

LOWCOUNTRY COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPOSNSE TEAM

Quarterly Business Meeting December 10, 2016
Charleston County Rescue Squad Headquarters
2521 Rescue Road, North Charleston, SC. 29409

Members in Attendance:

Adam Colley, Cheryl Bailey, Harry Sosa, Gordon Selleck, James Petros, Susan Pletcher, Martin Quinn, Richey Warren Jr, Rich Selover, Victor Swindell, Debbie Hvizdos, Mark Johnson, Victor Jusino, Alan Laughlin, Darrel McKeown, Robin McKeown, Joe Coates, Robert Harlow, Lori Kidwell, Matt McNamara, William Robinson, Keith Rowland, Linda Selleck,

Others Present: Jon Schebesta

The meeting was called to order by Adam Colley at 2:45 pm. Adam Colley introduced the Board of Directors present.

Adam Colley explained to the members that in the past meetings we learned of many things we have done correctly since the inception of LCERT. Jon Schebesta who is skilled in Roberts Rules of Order is here to help us help conduct the meeting correctly. We are here to vote on the new LCERT Constitutions and Bylaws.

Jon Schebesta thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Mr. Schebesta gave a brief description of his background. Jon Schebesta has over 16 yrs. in the fire department as an officer level. He specializes in Robert's Rule of Order. Mr. Schebesta helped the current Board on rewriting the Constitution and Bylaws for LCERT. He complemented the Board on their hard work and time preparing the amended draft of the Constitution and Bylaws. Mr. Schebesta explained that these changes will protect all and are needed for the future of this organization. Mr. Schebesta reiterated that he is not a Board member of LCERT he is here just to aid the Board of LCERT on procedures while conducting this meeting.

Certification of Quorum

Cheryl Bailey confirmed the membership present did not meet quorum for the meeting.

Mr. Schebesta explained to the members in attendance the Board of Directors may make a temporarily amendment under Robert Rules of Order to conduct business. The betterment of the organization for quorum purposes to allow business to take place. The Board of Directors stepped into Executive Session.

A motion was made for the betterment of the organization to conduct business for quorum purposes. A minimum of 10 members to proceed with business with a majority of membership in presence approval. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the members.

A motion was made for the adjournment of The Board of Directors executive session. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board of Directors.

Presentation of Financials:

Lori McFadden was absent from this meeting. Lori McFadden will provide Adam Colley with the financial report. Once the Board receives the report this will be shared with the members.

County reports in alphabetical order:

Lori Kidwell from Berkeley County announced they will have a CERT class at the end of January.

Joe Coates from Charleston County announced the graduated CERT class today had eleven (11) adults and three (3) teens for Teen CERT. Mr. Coates reported a CERT class for membership will be held at the College of Charleston at the end of January. Mr. Coates also reported the Charleston County assisted with the storm Hurricane Matthew.

Matthew McNamara from Dorchester County reported they will have a CERT class for new member's mid-January. The Search and Rescue class that was postponed due to Hurricane Matthew will be rescheduled in March. Mr. McNamara also reported that many of the same areas and homes that flooded during the 1000-year flood experience the same flooding.

Adam Colley noted volunteers may be needed for the Charleston Marathon in January. Mr. Colley also reported that if an organization needs help to contact the Board of Directors for volunteers for that event.

Harry Sosa Teen CERT representative for LCERT and Valerie White (not present) explained the decline in the Teen CERT members since 2013. They started with 50 teen members and now they have 15 and we had 20 adult's volunteers but now we are down to 10.

Presentation of the New Constitution and Bylaws:

Adam Colley asked Jon Schebesta to present the Constitution and Bylaws. Mr. Schebesta explained how Roberts Rule of Order can allow temporary Chairman for protemp for expertise.

A motion from the floor was made to adopt Robert's Rule to temporally allow Jon Schebesta to present the draft Constitution and Bylaws as temporary protemp. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Jon Schebesta asked if he could record this session with his portable recording device. There were no objections from the Board of Directors nor the membership.

Jon Schebesta stated the date December 10, 2016 at 1544 for the record.

Jon Schebesta will read and go over all sections of the proposed draft Constitutions and Bylaws with the membership.

Article 1

Section 1 Name

Jon Schebesta stated in Article 1 section 1 the word "Low County" throughout the Constitution and Bylaws will be changed to match the logo with a lower-case C from a capital C. It will read: This organization shall be known as the Lowcountry Community Emergency Response Team. This change shall carry on throughout the document.

Article II - Objectives

Section 1 Objectives a motion was made from the floor to add counties after Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester to read Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester Counties. A motion was made to correct the spelling of Charleston. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Article III - Membership

Section 1 Membership Categories

A suggestion from the floor was to remove the periods off Section 1 subsection B and C. This would match subsection A.

Section 2 Regular Membership

A motion from the floor was made add Section 6 under Article III Section 2 under Regular Membership.

A motion was made from the floor to add Section 6 under Article III to read: The Board of Directors reserves the right to waive any requirements or category of the membership.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion was made to the first motion to change the Board of Directors to read Executive Committee. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion from the floor was made to change Article III Section 2 sub-section F that is written to read: Must have a valid State or Government ID. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion from the floor was to modify from Government to Federal. Section F now reads. Must have a valid State or Federal issued ID. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Article III

Section 2

Suggestion to the grammar error in subsection d. to perform from preform.

A motion from the floor was made to accept Debbie Hvizdos document to the secretary of the correction she has made to the Constitutions and Bylaws draft copy for grammar, spelling, spacing errors. Cheryl Bailey accepted and will review her recommendations. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Section 5

Dismissal of Members was discussed.

Portion A, B, C, D, E will remain as written under Article III Section 5

A motion was made from the floor to strike portion F, G, H, I, J. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion from the floor was made to add portion F to read: The process for dismissal of members shall follow Robert Rules of Order. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved

It was noted from the floor during review that Section 6 was missing from the version Jon Schebesta was reading to the members. A motion was made from the floor to add Section 6 under Article III to read the following:

Section 7 Reinstatement of Previous Members

Members, not on probation or suspension, who voluntarily give up their membership and then request to be reinstated within a time (6) month period, need only submit a new Application.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Article IV Organization

Section 1

A motion was made from the floor to remove “and Vice presidents”. From Section. It shall read Executive Committee. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion was made to add the fifth member to the Executive Committee. The seat to be held shall be called Director of Teen CERT. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved

A motion was made was made to amend the motion from the titles of the Executive Committee to read: This Executive Committee shall consist of the Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Chair of Teen CERT. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Section 2: Approved as written

Section 3: Approved as written

Section 4: Approved as written

Section 5: Order of Succession discussed and amended

A motion was made from the floor as described to change chair to Director. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion from the floor to amend the previous amended motion to read:

- a. Director, holding the rank of Director
- b. Deputy Director/Operations officer, holding rank of Assistant Director

A motion from the floor to remove holding rank from portion C. and D. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. A motion from the floor to amend this motion to add the holding positions to portion C and D to both read, holding the rank of Assistant Director. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

ARTICLE V Elections for Office: Approved as written

ARTICLE VI

Section 1 Meetings and Section 2 Special Meetings: Approved as written

Section 3 Quorums: discussed and amended

A motion from the floor was made to remove absentee ballots from Article VI Section 3 subsection C. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion was made to modify the previous motion to withdrawn the motion.

A motion was made to strike Article VI Section 3 subsection B. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion was made from the floor to leave Article VI Section 3 subsection C as written. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

ARTICLE VI Section 4: Approved as written

ARTICLE VII Committees: Approved as Written

ARTICLE VIII Uniforms: Approved as Written

ARTICLE IX: Approved as Written

ARTICLE X: A motion from the floor to strike Section 4 Authorized Missions under Article X. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. All other sections in Article X Control were approved as written.

Bylaws

A motion was made to the Bylaws from the floor to change the first point of requirement to read:

The member's requirements for attendance are set forth in the policies.

A motion was made to add the word illegal under the Bylaws number 5 to read:

No member will come to a mission under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

The Constitution and Bylaws have been reviewed and read almost word for word to the members entirely. With no further discussion, a motion was made to pass the Constitution and Bylaws.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

The temporary chair position was vacated and control was returned to the Executive Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Bailey

Acting Secretary