



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Search Working Group
Chair

DATE: 2-17-03

FROM: Canine Working Group

SUBJECT: Canine Working Group Meeting Minutes

Please find the attendance and agenda items addressed at the recent Canine Work Group conference call:

MEETING DATE(s) >>		2-14-03	Call Number 55
MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE			
Bruce Speer [chair]			
Member	Y/N	Member	Y/N
Ann Wichmann	Y		
Anne Trout	Y		
Teresa MacPherson	Y		
Chris Selfridge	Y		
Shirley Hammond	Y		
Rory Rehbeck (SWG)	N		
Bruce Berry (SWG)	N		
Hugh Bouchelle (FEMA)	N		

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AGENDA ITEMS/DISCUSSION

- Minutes
- FEMA HRD K9's
- Face-to-Face Meeting
- Evaluator Roster
- International Rescue Dog Symposium
- Start Route on Type II

PROPOSED ACTIONS

■ Minutes

- The minutes from conference call dated 1-31-03 were accepted and will be posted.

■ FEMA HRD K9's

- It was reported that while there is no official word that FEMA is revising its mission statement to include recovery operations, the issue is definitely back on the table for review.
- Included in this discussion is the scope of wilderness expertise on each Task Force and the composition of the IST in the modular deployment.

■ CWG Face to Face Meeting

- The CWG will meet in Washington, D.C. April 6, 7 & 8, 2003.
- Agenda to include 2003 Goals, Budget, Training, HRD teams, Evaluator Workshop

□ Evaluator Roster

- Each Regional Rep will take half of their Region and prepare a current list of Evaluators, weaning out those who have expired. We will then compile a complete list at the April meeting. Those who haven't evaluated within the two--year period will be granted a grace period in which they may SHADOW by the end of 2003 to retain their status as an Evaluator.

□ International Rescue Dog Symposium

- Ann W. will be speaking at the above symposium in Prague at the end of April, along with Isa Kuhn and Ben Ho. She will give an update on the FEMA Canine program and the K9 response to the WTC on 911.

□ Starting Route on Type II

- The Evaluators are responsible for the test set-up and thus must have some flexibility. The testing Handler should not be given a specific route to send his dog, but may be advised of areas that are "off-limits". The Handler is responsible for working his canine in a safe and efficient manner given the information supplied.

Note: The current Canine Search Specialist Position Description shall be posted on the web.

NEXT CALL

- February 28 0900EST