

## April 15, 2026 KISAR General Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 7:02pm

Minutes prepared by: S. McGrath

Directors present: Wielebski, Ferris, Baader, Szabo, S. McGrath, J. McGrath

February meeting minutes were read. Nick Szabo voted to approve the minutes and Shanna McGrath seconded the motion. Meeting minutes were approved as read.

Guest:

Nathan Johnston. He moved to Kodiak in January. He is a marine veteran and now works at City Fire as an EMT. Here to check out KISAR and consider joining.

Treasure Report: no report was provided tonight. Current status of the CD: turnover has not been done yet but Nick will go into CU1. Shanna shared that CU1 will match an interest rate of another Alaska bank if one is better at another bank when the CD is renewed. Nick will look into this.

Steve handed out the Wilderness First Aid cards

NASAR: national umbrella for local teams. NASAR has a lot of stuff on their website for sale along with certification classes such as SAR tech 1, SAR tech 2 and SAR tech 3. KISAR used to require members to take SAR tech 3 but it is not required anymore. They used to offer organizational membership discounts, but we are not a current member.

It has recently come that Jimmy Emerson, is interested in the SAR Tech 3 course. He has purchased his test, but needed a current edition textbook. Nick purchased one with KISAR funds which he is letting Jimmy borrow to take his test. Other members are interested in the course and allowed to use the book if desired. Talked about getting a few more books. Test is \$100, book is \$90.

SAR symposium :

Symposium is coming up in Anchorage, AK. May 16-17 at UAA. Steve is planning to attend the symposium. Shea is planning to go if able.

Shea thanked the CG members that saved his brother and his crew when their fishing vessel went aground off Unimak Island last week.

Training update:

- Update on training with Blane Smith: Steve shared that they are still discussing options: avalanche and snow anchors, basic rope training and mountain travel.
- Deb Ajango: have her return in about 1 year. She could provide spine precautions, patient packaging or other to tailor to our needs/requests.
- WFR option: would be a 5 day commitment if we ever wanted to do that.
- Casey Harver, of Kodiak Survival School, (former navy seal) provides a 2 day survival course with overnight training.

- Hoist training: with CG at Spruce Cape or Pyramid. Brian Baader suggested maybe around May 23. He will talk to the CG AirSta and bring it back to the next meeting or sooner.
- Have someone give a training/presentation on what you should carry for avalanche safety in the backcountry and could do a refresher on beacon training.
- Emergency Trauma Training: Chris Glade said there will be a course coming up at Bayside, it will be the last week in May first week in June, on T, W, TH evenings and Saturday full days for a total of 40 hours. text book is about \$40 and \$20 application fee

#### SAR application Grant:

Nick brought up that we need to apply for funding for the next 6 months soon and we need to come up with ideas for the next application period. 8-10 people at the meeting showed interest to participate in a training by Casey Harver of Kodiak Survival School. Steve or Nick will reach out to Casey about options.

#### Fourth of July Hut work:

Steve would like a team of people to go up to the hut this spring to check on it and provide any work that needs to be done on it. Stay tuned for a plan. Possible joint collaboration with the CG AirSta.

CalTopa update: still pending information and further presentation on this application by CalTopa committee. No members present tonight at the meeting.

#### WhatsApp use and functions:

It was suggested to use the communication App for announcing the meeting to members on Tuesday or Wednesday morning of the meeting to remind the members of the meeting on Wednesday night. This will be in addition to the email that is sent out.

Another category in the WhatsApp was created tonight, called "Training Days". It will be a space to reach out to members if someone wants to do certain trainings with others such as beacons, ropes, or other trainings along with announcing valuable trainings available.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54pm.

#### Training:

Chris Glade provided a training on patient packaging and the litter along with showing us how to do chest and pelvic harness and the Portuguese Bowline knot.