

## KISAR January 15, 2025 General Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 7:05 PM at Bayside Fire Hall

Minutes prepared by: Tschersich

Directors present: Tschersich, Wielebski, Szabo, Dorner

December general membership meeting minutes were read and approved.

New members: Davis Hovey introduced himself. He has been in Kodiak 1 year and is working as a reporter for KMXT, and came from living in Nome for 7 years as an ambulance EMT. He enjoys xc skiing and hiking and has done the 7 Summits.

Treasurer's report: Nick said the 2025 calendars cost \$12 each to print and process. He reminded members to pay their 2025 dues. He gave a net worth statement for KISAR with the following figures:

- Credit Union 1 savings: \$20,819
- First National Bank Alaska: \$2,193
- Paypal: \$1,579
- Petty cash: \$16
- Total cash and bank accounts: \$24,607

Steve said that Casey (ex-Navy SEAL who bought Big Timber Lodge on Raspberry Island) of the Kodiak Survival School would be interested in offering a survival class to KISAR.

Steve said he was in conversation with Deb Ajango and Blaine Smith about upcoming trainings. Deb could come to Kodiak May 17-18 for a custom WFA class. Steve asked the group in attendance if they would prefer a full certification WFA class or a custom class tailored to KISAR's interests but not resulting in a WFA certification. Philip expressed an interest in Deb using her excellent scenarios for a field-heavy training where we mainly spend time outdoors working through scenarios with emphasis on patient assessment, triage and stabilization followed by transportation and administering further care.

Deb has worked with Luc Mehl on his training business. Luc would be willing to come to Kodiak to lead an ice safety and rescue training for KISAR. He might be available on short notice as our local ice has been ephemeral given our warm winter to date. Chief Ellis would be available to run a joint training with KISAR and Bayside Fire Hall for ice safety and rescue, and we were mainly waiting for ice to form that would provide realistic rescue conditions. KISAR could wait to work with Luc until after we had trained with Bayside.

Steve said he gave Blaine some training topics like traversing steep snow slopes with a patient in a litter or SKED, belaying on snow, establishing dirt anchors, etc.

Josh said the Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA) had not met recently, and that the next deadline for requests for training grants was in May.

April was offered as a month where KISAR could conduct a joint training with the USCG Kodiak Air Station to familiarize ourselves with helicopter operations and patient extraction. Philip will work with Catherine Cantu, KISAR's USCG *ex-officio* board member, to develop a plan.

KISAR held its annual board elections and the following slate was approved by acclamation:

President: Steve Wielebski

VP: Josh Boyle

Treasurer: Nick Szabo

Secretary: Philip Tschersich

Member at Large: Takoda Edlund (with Jason McGrath identified as an alternate if Takoda cannot serve out his full term)

Member at Large: Joletta Silva

Member at Large: Bryan Ferris

USCG *ex officio* member: Catherine Cantu

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

No training followed the meeting