

Board Meeting Minutes July 14, 2022

Officers present: Eric, W3EAB, President; Jeff, KC3OQP, Vice President; Phil, NO3N, Secretary; Abie, AB1F, Treasurer; Will, KA3UQQ, Director; Bill, N3RY, Director; Bernie, NK3PS, Director

An agenda was distributed before the meeting and the Secretary and Treasurer submitted reports by email.

There was a quorum of the Board present. There were four observers.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM as all board members were present early.

It was recommended to conduct Board meetings in person rather than by Zoom.

Officer Reports

Vice President - Jeff reported on the upcoming QSO party. Ham Radio Deluxe will be doing a presentation at the first August meeting via Zoom. The ARRL MDC section manager is coming in late August. September is National Preparedness month.

Secretary - see attached.

Treasurer - see attached. Discussion: It was noted in response to a question regarding the amount the club could maintain in savings for IRS purposes is at least two years of income. There is no information in regards to capital investments such as the tower replacement if needed. It was recommended to get an estimate for replacement of the tower in a worse case situation.

Committee Reports

Committee Reports: Field Day - Brian, K3HMX, was not available so no report. Eric noted some issues especially in scheduling items such as satellite contacts. The results have to be compiled.

MDC QSO Party - Keith, AE3D and Jim, N3ADF, are acting co-chairmen. Neither were present at this point (Jim arrived later).

AARC Picnic - need a coordinator. It hasn't been held recently due to the pandemic. Several proposals have been made for a September date.

AARC Holiday Party - need a coordinator. There are issues with holding it at the DFRC at the dance hall and the scout building is too small. There is an option to hold it in Columbia.

VE Testing - Bill noted that there was a Laurel VEC clean-up and that he had appointed Charles Dunning as the Deputy VE. There may be a second deputy lead appointed. Charles and Will have been putting together the VE materials. There were 7 at the last session. Bill is planning for cross-training to assure that there is continuity of operations.

Old Business:

Antenna Plan - The club is monitoring the county approval for the plan and including this with the parking lot proposal. The item will be referred to the club for approval in preparation for the potential approval. The same is the case with the new parking structure. Bill expressed a question in regards to snow removal for the parking area.

Security System - The system upgrade is slowing progressing. There is a need for additional cameras and networking due to the various proposals. A few items cannot be easily monitored. The area with the keys needs to have a camera to monitor the area.

A/V Plan - Rich Ghu has made proposals for the A/V plan. Keith needs to provide input.

Parking Lot - See above. Final vote at the next membership meeting on the 21st.

New Business:

ARES Proposal - A proposal from ARES to add a Winlink repeater was reviewed and referred to the repeater committee. This needs to be coordinated further with Mike Montrose.

Fox Hunt Proposal - an outside request to provide support for a fox hunt was received and will be referred to the membership as we have not had a Fox Hunt since the pandemic began (*note: the website page title has been modified per recommendation*)

Sale of surplus equipment - We have surplus equipment used for Field Day over the years. Eric recommended the items be put up for sale. Some items need to be reviewed to assure they are complete.

5-year Goals\Plan - Eric suggested considering the possibility of developing long-term goals.

Assistant Treasurer Positions - a discussion occurred regarding the addition of an assistant treasurer and a procurement officer. It is important to note the delineation between items in the budget versus items that are later approved. For checks-and-balances purposes the Treasurer needs to be separate from the person(s) making a purchase. Delegate to Abie to develop protocols.

Helium Crypto mining - There was an outside proposal for putting up a receiver for a crypto mining project either for the club or members' towers. It was felt that this could jeopardize the club's or a person's amateur status. Tabled for no further action.

Open Floor

Tim raised questions as to the possibility of paving the proposed parking lot. The issue is permitting issues with the county and we could pave at a later date.

Some equipment that was surplus has already been disposed of. Eric noted that there should not be a Free Table.

Jim mentioned that certain areas of the Shack need replacing or upgrading. This should be referred to Jeff as the Shack Manager.

Jim asked if there is a list of positions that needed to be filled, etc. (*Note: this has been added by the front page*)

Eric noted the Milford Program (early personal contact) needs to be revitalized.

Jim suggested more Open Shack nights. He volunteered to handle some of the dates.

The open meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM and the Board went into Executive Session after the observers were excused from the meeting.

Note: this was the first Board meeting at the clubhouse since the beginning of the pandemic.