

San Luis Valley Amateur Radio Association February Meeting Agenda

3/6/2021

Attendees: Online. Jeff Beauprez, Rick Syring, Dave Newmyer, Phil Schechter, Bart Vaughn.

In Person: Bob Galey, Adam Lock, Erik Dunn, Tandra Dunn, Frank Flohr, Skip Randall, Troy Dieckman, Don McDonald, Michael Benevidez, Nate Randall, Timothy Chittum, Alex Paiz.

Call to Order: Pledge & Prayer. Start at: 10:08

Minutes: Approval of minutes from February Meeting. Frank motions, Troy seconds. Approved.

Addition of Items to Agenda: Additional items to add for discussion? None. Erik motions, Don seconds. Passed.

Old Business/Open Issues:

-Annual dues to remain at \$36 for 2021. Mail to PO Box 452, MV 81144. About 21 have paid now. Reach out to other people. Jim McCloskey – check in with him. Nate to do so.

New Business:

-Non-profit status. Periodic report is due in April 2021. Discussed benefits, or not. Club recognized by the ARRL? ½ members of ARRL to be sanctioned. Never followed through with this. Non profits can get grants through homeland security. Emergency comm. Trailer, would be granted. Wouldn't belong to club though, but police dept, etc. and why we didn't pursue it. Dave feedback-not worth the paperwork. Phil-not worth it. Phil moves to drop, Nate seconds. Passes unanimously. We can always bring up later.

-Discussion what we see the future being for our club. Direction? What can we do to get /keep folks interested in being a part of a group? Expand the hobby. How to encourage, so we don't lose people?

-Bob wants to do more work locally. Emcomm type of situations. Mobilize. What we can do as a group & learn along the way? FEMA course training. All should do-100, 200, 700 & 800. Take course on line, it's free. Get your certificate. Makes you more usable for ARES, etc.

-1x/quarter, mock emergency. Training at EOC, in the future. Learn how to use, make sure it all works. Beginning in May.

-Parks on the air. Eric to cover later. Once a month. Use club call sign.

-Fellowship is needed too. Get together outside of the meeting/get to know everyone. People will need help putting up antennas, etc. Opportunities to fellowship. Field day is coming, also Stampede.

-Don-concerns about evac points. Lack of communications has been a problem in the past. Reporting of people in & out is important. Have to keep track of people. Good test, key places & see what is the best type of comm. That we can use what works? Don wants to do something this summer. Don't know about other agencies, but he knows what is needed in his sector. Local comm. Can be overwhelmed. Don is the county EOC for Rio Grande. Repeaters really help. His repeater is portable.

-Alex-Del Norte-up in the mountains, encounters issues up there. Learning. A time will come when we may need to help. Evac point. Get hold of local evac people – communications is key.

-Bob-limited range do to terrain.

-Frank-monitors UHF repeater all the time. Alex knows others interested in ham radio too.

-POTA – Erik wants to do this. Apr 17-25, National Parks week. 7 parks in the Valley, plus RG Forrest. Have equipment, set up times to go on the weekend. Sat, April 24, RGNF.

-What if you had to stay out? Start a fire? Go Kit? WTD if you're stuck? Bob helped someone just days after he got on the air. Stuck in a mountain. From Indiana, compass heading. Found the trail & got back. Bushcraft type of stuff. What to do, make it part of the training.

-Net is set for this month.

-Jeff, W00J, what we're doing is critical. Never know when it will happen. Off of CR 38EE in Saguache. Dave, may need access on Saguache peak.

-Considerations of 2 meter repeater site. Monthly costs to the club start in August. Limited paying members.

Come august, we are responsible. Can't afford monthly cost if not more people. Just over \$100 a month. Tower is 600 a year. Internet is 60 a month. May be able to move to 440 site. \$105 an hour to have it moved. Have a place to put it? Tim has 40 acres in Saguache.. Member donated repeater, antenna, club paid for coax. 190' is the UHF height. About 100' for the VHF.

-Status of setting up an EOC in Monte Vista? Adam covered. In a holding pattern right now.

Officers & Directors:

-Dave, VP/Trustee. Report. Repeaters. Current status of noise issue & progress. Computer vs a Pi.

-New computer, thanks to Erik @ 2 meter site. Noise hasn't appeared, yet. Part time Sky Hub (Mon eve). Fun system on Sun evenings for ARES & WX net every day at 12:15. Need an email to let others know and train someone else to know how to program, start/stop service. FB group, under files is info on how to do this. Jeff-if group needs servers or equipment, they rotate stuff out. Have a dozen machines in inventory. Could use one for the club for Zoom meetings.

-1st Sat in June, Delta Tailgate party/swap meet. Bob proposed to do June meeting as a road trip.

-Adam, Secretary.

-Website & Social Media Report. Covered.

-Email sent to Jaime at Parks & Rec about using the pavilion in Chapman Park. Pending. Covered.

-Michael, Treasurer. Financial Report. Dues coming in. \$1351.94 at end of Feb. With today's dues, 21 are paid. Still working on getting him on the bank account. Bob-Need 30-40 paying members to keep repeaters going.

-Phil, EMCOMM. Report.

-CW & CW Academy presentation in April. Sign up now for CW Academy...waiting list.

-Get to EOC for hands on training of equipment there. Would need back up to go and use it.

-Limitation on participants in October. Time to do more training, do the ICS courses (100, etc). Don's idea is great, first drill. Get together to work out details.

-CW academy. Very involved. CW Ops (CW Operators Club). Phil-instructor/advisor. Google CW Academy.

-Erik, Net & Contests. Report.

-Field Day 2021. June 26. Split arrangement? Two locations? Set up for the day only? (See above)

-Once a month/quarter POTA gathering. Bring equipment & operate. Erik putting this together.

-Frank, QSL Cards/QRZ Page. Report. Last year. Do an on air for Crane Fest. 3/20. Fri night, 0000Z for 24 hours. To 0000 Sat. If you want to participate, get hold of Frank to coordinate. Frank will send cards & do QRZ page. .

-James, Testing/Education. Report. Bob-Testing after the April meeting. 4/3/21. Testing at Noon. Heard from 5 people that want to test. 3 for first time. 2 want to upgrade. Club has 5 VE's now.

Presentation: Logging presentation. Tie in with Field Day. Erik Dunn.

-Logging presentation . N1MM. Do a full install. Then update. Free. Always being updated.

-N3FJP. Has regular log and individual contest logs as well. Paid. \$40 One time payment. Keeps running tab of scores, etc. Grid control, rig interface, etc.

-HamLog – on android device only. Use on a mobile device. Many features available.

-Trusted QSL. Required for LOTW. ARRL logging database. LOTW does verification. Trusted QSL is the intermediary between the end user and LOTW. Bob gives the time when he makes a contact. Dave-LOTS of requests for eQSL.

-Bob-Erik is an IT guy. Asset. Call with questions. An HF Net is in the future.

Phil – thanks for everyone coming out.

Next Meetings: Officers - Thu, Mar 25 – 12:30PM. Club – Sat, Apr 3, 2021, 10AM.

Adjournment. Meeting ended at: 11:33.

Adam Lock

Respectfully Submitted by Adam Lock, Secretary, SLVARA. 3/7/2021.