

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NATIONAL POLICE CANINE ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD

Phoenix, AZ – Sunday, October 3, 2010, continued on Friday, October 8, 2010

### ATTENDANCE:

Officers in attendance: President Terry Anderson, Administrative Assistant Katy Farnsworth, Treasurer Mark Green, Secretary Greg Thomas, Southwest Region Director Ralph Pendergast, North Central Region Director Eric Schmitz, Southeast Region Director Fred Janke, South Central Region Director Danny Valdez, Northwest Region Director Bill Delay, Northeast Region Director Mark Tobin, Chairman Paul Koinig and West Coast Region Director Elliot Zibli (Friday meeting). The meeting commenced at 1435 hours on Sunday October 3<sup>rd</sup> and was continued at 1322 hours on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>.

### READING OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

**MOTION:** Approve minutes Secretary Greg Thomas read from the April 11, 2010 telephonic meeting. The motion was discussed, voted on and passed unanimously.

### STANDARDS COMMITTEE SUMMARY

Paul Koinig presented issues discussed and voted by the Standards Committee. The following issues were decided by the Executive Board.

- **Applicants for Certifying Official/Trainer & Instructor**  
During consideration of new candidates for Certifying Official, discussion arose about limiting the number of Certifying Officials, Instructors and Trainers per region. Historically, the number of Certifying Officials is increasing faster than membership and some regions are top-heavy with judges. The Executive Board decided each region should determine its own ratio of members to Officials with assistance from the Administrative Assistant. Additionally, protocols are being developed to remove Officials who are no longer active judging certifications. This will allow for addition of new Officials, while maintaining a reasonable ratio of Officials to membership in each region. Region Directors will be responsible for monitoring, prioritizing, and forwarding new candidates for Certifying Official, Instructor and Trainer to the Standards Committee (using input from the Administrative Assistant). The

concept of establishing an official waiting list was discussed, but rejected due to logistical complications.

- **Sean Clarke** (SW)—CO for Detection-approved pending audit of SW region ratio of Certifying Officials to membership and evaluation of inactive COs.
- **David MaGruder** (NC)—CO and Instructor for Detection and Patrol - approved
- **Howard Spitzer** (SE)—CO Detection -approved
- **Brian Laas** (NE)—Trainer Patrol, Tracking & Detection-approved
- **Richard Garner** (NE)—CO Patrol & Detection-approved
- **Lyle Sinclair** (NC)—CO Detection - approved
- **Adam Devorak** (NC)—CO Detection- approved
- **Jeff Bragg** (NW)—CO Detection-approved
- **Doug Church** (NW)—Trainer -approved
- **Danny Valdez** (SE) – Trainer - approved
- **Chad Guidry** (SE)—CO Detection - approved

***New Gun Dog Certification Standards effective immediately:***

*All standards of certification reflect the Narcotics certification template.*

*All finds shall consist of the following odors:*

- 1) *Black Powder (minimum 2 oz. up to Maximum 6 oz.)*
- 2) *Smokeless Powder (minimum 2 oz. up to Maximum 6 oz.)*
- 3) *Black Powder Substitute (Pyrodex, Triple Seven or Black Mag3) (minimum 2 oz. up to Maximum 6 oz.)*
- 4) *Fired Gun (within the past hour)*

*Additional Odors:*

- 1) *Spent shell casings (3)*
- 2) *Gun oil (1 teaspoon)*

*Must not have any other certifications or scent training other than explosives.*

Motion: Approve the Gun Detection Dog Certification Standards recommended by the Standards Committee; Ralph Pendergast; Danny Valdez seconded. The motion was discussed, voted on and passed unanimously.

***NPCA Explosives Detection Certification is currently NOT within NEDCAB recommendations. In order to achieve compliance, the Standards Committee developed new certification standards for Explosives Detection:***

***Explosive Certification***

*A minimum of two (2) Certified Detection Officials are required for certification. K-9 team must locate at least nine (9) out of the ten (10) finds to certify. This results in a success of 90 percent minimum score for certification.*

*Canine's alert must be obvious to the Certifying Officials.*

*Certifying Officials may terminate certification at their discretion.*

*Non-Scented objects may be used to mark finds.*

*No electric collars and/or equipment resembling same are allowed.*

*Handler shall immediately notify Certifying Officials within thirty (30) minutes of any protest. The protest shall be in writing. For further protest information, see information under Narcotics Certification.*

*If a K-9 Team fails certification, K-9 team must wait five (5) days prior to attempting to certify.*

**Search:**

*Search shall consist of four (4) indoor rooms, five (5) vehicles, 15-20 items of luggage/parcels/packages, and an open area (1000'-2500' square feet) with a total of ten (10) finds.*

*Time on searches is twelve (12) minutes for indoor searches, ten (10) minutes for vehicle searches, twelve (12) minutes for luggage/parcel/package searches and ten (10) minutes for open area search. A one (1) minute warning at the request of the handler prior to the end of the search may be given. Time begins when the handler begins the search and time ends when the handler calls time or upon expiration of time. Handler may call finds by calling time or after time has expired.*

***Indoor Search:*** *Shall consist of four (4) indoor rooms and three (3) finds.*

*Each room shall be at least 380 sq. ft., but no more than 600 sq. ft. (Exceptions may be made according to the Certifying Officials).*

*No more than one (1) find will be concealed in a room. (Therefore, no find will be concealed in one (1) of the four (4) rooms).*

***Vehicle Search:*** *Shall consist of five (5) vehicles and three (3) finds.*

*No explosive finds may be concealed in the interior of the vehicles. No more than one (1) find may be concealed on a vehicle. (Therefore, no find will be concealed on two (2) of the five (5) vehicles).*

*Due to the numerous makes and models of vehicles available to departments, the decision upon what types of vehicles to be used is the Certifying Official's discretion.*

***Luggage/Parcel/Package:*** *Search shall consist of a minimum of fifteen (15) items up to a maximum of twenty (20) items with a total of three (3) finds.*

*No Explosive finds may be concealed side by side. A minimum distance between each item shall be two (2) feet. Search will be laid out in a row of four (4) to five (5) items depending on the number of items to be searched.*

***Area Search:*** *Shall consist of an open field approximately 1000'-2500' feet in size with one (1) find concealed amongst natural landscape, debris or vegetation.*

**Finds:**

A total of ten (10) different finds, consisting of commercial/military-manufactured odors from powders, plastics, gels and liquid based materials will be used. Six (6) different odors will be selected from the high explosives group and four (4) different odors from the low explosives group.

**High Explosive** odors suggested from the following:

**RDX base:** i.e. C-4, data sheet, dynamite, flex-x, semtex, etc.

**PETN base:** i.e. det cord, semtex, etc.

**TNT:** commercial, military, tetryl

**Ammonium nitrate base:** i.e. Kine-Stik, Kine-Pak, ANFO, emulsions, slurries

**Chlorates & Nitrates:** i.e. potassium, ammonium, sodium

**Low Explosive** odors suggested from the following:

**Black Powder, Black Powder Substitutes, Smokeless Powder and Flash Powder.**

Finds shall be concealed in the search area at least thirty (30) minutes prior to search.

Finds shall be concealed by Certifying Official or another person directed by Certifying Official.

Three (3) finds shall be concealed in the indoor rooms consisting of odors from the above list.

Three (3) finds shall be concealed on the vehicles consisting of odors from the above list.

Three (3) finds shall be concealed in the luggage/parcel/packages consisting of odors from the above list.

One (1) find shall be concealed in the open area consisting of odors from the above list.

All finds shall not weigh less than ¼ pound or more than 1 pound. Except: Minimum eight (8) feet of Det Cord will be used.

No finds shall be concealed higher than eight (8) feet from floor level and no deeper than six (6) inches buried (open area).

All finds shall be concealed from view in a manner that the canine cannot retrieve said finds.

All search areas must be contaminated and finds proofed by a canine prior to search, if available.

Motion: Approve the new Explosives Detection Certification Standards recommended by the Standards Committee; Danny Valdez; Bill Delay seconded. The motion was discussed, voted on and passed unanimously.

### **Corporate Membership Definition Change:**

Corporate membership- limited to certification and other specific corporate training.

Motion: Approve change to the Corporate Membership definition recommended by the Standards Committee; Danny Valdez; Ralph Pendergast seconded. The motion was discussed, voted on and passed unanimously.

### ***Adjunct Instructor Membership***

Possibility of employing non-canine officers as NPCA instructors in selected fields. Discussion was tabled.

### ***Mandatory Recall, Bite Release, And 100% Score:***

*100% score- tabled as the Standards Committee could not reach a consensus – 3 in favor, 3 against.*

*Mandatory recall – Standards Committee suggested the issue be taken to entire membership, discussion, and vote. Executive Board agreed. The matter was presented during the General Meeting and discussion ensued. An e-mail was later sent to membership and input currently being solicited. The Executive Board agreed the Recall phase would be mandatory for Patrol Certification – in some shape or form – by January 2012.*

*Immediate Verbal Out – tabled for further discussion by the Standards Committee*

*Proposed option for re-certification attempt within 24 hours (instead of current 5 days) was turned down by the Standards Committee. The Executive Board concurred unanimously.*

### ***Rule mandating all 5 phases (area, building search) to be completed with patrol certification.***

All phases of the patrol Certification must be attempted and offered by the certification host. Not offering and/or attempting an area search (for instance) because the building search was passed is improper procedure.

Motion: Approve rule change *mandating all 5 phases (area, building search) to be completed with patrol certification*; Danny Valdez; Ralph Pendergast seconded. The motion was discussed, voted on and passed unanimously. Katy will add appropriate wording to the NPCA rule book.

### ***Trainers Who Come To The Nationals Specifically For The Purpose Of Attaining Designation Will Not Have Expenses Paid By NPCA.***

The matter was discussed and unanimously approved. Katy will add appropriate wording to the NPCA rule book to clarify.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

In interest of time constraints, President Anderson dispensed with an official President's Report.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT:

1. Discussion about Police K-9 Magazine advertising. Consensus is to continue as doing currently.
2. ACE K-9 for photographs at the National Seminar – Consensus is this is a great benefit to the organization and attempts will be made to secure John and his wife for future events.

Elections were again presented and discussed at the General Membership meeting. No further nominations were made for any positions. Since candidates for each office ran unopposed, they were installed in their respective positions, where are as follows:

1. Terry Anderson – President
2. Mark Green - Secretary
3. Fred Janke – S/E Region Director
4. Danny Valdez – S/C Region Director
5. Eric Schmitz – N/C Region Director

MOTION: Accept Secretary's report – Ralph Pendergast; Fred Janke second. The motion was discussed, voted on and passed unanimously.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Main Checking Account: \$41,895.22  
CD: \$11,529.94  
Seminar Account: \$28,363.28

MOTION: Accept Treasurer's report – Danny Valdez; Eric Schmitz second. The motion was discussed, voted on and passed unanimously.

Mark Green presented the idea of accepting CHRIS JACOUBIN as an NPCA instructor for the sole purpose of teaching decoy classes.

MOTION: Accept Chris Jacoubin as an NPCA instructor for the sole purpose of teaching decoy classes – Danny Valdez; Fred Janke second. The motion was discussed, voted on and passed unanimously.

## REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORTS:

Each Region Director submitted written reports from their respective regions. Discussion outside written reports included:

### Southwest Region:

Ralph Pendergast resigned as SW Region Director; President Anderson appointed Rob Lukason; unanimous approval from Executive Board.

North Central Region – No additional

### Northeast Region

Pursuing NY transit PD for NPCA membership – would add 90 dogs.

### South Central

Danny suggested a new award for tracking and trailing deployment of the month. Issue was resolved by sending an e-mail on NPCA e-mail list that these types of deployments are eligible for patrol case awards.

Southeast – No additional

### North West Region

Bonnie Whitman is doing recruiting; hosting training and certifications. Bill commended her as an asset to NPCA.

### West Coast Region

New score sheet for narcotics presented and discussed

New score sheet for EOD presented and discussed – later deemed to be the responsibility of Paul Koinig (update coming).

Other score sheets to remain the same.

Katy to add time limits to patrol score sheets for area search and building search.

Terry Anderson to talk to Terry Fleck about donations to his website on behalf of NPCA.

Change rules pertaining to false alerts? Ultimate decision is on the COs to put their name on a dog's certification.

## AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Patrol Case of the Year 2009 and Presidential Medal of Valor: Officer Chris Sarnecky and K9 Diablo, New Castle County Police Dept. Delaware

Alternate Patrol Case of the year 2009 and Medal of Valor: Officer Jason Collins, K9 Nik, Broomfield Police Dept. Colorado

Detection Case of the Year 2009: Officer Danny Valdez and K9 Joery,  
Beaumont Police Dept. Texas

Alternate Case of the Year 2009: Detective Cursain and K9 Rex, Jefferson  
Parish S.O., La

Quarterly Awards:

Receiving nominations from all regions

To date have received 18 nominations for Quarterly awards (24 nominations for  
the year 2009)

Receiving reports electronically and through the mail - Lack mailing address  
Quarterly nominations for are being placed on the web site by Katy

Katy also sends a letter notifying Supervisors that their K9 team is being  
recognized and receiving an award from the NPCA

Quarterly nominations are no longer being sent to Police K9 magazine

Police K9 Magazine is not publishing the quarterly cases.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 1653 hours on Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The  
meeting was continued on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. The Friday meeting was  
adjourned at 1555 hours. Mark Green. Bill Delay seconded. The motion was  
discussed, voted on and passed unanimously.

Submitted by:



Greg Thomas  
NPCA Secretary  
Gilbert Police Department  
Gilbert, AZ