

**ESAC BOD meeting**  
**Walt's House**  
**11/16/05**  
**6pm-10:15pm**

**Attendance:**

Walter, Nate, SP, Allan, Howie  
Sue from 8:15

**Treasurer's Report:**

\$8623 before  
Expenses for advertising for Forecaster position

Deposits from:

Online membership income- we now have 12 members  
Café Press income  
Wave Rave advertising

Around \$9300 in the account now

Inyo Cty board still needs to approve \$\$

**Brochure:**

Reviewed, finalized, & ready to print  
Will take about 10 days

**Upcoming events:**

11/17 Water District meeting- Walt will attend  
12/9 Movie Premiere  
12/17 Andy Selters presentation (?)  
1/5 Avvy Savvy  
1/6 Dan Patitucci slideshow  
1/7-8 Telebration  
3/4 Randonee Rally

**Forecaster Contract:**

Page by page discussion of draft contract. Made numerous edits and rewrites. Nate has master draft which he finalized and printed at the meeting for Sue.

Sue arrived to meeting @ 8:15  
Signed Forecaster contract @ 8:50

Motion by Walt to pay Sue \$1250 (50% monthly salary) now as an advance to cover costs from beginning of month. Another \$1250 at end of month. Nate seconded, all approved.

SP will look into setting up direct deposit for Sue's salary.

## OPERATIONS

Sue is the 2005-6 ESAC forecaster!

### Disseminating Info:

Radio- KMMT, KIBS

Email list

Website

Nate can work on some of the web data submission stuff but it will take a lot of work and he can't do it for free.

Hotline

We need to work on this. Probably need two separate lines, one for submitting obs or talking to Sue (office), and another dedicated line for the advisory.

### Now Sue has some work to do...

Sue needs to follow up on MOU and volunteer agreement with Mike S.

Sue will design ESAC's first operational plan format based on existing ones from similar forecast centers and other related operations. She will submit a draft to the board for review.

We are going to contact other avalanche centers and operations to see what they have in the way of operational forms for synoptic forecasting.

- Sue is going to contact Karl Birkeland about NAC and Gallatin.
- Walt has already contacted Tom Carter at Ruby Mountain Heliski
- Howie has contacted Alan Bernholtz at Crested Butte Avalanche Center

To be considered for inclusion in the ESAC operational form:

- A list that maps out all available sources of relevant information
- A form or forms set up for gathering all of the standard (SWAG) information that may be required to analyze snow stability on a daily basis.
  - Weather
  - Snowpack
  - Avalanche Activity
  - Personal notes
  - Relevant notes from trained and untrained observers
  - Relevant notes from other sources such as personal discussions, web forums, etc.
  - Snow stability assessment with ratings (as per SWAG), specifying geography, elevation, aspect, incline, terrain configuration, timing, etc. as much as possible.
- Observer Forms to facilitate the submission of observations by the public
  - Discussed having 2 forms one for Spx obs and one for Avy obs
  - Forms should be useable by all observers, regardless of level of training
  - Ease of use is paramount
  - Forms will be submitted to Nate for integration into the website

Howie will coordinate with Sue to initiate a meeting of local guides and observers ASAP. The operations should be designed and ready for implementation by the date of this meeting.

**Educational Programs:**

Seminars/indoor classroom presentations as community outreach and possible fundraising, but agreed that such programs must not conflict with local avalanche educators and their educational programs.

**ESAC role in avalanche incident investigations:**

Not official investigators of accidents and not in position to analyze avalanche incidents/accidents.

ESAC has a responsibility to inform the public about the details surrounding any avalanche incident that relates to people and/or property. ESAC may only report facts, however and should never issue an analysis or judgment.

It is preferable that the forecaster be the one to write up incident reports

SP will propose a written policy for this.