

San Luis Valley Amateur Radio Association October Meeting Minutes

10/3/2020

Attendees: Bob Galey, John Fleming, Troy Dieckman, Jim McCloskey & wife. Don McDonald, Dave Newmyer, Frank Flohr, Michael Benevidez, Adam Lock, Josh Hill. No Zoom check ins.

Call to Order: Prayer. Start at: 10:05AM

Minutes: Approval of minutes from September meeting. Frank moves to approve, Troy seconds. Accepted.

Addition of Items to Agenda: Additional items to add for discussion. None.

Old Business/Open Issues:

- QSL cards ordered by Frank, per officers & directors meeting on 9/24. On order, should arrive in about a week. 250 on the way. Frank has an invoice for Josh. The club authorized 250 cards. Frank is donating the rest. Dave moved to pay all of the bill, Jim McCloskey seconds. Overruled and passed by unanimous vote.
- Elections are in December for officers positions. This is correct.
- Testing begins at Noon today for those that pre-registered.

New Business:

- The 2 meter repeater needs further research to solve the coverage issue. More power & needs a better duplexer. Dave said a new duplexer will help some but not solve everything. Antenna is only up 120' vs 180' for the UHF repeater. May need better feed line too. Power is set low due to the old duplexer. We can try pushing the power up to see what happens. Could be risky though and cause a warranty issue with Yaesu. Club still has a UHF frequency allocation and has a year to use the other pair or relinquish. The 2M repeater is one transmitter & 2 receivers. John asked about relocating on the top of a local mountain. Bob will talk with Lauren. Dave is going to coordinate with club members to experiment with raising the power on the 2M repeater.
- Moving the 440 repeater. Board consensus is to leave it where it is. Club members thoughts? All in attendance are hesitant to mess with the UHF repeater at all at this time.
- 449.625 repeater will be the Thursday night net repeater for the near term future.

Officers & Directors:

- Robert, VP. Report. None.
- Adam, Secretary. Website & Social Media Report.
- Josh, Treasurer. Report. Nothing new from last meeting, except to pay for the QSL Cards. \$81.
- Dave, Trustee. Report. Working on personal radio stuff before the weather gets bad. Bob stepped in. Been an amazing year. Discussed Emcomm exercise. 10 check ins. All 6 counties. How to know if there is an emergency. Power is out phones are out. Key indicators to turn on your radio & monitor. Check your equipment & decide on what to do if we are needed. As the question, what do you need to operate in a zero power environment. Consider a club protocol to reach out and what to do in an emergency.
- Frank, Net/Outreach:
 - Net Controls for October?
 - Upcoming contests and events. Check the contest calendar, ARRL website & more. Suggested the club get on the air in Dec for 1 year anniversary. First Sat in Dec. Frank figure out a schedule. A one day operation. Josh motioned to make it so, Troy seconded. Motion carries.
- James, Testing/Education. Nothing to report other than testing at 12PM, after the meeting.
- Phil, EMCOMM: DAVE & PHIL – successful drill. Accomplished the tasks at hand. SITREP for all counties. Phil covered in detail how the exercise went and the ideas that came from the exercise. Mineral County dispatch is a ham. Will need some internal training for SARA for future assignments. 10 total check-ins. There is a protocol already in place on how to reach other club members in an emergency.

Presentations: Don McDonald. Repeater in a tool box. Did not do this meeting.

-Bob Galey presentation & discussion on Skyhub (SH). Suggested using VHF repeater, not UHF. SH has repeaters in NM, CO, front range, Grand Junction & other areas. Just added Buena Vista & Methodist Mtn. Lots of nets available. Discussion followed. How to get Creede/Mineral County people on the cub repeaters? Don't want to leave them behind. There are options & alternatives such as an Allstar link. Frank moved to set a deadline of December to commit, Josh seconds. Motion carries.

-Josh Hill. Emcom Sessions. He wants to do this more and asked if the club is interested in doing an Emcom monitoring. Build up to an every night thing, 7-8PM. Listen to see if anyone has an emergency or emergency traffic. Issue is net hosting, Josh will handle it. Josh is to write a proposal & bring it to the next meeting, per Bob.

Next Meeting: November 7.

Adjournment. End at: 11:52AM