

**Volunteer Homeland Reserve Unit (VHRU)  
General Membership Meeting March 25, 2013**

Call the meeting to order.

Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Frank Bruton our Treasurer will give his report on the status of our Treasury.

At our last meeting I asked if anyone would like to take on the challenge of becoming the President of the VHRU. A follow-up e-mail was sent to all members and as of today, no one has offered to step up to take on the role.

Frank Bruton and I traveled down to Laughlin to discuss the future of the VHRU and met with the Tri State Coordinator, Dan Christian, the VHRU Secretary, Bob Boerner and Team Leaders from Arizona and Laughlin. It was agreed that the Tri State Coordinator will continue his role and help recruit new members and offer assistance in his area of responsibility, when asked. The Vegas operation of the VHRU will be available to assist the Tri State Coordinator with additional resources when requested.

The bulk of the work, creating new relationships will be in the Tri State region. In Las Vegas we will continue to march in the Veterans Parade and St Patrick's parade as before. Attached is the outline of the way forward for your review.

**Update - St Patrick's Parade**

Seventeen (17) members were in attendance and this year we were # 22, near the front of the parade. The parade started at 10 am and we began our march at 1020 am. We had three vehicles in the parade in addition to our VHRU trailer. A number of those who came out had the opportunity to ride. Thank you to all who participated.

A letter was drafted and sent to Chief Pat Moers of the City of Henderson Police Department regarding an extension of our MOU.

Our MOU has expired after 7 years and we are seeking a renewal for another 5 years, until 2018.

Our meeting schedule will remain the same and will be held in Vegas at this location, Sierra Gold Tavern.

The remaining dates for our General Meetings are as follows:

May 27, 2013, Monday 6 pm (Holiday, date to be changed)  
July 29, 2013 Monday, 6 pm  
September 30, 2013, Monday, 6 pm  
November 25, 2013, Monday, 6 pm (a buffet dinner planned)

## Possible MOU with the Lake Havasu City PD.

Our member Kurt Jackson in Lake Havasu City has met with the Chief of Police to discuss the VHRU and assisting his department.

Back in 2010 we sent the Chief an MPOU for his consideration. The City Management and City Attorney did not agree because of the insurance issue and we could not come to an agreement. We insist on having the right insurance coverage for all our volunteers or we will not offer our services.

The Police Chief is willing to revisit the MOU situation once again. There is a new City Attorney who might be receptive to our MOU. Dan Christian our Tri State Coordinator will set up a meeting with the Chief to discuss this further. Frank Bruton drafted a new MOU, which was sent to Dan to present to the Chief of Police in Lake Havasu City AZ. More details on this project at our next meeting.

Update - The Resilience Grant from FEMA.

Back in October 2012 we submitted a request to be considered for a grant of \$29,000. The awards were supposed to be announced by the end of December. As of today, FEMA has still not made their decision.

## THE VHRU GOING FORWARD

At our last General Membership Meeting in January 2013, after 13 years in existence I indicated that a change is needed in the leadership of our organization. I asked if anyone wished to take over the role of President and Coordinator. An e-mail was sent to all members after the meeting asking the same question. As of now, no one has offered to take on the roll of President and Coordinator replacing me.

In view of this I will remain President and Coordinator and we will maintain the structure of the VHRU but focus on a more defined and limited mission statement.

VHRU is a not for profit Nevada Corporation that is designated by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) public charity. Its members are made up primarily of former law enforcement personnel from various local, state and federal public safety agencies. Its mission is to support public safety agencies in time of need with a current focus on the Laughlin NV area, the Mohave Indian Reservation in southern Nevada and northern Arizona as well as selected local communities in northern Arizona.

The VHRU will hold scheduled General Membership Meetings in Las Vegas six times a year to review current activities in the above active areas, to bring

members together thereby encouraging comradery, and to discuss any additional activities, consistent with the mission, that may be planned for the immediate future.

Board members will remain:

**Ted Farace, President and Coordinator**  
**Paul Wagner, Vice President**  
**Bob Boerner, Secretary**

Frank Bruton will remain Treasurer but, as is the case now, he will not be a Board member.

Maintain MOU's in place with the Las Vegas Metro PD, North Las Vegas PD and Henderson PD. The VHRU will maintain an active presence in their geographic coverage areas and will only be available to assist in case of extreme emergencies and then only to the extent of its capabilities at the time of the emergency.

Maintain the Laughlin Team and Arizona Teams in an active status to be available to work with public safety and other related agencies in their geographic areas as opportunities, within the scope of the Mission, are presented. Dan Christian will continue to run this operation as the Tri State Coordinator.

Meet six times a year in Las Vegas to bring members up to date on the activities of the active teams described above, provide an opportunity for members to interact with each other and to review any additional activities, within the scope of the mission, that may be planned. The Tri-state coordinator will deliver the report of the Laughlin and Arizona team activities; and other members will lead discussions of other matters relevant to the organization.

Since the mission of the organization is undergoing change, some current Core Leaders may wish to step down from their position in leadership. For those who do, we will collect their radios and return them to inventory.

All bills, as before, will be paid from Las Vegas by the Treasurer after they have been approved for payment by a Board member.

### **VALUE OF THIS APPROACH**

It more clearly recognizes the current role that VHRU can play in the environment we are in – there is less current focus on homeland security matters but this could change dramatically in the event of an incident. VHRU will still be in a position, by virtue of prior training and an exceptionally well equipped organization, to respond in the most extreme emergency.

All of the existing administrative activities will continue – e.g. maintaining the equipment inventory log; filing an income tax return for the VHRU organization; maintaining current bank accounts in the State of Nevada; as well as the income

and expense tracking log. Filings, as necessary, with the State of Nevada will continue to be made.

All existing equipment, radios and trailers will be retained to support the active Laughlin and Arizona teams and to be available in the event of full activation of the VHRU in the event of an extreme emergency in the Las Vegas valley area. In light of the adjusted mission statement, new members will be accepted from Las Vegas, Henderson, Mesquite and Pahrump on a case by case basis. Our focus will be to increase members in California, Laughlin and Arizona.

### **VHRU TREASURER**

**Maintain three bank accts – Nevada State Bank**

**General account  
Grant account  
Scholarship account**

**Income tax return – to be filed with IRS by May 15<sup>th</sup> every year.**

**Annual List of Officers – file with NV Sec State by July 31.**

**Maintain an expense log showing income and expenditures.**

**Write checks to pay authorized expenditures.**

**The IRS designated nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation is currently permanent – check the file for letter from IRS.**

**Annual meeting – an annual meeting of the corporation should be held each year pursuant to the NRS.**

**Ted Farace, President**