

TX State Council Meeting
November 1, 1997
Round Rock, TX
Hosted by Travis County REACT

Board Meeting

Officers Present:

Sharon Grimm, Pres
Jerry Jennison, VP
Ed Williford, VP
Lee Besing, Secretary
Stuart DeLuca, Treasurer
Janell Williford, Sgt@Arms
Alan Tyler, Past President
Paula Coker, Break 9 Editor

Meeting started at 8:15 a.m. at La Quinta Inn by president Sharon Grimm. Treasurer Report distributed by Stuart DeLuca, Minutes printed in the Break-9. Sharon discussed Jim Luker of Comal County REACT's resignation from team. Discussion of council's responsibilities to local teams and members. Discussion of procedure for local person/group requesting info from RI HQ regarding starting a new team.

Sharon discussed situation in Potter County CB REACT/Amarillo, TX. Decision to take no action unless requested by local team or RI.

Stuart will have presentation for general membership meeting regarding Break 9 finances. Finance/Budget Committee will have a report to present. Discussion on whether to delay budget adoption until after AWTS report received after 1st of year.

Janell Williford announced her resignation from Sgt@Arms for personal reasons. James Coker to be nominated to complete the term.

Stuart Deluca stated we needed to include some monies for accounting review, due to AWTS requirements.

Sharon Grimm asked if TX State Council has our own 501(c)(3) status. Nobody present had the answer, need to check with Chuck Thompson.

Stuart proposed that the Texas State REACT Council write a letter to the RI BoD requesting they take certain actions and answer certain questions. Bonding Insurance, Suspension of "new" bylaws, restoration of Zygmunts to membership, Bonnie Zygmunt to BoD, and other topics related to BoD's past behavior. Discussion how the Council needs to respond and communicate with the RI BoD to express our opinions.

Jerry Jennison asked that the Council get together using ICQ on the Internet to discuss issues. Suggested that we plan on Sundays 9pm at least once a month.

Lee Besing stated that he had been asked by the BoD to consider resigning from officer positions other than local team positions. TX Council Board members expressed desire that Lee stay in office for the remainder of his term. Motion to be made during general meeting.

Board meeting adjourned 9:25pm

General Membership Meeting
Texas State REACT Council
November 1st, 1997
Hosted by Travis County REACT, in Round Rock, TX LaQuinta Inn

Meeting called to order by President Sharon Grimm. Janell Williford declared 8 delegates signed in,

Bexar County, Lee Besing,
Brazoria County, Carla Koch,
Brownwood REACT, George Grimm,
Comal County, Omer Bangs,
Dallas County, Chuck Thompson,
Houston Metro, Ed Williford,
San Angelo REACT, Barbara Jennison,
Travis County, Charles Land.

Pledge, invocation by Jerry Jennison.

Paula Coker welcomed everyone to Williamson County for the State Council Meeting. Sharon Grimm welcomed everyone and asked for all of us to improve our communications and recommitted to becoming a better communicator. She asked that teams try to communicate with each other and council officers.

Minutes were printed and published in Break 9. No corrections, stand approved as written.

Treasurer Report: Stuart DeLuca distributed copies of report. Balance of checking \$767.47, of which \$631.47 was general fund, and \$136.00 was remainder of Memorial Fund, with CD containing \$1080.64.

Motion Travis, 2nd Houston Metro, to allow Executive Committee to determine the best way to reinvest CD upon maturity. Motion passed unanimously. 8 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain.

Discussion of Potter County REACT situation, being taken care of at local level. One request regarding new team request in Prosper, Texas referred to Jerry.

Jerry Jennison, officer report. Prosper Team turned over to Dallas County REACT for handling as the nearest team. NBEC has announced they would not become REACT, other individual in area joined Comal County REACT.

VOAD meeting called to discuss February Conference. More info later, but Jerry will attend and report back at March Council meeting. Will send e-mail to Texas Teams advising of when/where this meeting will be held.

Ed Williford reported that we had change of -14 members, 263 members registered in Texas, and the report did not include Houston Metro. Houston has 14 members at present time.

Stuart Deluca, AWTS report is not available until after first of January. Council has earned 125 points during 1997 and thus should receive a large share of undesignated funds. Deadline for new AWTS members is March 1, 1998. Stuart asked that if anyone knew of a local organization 501(c)(3) that might be interested in joining AWTS to contact him, the council gets 10 points. Teams qualified to partake of the AWTS distribution at present, are: Bell County, Bexar County, Brazoria County, Dallas County, Houston Metro, Travis County, Comal County and San Angelo REACT. McLennan County has met the financial qualification, but has not attended any meetings. Brownwood has met the meeting requirement, but not the financial. TCES, Potter County, Brazos County have not met any requirements. 10 of fourteen teams will be qualified after Brownwood complies with financial requirement.

George Grimm, communication coordinator. Amateur Radio - Form 610 has changed and you have to use new form if submitted after 1/1/98 that includes RF information. Supplement info will be distributed for posting at your ham station. Discussion of scanner law bills being considered by congress.

Ed announced that Special Olympics Summer Games would be held in Houston again, and last year raised more money than before.

Ed asked that phone numbers for Teams be included in Break-9, in addition to e-mail, etc.

Paula Coker reported on Break-9 saying that some members missed the last deadline, and that January 16th would be deadline for next issue of Break-9. Ed offered to send Paula a better graphic for state of Texas. She asked for teams to provide updated phone numbers and e-mail addresses. Suggested that the council request a full detail report for state of Texas from RI HQ, including affiliate membership and unattached Life Members.

Old Business:

Stuart Deluca. Discussion on tracking subscriptions to the Break-9. When teams subscribe to B9, they should send check and roster of members receiving B9 to Stuart at his PO Box 180922, Austin, TX 78718-0922. Council is asking teams to subscribe for each regular or life member of their team, and not for each family or junior member unless they want their own copy. Only Dallas County has subscribed for 1998 at this time. Subscriptions are \$4 per year or \$12 for 3 years. When subscriptions are received, three sets of labels will be printed with the last set marked as "last issue". Team subscriptions will be figured on annual basis on calendar year.

Comal County has contacted Chamber of Commerce for assistance in planning the March 1998 council meeting at Canyon Lake. First Saturday in March 7th is date. Location will be out at Canyon Lake Eagles Hall. More info in next Break 9. Friday is Steak Night at the Eagles Hall.

Recognize First Timers: Jeff & Lori Schmidt of Travis County REACT.

Stuart talked about how this hotel became the site of this meeting. Reported that this hotel had been supporting the local team's safety break. Local manager was once helped by REACT in Nebraska, and thus was willing to provide Ice and other support to REACT. The meeting room was donated free of charge, room rates were \$20 less than normal seasonal rates. Mr. Martinez is manager, and bought some more decorations to supplement those supplied by REACT.

New Business:

Budget Committee Report: Copies were distributed to delegates. Eliminated officers travel reimbursement, reduced RI Convention Delegates from \$200 to \$100, Break-9 expense appear greater than income, showing \$250 loss. Jerry stated that the requirement to submit a proposed budget, was due to a requirement by RI in order to qualify for reimbursement. However, RI plans not to pay anything to councils in 1998, thus we do not need to pass the budget prior to finding out what we will be receiving from AWTS. Jerry asked that we postpone this process until the March 1998 meeting so that we have a better idea of actual cash flow to expect.

Discussion on reducing cost of Break-9 by changing cover stock or reducing number of pages on the interior. Presently producing 150 copies per issue, and mailing first class postage at 55 cents per copy. Important that we keep the quality of the Break-9. Present cost about \$1.00 per issue for production. Only 14 Teams, council officers, 1 issue to Recordings for the Blind, AWTS get a complimentary issue. There are no other complimentary issues being regularly mailed.

Motion by Brazoria Carla Koch, 2nd by Houston To increase subscription cost for the Break 9 from \$4/year to \$5/year. Suggestion made that teams who have paid subscriptions for all members, not receive a "team copy" and council officers belonging to such a team, not receive an "officer copy". Amend by Brazoria, 2nd Houston Metro, to allow Dallas County to decide if they want to pay the additional \$1 per member. 6 for, 1 against (San Angelo), 1 abstain (Dallas). Amendment passed. Vote on Motion passed 7 for, 0 against, 1 abstain (Dallas). Note Dallas County had already prepaid for 1998 dues at the old rate of \$4 per member.

Motion by Brownwood, 2nd by Travis, to table the budget until the March meeting. Motion passed unanimously. 8 for, 0 against, 0 abstain.

Sharon read resignation letter from Lee Basing as secretary.

Motion by Dallas, 2nd Houston Metro, to reject resignation letter. 8 for, 0 against.

Sharon read resignation letter from Janell Williford as Sgt@Arms. The council has accepted the resignation prior to the meeting.

Houston Metro nominated James Coker, 2nd Dallas County. Brownwood made motion to close nominations, 2nd San Angelo, motion to close nominations passed unanimously. Motion to accept by acclamation passed unanimously.

++++LUNCH BREAK++++

Supper plans for tonight, Giovanni's at 6pm. About 20 persons to attend.

Guest Speaker introduced by Paula Coker: Scott Swearingen, WB8DDE, of the Austin City Office of Emergency Management, Assistant Director. Talked about the AWACS Alpha numeric warning pager system, \$6/pager \$1/insurance per month cost to members w/pagers from Pagenet of Texas. City can contact emergency groups, REACT, ARES, Red Cross, News Media, via pager announcements. Contact Charlie Todd, 331-2000, General Manager of PageNet of Texas if you are interested in more information.

Lee Besing made report about happenings at Convention in Toronto and RI Board Meeting in Wichita last month.

Issues for council delegates to discuss:

- 1) Texas should be part of Lee Besing's responsible states.
- 2) Reorganization
- 3) Bonding Coverage
- 4) Removal of current board
- 5) Dues Structure - Register 3 members and pay team fee and hold all other dues until March.
- 6) Removal of individual membership by BoD.
- 7) Responsibility of Elected Directors
 - Board responsible to the membership, not reverse
- 8) Law/Legal Issues
- 9) Organizational Structure vs Personal
- 10) Idea of Teams renewing partial membership.
- 11) Restrictions on who can run for the BoD.
- 12) Due Process of removals on members or teams. What is "due cause"?

Include in the Break-9, the list of all Field Directors names & contact info.

Motion by Brownwood, 2nd by Houston Metro, to suspend the normal order of business to allow free discussion about RI HQ. 7 for, 1 against (San Angelo).

Motion by Travis, 2nd Dallas, to resume normal order of business. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Dallas, 2nd Brownwood, to send letter to RI HQ asking them to perform certain actions.

- 1) Reinstate Team Bonding,
- 2) Reinstate Council dues rebate,
- 3) Field Director - TX wants Lee
- 4) Reinstate Zygmunt's membership,
- 5) Reinstate Bonnie Zygmunt to FD,
- 6) No secret meetings or confidentiality agreements,
- 7) Allow all active REACT members to be eligible candidates for FD.
- 8) Adopt a practical method of recall that complies with Illinois Law. (10% teams

to

initiate)

To be worked upon...

9) Return responsibility for individual membership (removal, etc) to local teams, changing

of bylaws to accomplish this.

San Angelo REACT will be selling cookbooks for \$8.00, pre selling prior to publication.

Sharon and Jerry thanked the council delegates for their participation in today's meeting and discussing solutions to perceived problems within the organization. Sharon asked that we continue to encourage the normally missing 4 teams to attend future council meetings.

Lee to contact McLennan County regarding holding June '98 meeting in Waco.

Stuart DeLuca won 50/50 pot of \$35 split 1/2.

Travel info

Report by Jim Coker, Sgt@Arms, we had present today 21 members and 8 teams, 1 more member than last meeting in San Antonio.

Area II with 2 teams, Brownwood & San Angelo, with 684.25 miles and 5 members

Area IV 2 teams present, Brazoria & Houston, with 632.5 miles and 4 members.

Area V 3 teams, Comal Bexar and Travis, with 143.75 miles and 10 members.

Area VII 1 team Dallas, 33.5 miles and 2 members.

Longest driven San Angelo 178.25 for 356.5 team miles, state travel trophy to Area II,

Area II travel trophy to San Angelo, same mileage,

Area V travel trophy to Bexar County, 86.25 miles and 1 person.

Meeting adjourned 5:00pm

Minutes submitted by

Lee W. Besing, Secretary