Haul*  
**Description:** *Members of the Heli team utilized a screamer suit to short haul mock patients in a variety of scenarios.*  
**Training Provided By:** *In-House utilizing Central Copters*

- Lake County SAR  
May 17, 2024  
Total = \$3,141.69  
**Training Type:** 24-Hour Tracking  
**Description:** *HPTS has developed a realistic certification procedure for “professional trackers.” This process began some forty years ago, when both tracking program students and prosecution attorneys asked Joel to give them evidence of progressive learning and skill development for trackers. Tracking students needed to know their own level of skill development, and prosecuting attorneys requested it as a professional tracking credential that demonstrated the training, testing, and achievement of a reasonable standard. The training methodology needed to match acceptable academic and scientific standards and documentation as defined by education and skill development experts. No such recognizable standards existed within the domestic tracking world at that time.*  
**Training Provided By:** SAR Tracking Logistics
- Lincoln County – DTSAR  
October 2, 2023  
Total = \$3,480.26  
**Training Type:** Rope Rescue Technician I/II  
**Description:** *Rope Rescue Technician I/II provides an intensive 40-hour high-angle rescue class that teaches skills required by fire departments, mountain, and industrial rescue teams. Skills taught: inspection, maintenance, knots, anchors, patient packaging, mechanical advantage systems, belay techniques, lowering systems, rappelling, knot passing, litter rigging and tending.*  
**Training Provided By:** CMC Rescue, Inc.
- Lincoln County – CanAm SAR  
May 19, 2024  
Total = \$1,440.00  
**Training Type:** Tracking  
**Description:** *3 days of tracking training for four individuals*  
**Training Provided By:** Joel Hardin Professional Tracking Service
- Jefferson County – Elkhorn SAR  
January 23, 2024  
Total = \$1,008.00  
**Training Type:** CPR/First Aid  
**Description:** *Reimbursement for two CPR/first aid training courses held at Elkhorn SAR in Jefferson County in July 2023 and January 2024. Instruction resulted in certification and recertification of 23 Elkhorn SAR members for CPR, AED, and first aid.*  
**Training Provided By:** Outside Aid Safety Training

- Jefferson County – Elkhorn SAR  
December 27, 2023  
Total = \$247.00  
**Training Type:** *K9 Audit/certification*  
**Description:** *Search and rescue training, audit, and certification for Elkhorn SAR K9.*  
**Training Provided By:** *NSDA*
- Madison County – Ruby Valley SAR  
May 3, 2024  
Total = \$800.00  
**Training Type:** *Swiftwater*  
**Description:** *May 3-5 RVSAR put on a 20 hour Swiftwater Training emphasizing jet boat operations. 17 Participants included members from Jefferson County, Beaverhead County and Madison County. The total cost was an \$800 stipend to John Obst the instructor for travel to and from Libby including meals and accommodations. This is the 10th year in a row that he is done this for free. Because he does not charge, we have no receipt except the canceled check. There was no charge to attendees that attended the training.*  
**Training Provided By:** *John Obst*
- Madison County – Ruby Valley SAR  
March 7, 2024  
Total = \$2,649.32  
**Training Type:** *Wafa to WFR and WFR Refresher*  
**Description:** *March 7th- 11th we put on a Wilderness Advanced First Aid (Wafa) to a Wilderness First Responder (WFR) and WFR Refresher for six members. Total cost was \$2,649.32. This course was offered Statewide. Instructor for the course was Vanderwall and Associates.*  
**Training Provided By:** *Vanderwall and Associates*
- Madison County – Ruby Valley SAR  
May 18, 2024  
Total = \$3,000.00  
**Training Type:** *Wilderness First Aid & CPR*  
**Description:** *May 18 - 19 RVSAR hosted a training for 11 members in Wilderness first aid including CPR. The total cost of this training was \$3,275. One of the participants was not SAR related and paid us \$275 making our total out of pocket expense \$3,000.*  
**Training Provided By:** *Crux Med Ed & Consulting*

- Gallatin County SO SAR  
April 21, 2024  
Total = \$11,264.00  
**Training Type:** *Helicopter short haul training*  
**Description:** *The focus of this training was patient packaging in semi-technical terrain, getting repetitions on the different litter systems that we use, and practicing our patient handoffs between ground and air teams.*  
**Training Provided By:** *In-House utilizing Central Copters*
- Lincoln County – DTSAR  
May 31, 2024  
Total = \$220.00  
**Training Type:** *Managing the Inland Search Function*  
**Description:** *Managing the Inland Search Function provides the essence of what the first-on-scene Incident Commander will initiate, manage and document for SAR incidents. From initial response through suspending search operations and the demobilization of resources. This class provides a building-block foundation for both ongoing management of search operations and technical search planning for later operational periods. Most searches resolve either using previously proven search planning tactics and management techniques described, or the more complicated search techniques discussed for longer missions. This 3 day training class ran from May 31, 2024 to June 2, 2024 in Coeur d'Alene, ID.*  
**Training Provided By:** *ERI*
- Lewis and Clark County SAR  
March 1, 2024  
Total = \$5,059.22  
**Training Type:** *Lost Person Behavior*  
**Description:** *The Lost Person Behavior SAR Planning Course is a two-day workshop to support search planning for both ground searchers and command staff. Participants will leave with knowledge, skills, and confidence to create a strategic and tactical plan for their next missing persons operation. Using Dr. Robert Koester's LPB model, participants will learn about statistical modeling as well as other contemporary modeling techniques to create a search area and write tasks which correspond to prioritization.*  
**Training Provided By:** *ERI*
- Lewis and Clark County SAR  
March 15, 2024  
Total = \$8,015.19  
**Training Type:** *Fundamentals of Search and Rescue*  
**Description:** *FUNSAR is training to take an individual, with no experience or understanding of basic search and rescue, and give them the skills and knowledge to contribute to a SAR response effectively. SAR Skills for the Emergency Responder merges several disciplines and arenas from the SAR world.*  
**Training Provided By:** *ERI*

→ Lewis and Clark County SAR

April 20, 2024

Total = \$5,218.68

**Training Type:** *Wilderness First Aid*

**Description:** *Wilderness First Aid certification course*

**Training Provided By:** *Aerie Backcountry Medicine*

→ Mineral County SAR

May 17, 2024

Total = \$700.00

**Training Type:** *JHPTS Lake County 24 hour Tracking Class*

**Description:** *24 hr course with lecture to provide novice and basic tracker understanding of training methodology, techniques, and procedures. Students will understand tracking as a first response primary search resource used to verify witness statements, establish the point last seen, direction of travel and following physical evidence to the missing person. Field training will allow student tracking team experimentation and hands on practice of fundamental tracking techniques. Novice students will progress from initial identification of a footprint to a step by step concept of following identified sign line and practical tracking team response.*

**Training Provided By:** *Joel Hardin Professional Tracking Service*

**Discussion on Mission Requests**

*There is not adequate funding to reimburse all training and equipment requests at 100%.*

*There are calculations for submitting at either 64% or 51%. General consensus is that both training and equipment should be reimbursed at 64% if DES can get additional authority, as that will be most beneficial to teams.*

**Motion:** Request additional \$20,000 in authority in order to fund training and equipment reimbursement requests at **64%** and if the authority is not granted, fund training and equipment reimbursement requests at 51% with funding authorized by State DES (LaLiberty). Second (Hansen). Passed Unanimous.

➤ **Equipment**

→ Lincoln County – CanAM SAR

Equipment: Winches and hardware for 2 trucks to be used for self-retrieval and rescue operations.

Date Purchased: February 8, 2024

Total Cost: \$1,614.77

Local Match: \$565.17

**Requested Amount: \$1,049.60**

*Documentation provided*

- Lincoln County – CanAM SAR  
Equipment: 2018 Yamaha ATV to be used for offroad searches and rescues.  
Date Purchased: May 16, 2024  
Total Cost: \$6,500.00  
Local Match: \$2,275.00  
**Requested Amount: \$4,225.00**  
*Documentation provided*
  
- Lincoln County – CanAM SAR  
Equipment: Truck canopy and bed slide system for protection and accessibility of rescue equipment.  
Date Purchased: February 27, 2024  
Total Cost: \$1,500.00  
Local Match: \$525.00  
**Requested Amount: \$975.00**  
*Documentation provided*
  
- Lincoln County – CanAM SAR  
Equipment: 2008 Ski-Doo snowmobile for snow related search and rescue.  
Date Purchased: November 18, 2023  
Total Cost: \$3,000.00  
Local Match: \$1,050.00  
**Requested Amount: \$1,950.00**  
*Documentation provided*
  
- Butte Silver Bow County – 15-90 SAR  
Equipment: Purchased 4 drysuits for our certified Swiftwater team for times when they may be called out for a river search as well as for training to maintain their skills.  
Date Purchased: March 27, 2024  
Total Cost: \$2,148.00  
Local Match: \$751.80  
**Requested Amount: \$1,396.20**  
*Documentation provided*
  
- Butte Silver Bow County – 15-90 SAR  
Equipment: More radios and batteries for radios for team members, that will be utilized during trainings, searches, and community events that 15-90 search and rescue is involved with.  
Date Purchased: May 30, 2024  
Total Cost: \$5,654.18  
Local Match: \$1,978.96  
**Requested Amount: \$3,675.22**  
*Documentation provided*



- Butte Silver Bow County – 15-90 SAR  
Equipment: Deck System for SAR-1 will be used during searches to transport lifesaving equipment to and from the incident site, so that the most gear can be utilized to rescue lost individuals as possible, as well as provide organized storage for the groups gear inside of the truck.  
Date Purchased: April 6, 2024  
Total Cost: \$1,000.00  
Local Match: \$350.00  
**Requested Amount: \$650.00**  
*Documentation provided*
  
- Butte Silver Bow County – 15-90 SAR  
Equipment: Topper for SAR-1, that will be used to protect gear while on searches in all kinds of weather, as well as to keep items from blowing away during transport from the building to searches.  
Date Purchased: April 13, 2024  
Total Cost: \$1,200.00  
Local Match: \$420.00  
**Requested Amount: \$780.00**  
*Documentation provided*
  
- Jefferson County – Elkhorn SAR  
Equipment: Purchase of a new ATV for use on missions within Jefferson County, MT. ATV will be utilized for off-road search, rescue, and recovery missions. This additional ATV replaces a 1998 model that was not mission capable.  
Date Purchased: April 11, 2024  
Total Cost: \$9,311.80  
Local Match: \$3,259.13  
**Requested Amount: \$6,052.67**  
*Documentation provided*
  
- Jefferson County – Elkhorn SAR  
Equipment: New Dell laptop for use by Elkhorn SAR to generate maps, upload/download GPS data, track training and missions, originate and update callouts, and other general tasks. Laptop was necessary to replace an aging laptop that could no longer run Terrain Navigator Pro.  
Date Purchased: April 18, 2024  
Total Cost: \$2,446.79  
Local Match: \$856.38  
**Requested Amount: \$1,590.41**  
*Documentation provided*

→ Jefferson County – Elkhorn SAR

Equipment: Purchase is for a printer at the Elkhorn SAR building for printing maps, training and mileage logs, mission notes, etc. New printer is to replace an aging printer that was not reliable. Purchase also includes a renewal of three licenses for Terrain Navigator Pro, the planning, mapping, and tracking software used by ESAR for missions and training.

Date Purchased: January 4, 2024

Total Cost: \$681.94

Local Match: \$238.68

**Requested Amount: \$443.26**

*Documentation provided*

→ Jefferson County – Elkhorn SAR

Equipment: Elkhorn SAR purchased two new ATV helmets, one new GPS, and several medical equipment items including SAM XT Tourniquets to replace existing items and to add equipment for new members.

Date Purchased: October 2023

Total Cost: \$2,023.80

Local Match: \$708.33

**Requested Amount: \$1,315.47**

*Documentation provided*

→ Jefferson County – Elkhorn SAR

Equipment: Subscription to IamResponding, which is our paging service. We changed paging services from Volunteer Rescue to IamResponding when Volunteer Rescue discontinued their Twilio services.

Date Purchased: May 28, 2024

Total Cost: \$355.00

Local Match: \$124.25

**Requested Amount: \$230.75**

*Documentation provided*

→ Lake County SAR

Equipment: 2024 SKIDOO EXPEDITION LE 1 0 900ACE 24" ARCTIC DESERT

Date Purchased: March 26, 2024

Total Cost: \$13,200.00

Local Match: \$4,620.00

**Requested Amount: \$8,580.00**

*Documentation provided*

→ Lake County SAR

Equipment: ODIN PRO SHIELD JACKETS FOR SAR TEAM

Date Purchased: July 4, 2024

Total Cost: \$5,969.86

Local Match: \$2,089.46

**Requested Amount: \$3,880.40**

*Documentation provided*

→ Mineral County SAR

Equipment: Swiftwater Rescue gear package- includes PFD, whistle, NRS dry suit, gloves, wetshoes, headlamp, fins, pilot knife, helmet, throwbag, and duffle. Items will outfit one SAR member with personal safety equipment to respond to water rescues, and these items were utilized for a SAR member to attend and complete Swiftwater Rescue Technician Certification.

Date Purchased: April 18, 2024

Total Cost: \$1,650.79

Local Match: \$577.78

**Requested Amount: \$1,073.01**

*Documentation provided*

→ Mineral County SAR

Equipment: Items include a dry suit, wet suit, and duffle for Swiftwater Rescue Technician on SAR team.

Date Purchased: May 23, 2024

Total Cost: \$1,037.94

Local Match: \$363.28

**Requested Amount: \$674.66**

*Documentation provided*

**Motion: Request additional \$20,000 in authority to fund training and equipment reimbursement requests at 64% and if the authority is not granted, fund training and equipment reimbursement requests at 51% with funding authorized by State DES (Pandis). Second (LaLiberty). Passed Unanimous.**

**Open Comment/Public Comment**

*None*

**Next Meetings**

- *Tuesday, September 10, 2024 @ 10:30 am*
- *Tuesday, January 7, 2025 @ 10:30 am*

**Financial Report**

Per DES

**Cash balance:** \$314,418.86

**Appropriation balance:** \$100,886.

**Revenue deposited since last meeting:**

4,683.66 January 2024

3,717.91 February 2024

3,546.05 March 2024

4,262.64 April 2024

Amount		Business Unit		
Acct Lvl 0	Account	52010	67010	Total
<b>= 10000 Assets</b>		<b>264,630.25</b>	<b>49,788.61</b>	<b>314,418.86</b>
	1104 Cash In Bank	265,382.25	49,788.61	315,170.86
	1203A Acct Rec Ext - Non Open Item	(752.00)		(752.00)
<b>= 20000 Liabilities</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
	2107 Vouchers Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>= 40000 Fund Equity</b>		<b>686.25</b>	<b>(31,950.43)</b>	<b>(31,264.18)</b>
	4130 Fund Balance - Committed	686.25	(31,950.43)	(31,264.18)
<b>= 50000 Revenues</b>		<b>(265,316.50)</b>	<b>(53,842.82)</b>	<b>(319,159.32)</b>
	501509 OHV Temporary Use Permits	(12,386.00)		(12,386.00)
	502015 License Dealer Receipts	(0.50)		(0.50)
	502505 Winter Trail Pass	(2,359.00)		(2,359.00)
	581432 Donations	(250,571.00)		(250,571.00)
	582800 Transfers In-General		(37,627.40)	(37,627.40)
	582886 NonFA Residual Equity Rev - NB		(16,215.42)	(16,215.42)
<b>= 60000 Expenditures</b>			<b>36,004.64</b>	<b>36,004.64</b>
	66156 Special Projects		36,004.64	36,004.64
<b>Total</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(0.00)</b>