

San Luis Valley Amateur Radio Association Meeting Agenda

3/7/2020

Attendees: Bob Galey, KE0JDN, Timothy Chittum, KE0GVP, Troy Dieckman, KE0VYK, Adam Lock, WA2JAL, Dave Newyer, N0KM, Michael Benavidez, Frank Flohr, KA4OAA, John Hargis, Ron Carpenter, KE0NWR, Jim McCloskey, AD0LV, Robert Austin, KE0OHH

Call to Order: Started at 10:10AM. Pledge & Prayer. Picture for HRO.

Sign In: Welcomed new members in attendance. John Hargis, S&R in Mineral County. Jay Cummings-NOPKT – Colorado Springs. Board of Directors for the Fun Machine system.

Bob Galey Turned over meeting to Robert Austin. Phil has everything lined up to test first Sat in April. Many are going for upgrade/Tech license. Only dues paying members can vote on items. \$36, pro-rated to \$33.

Minutes: Approval of Feb minutes. Troy Dieckman motioned for approval. Jim McCloskey second. Passed.

Old Business/Open Issues:

-Repeater update from Dale (Adam cover): *"I am planning on getting the repeater operational next week, I will be tuning the duplexer today (Wed), the radio has been programmed and operating, final testing today and tomorrow, installation Monday or Tuesday."*

-Unlock door costs \$\$. Adam is working with city to resolve, if possible.

-Jay Cummings: Permanent microwave link to Fun Machine system-spring or later. Agreements with RF Ham being discussed. MOU needed, what type of traffic over it. Best practice stuff – formalized in an MOU. Even if printed up, still have to get to Methodist to point dish from there to Monte. For now, get the equipment and point it to someone with good internet and set up a node. Send/receive. Inexpensive equipment. Need URI and raspberry pi to connect. Pi makes it digital. Makes analog repeater digital, 100% IP. 12-18 repeaters are linked into the Fun machine now. Ultimate goal, support during emergencies. Fun machine has helped out over the years. Regular exercises 1-2x/yr. Disconnect areas when needed. SARA group supporting the same would be great. It helps support amateur radio overall. MCOM set up with RF Ham to help when needed. Fun machine system is all privately funded. Frank asked – what are we going to do once our repeater is up? Good question. Answer TBD.

-Directors At Large Descriptions. Status of descriptions? One hole in the by-laws still. Frank started his. Dave not started yet. Delay until next board meeting, have something that we can use to build on.

New Business:

-Bob/Adam meeting with All County hazards (cancelled).

-Club stats: 411 unique visitors. > 2,500 page views. Top 3 countries: US, Russia & China. FB, 35 members. Weekly net: 8-10 check-in's, avg. March-6th meeting, avg. ~15 people per. 5 people-Tech license & two people upgraded.

-Club call sign discussion. When it can be used and when it cannot. K0SLV. If we can be at events, Crane Fest, etc., we can possibly have a booth. NC can use for Net. Events, FD, etc. are all good Document when you use it, so QSL's come in, Frank will know. We will work on further guidelines. Frank will need a log if people are using the club calls, so he can keep up on it. If calls are to be used, submit a proposal to the board in advance. Director (Frank), include this with duties description.

-K0SLV address with the FCC. Currently Bob's. Until we have a different address/PO Box, should we change this to the Trustee's address? Puts it in Center though. FCC address – trustee address already entered. Dave changed.

-Address. We "should" have a mailing address on our website. What to do? Tabled for now.

-Field Day. Do we want to set up and if so, where? Chapman Park? Robert's place near Creede? Options available. Robert talked about possibly operating there for FD. Can you operate in 2 locations? No! Dave says FD has to be w/in 500 foot perimeter. Jay verified. Club can be one location only. Robert described the location further. 11 miles outside of Creede. Local ops create visibility. Discuss further. Adam to discuss with city too.

-ARRL Affiliation. Research, proceed? Over 51% of members must be ARRL members to have ARRL affiliation. 6 are members now. Adam to get back with Bob on this.

Officers & Directors:

-Robert, VP. Report. 1. Status of corporation. Registered as an LLC. Caused bank issues. Will take \$100 to fix error. Can abandon the name for \$10 and start over for \$50. What to do? Robert is still looking into this.

2. Dues. Talked with Bob. Started at \$36 for year, in January. \$3 a month. Prorated. But if dues aren't paid, you can't continue to do so. It's \$33 this year, regardless. All are welcome to be a member.

3. Voting, how to do. How to distinguish between members & guests. 1 classification, membership or guest only. Per person. No exclusion says Bob, don't separate, honor system. No one has said No yet.

-Adam, Secretary. Report. Website up. Done. Discussed further. The FB page is a good place to keep up with what's going on. Documents are there as well. Be careful says Jim McCloskey on what docs are put up.

-Josh, Treasurer. Report. Covered numbers. 18 paid members. \$1,971 in funds right now. Both repeater & general fund. Repeater-\$1,356. Rest is dues. \$615 is general. Since we started, we now have directors, officers & a constitution. We are real, a group of people interested in the same thing. People in all areas of expertise. Working with another repeater group, testing, licensees-new. Weekly net. Come a long way, quickly.

-Dave, Trustee. Reminder of testing at April 4 meeting. Email from CCARA-haven't decided on meeting date. Different state clubs & frequency coordination. VHF running at Alamosa EOC. Kenwood cross-band tied into Dave's 440 machine. Cross banding can be an issue, have to be careful.

-James, Testing/Education. Report. April 4. Need 3 VE's for testing. Frank has applied to be a VEC. Robert is in process of applying. What about license education? Within the club, or options of various online testing. May be better to focus on an area if someone is having trouble. Floating library has been made. Robert & Adam donated books. ARRL continues to change the test some, the question pool. Questions can be found online. Make a course based thing which will make us more visible. Create links on the website may help. Dave did a teaching session, took about a semester to do so. Only had 2 finally test. Lots to consider. Jay Cummings suggested a hybrid solution. For Tech & General, memorize. Then have 2-3 meetings before the test to address specific issues.

-Frank, Net/Outreach.

Looking for volunteers to take the net once a month. Can't do it every Thursday. Tim will take 3rd Thursday for the net. Bob has one week. Frank has one week. Put together a sign-up sheet and sign up for the rest of the year, suggested by Josh. Can be put on the calendar. Trying to avoid begging. If it's on the calendar, just remind the NC ahead of time. Tim-perhaps do smaller chunks 6-8 weeks out.

-Operating during Crane Fest. Others interested in operating? All final logs to Frank.

-QSL Cards? Discussion. What do we want to do? Show designs proposed. Frank says we should order them. \$110 plus 11 shipping for 1K cards. 41 contacts in 4 hours working the Crane Fest. Board meeting policy, have to send SASE. Using Frank's address for now to send the cards. What is the turn around time? Couple weeks. Talk about at the next meeting. Disclaimer on page, 4-6 weeks to return card. Jay will check with Amanda. Owns print shop in Canon City, might get a discount. Uniquely Designed - 100 cards was \$50, plus \$35-50 design fee.

Presentation: Robert Austin & James McCloskey – how to make good coax connections.

Next Meeting: April 4, 2020 at Calvary Baptist Church.

Adjournment. Tim motions, Troy seconds. Adjourned at 11:22AM.