

## San Luis Valley Amateur Radio Association September Meeting Minutes

9/5/2020

Attendees: In person- Bob Gale, Adam Lock, Josh Hill, Jim McCloskey, Michael Benevidez, Dave Newmyer, Don McDonald, Troy Dieckman, Frank Flohr.

Online- Erik Dunn, Robert Austin, Phil, Eric & Zane Stephenson, John Fleming

Call to Order: Prayer. Start at: 10:04AM

Minutes: Approval of minutes from August meeting. 501c3 not approved yet, per Robert Austin. Jon Montano name spelling fixed too, per Adam Lock.

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

### Old Business/Open Issues:

- Resuming in person meetings this month, or via Zoom. Masks are required for in-person, for now.
- Testing tentatively at the October meeting. If so, we need to promote across social media.
- CO QSO Party operations in the parking lot after the meeting. Come get on the HF bands.
- South Fork tower. Discussion with Commissioner Nofsker? Status? Not an option, per Bob Gale.

### New Business:

-Welcome any new members to meeting. Loretta, wife of Jim McCloskey. Will test next month.

-Discussion on the two club repeaters.

-Connection options: Sky Hub, Fun Machine, Colorado Connection. Discussed.

-Duplexer for 2 Meter machine. Cost? Other equipment needed to link to the internet.

-Hot Spot & digital modes available for people to connect. Or Simplex net.

-Thinking from Donald McDonald. CWID creating problems. Don offered some solutions.

-Robert covered some issues/concerns and desires with Bristol Head.

Phil-a missing piece regarding what group to join. Offer a small donation to go towards the group we are a part of. Help support their efforts. Bob agrees. Once we decide.

Going to 2 meters. Robert checking with a supplier.

Dave. Used duplexer is \$7-800 each. Tolerances are much tighter, physical materials, makes them tight.

New-\$1500-2K. Will put the word out to other clubs. Do they have something available? Put out on social media & website too. 2 meter repeater is at 20 watts now, but can do 50 watts. Due to the age of the duplexer, 20 watts is best. Still won't get out as far, 80 feet lower than UHF. 190 feet for uhf, vhf is at 110 feet, roughly.

Josh – digital aspects of repeater. Consider this. Use C4FM, digital system use? Dave. Only 3-4 people who have c4fm capability. Due to cost, don't see all club purchasing for 2-3 years. Repeater is capable, individual rigs are the question. Discussion ensued.

2 meter repeater makes more sense to link to another network, given what is already there.

Should one repeater be linked in. General consensus is yes. Bob covered different options. CO connection, fun machine, sky hub. Everyone urged to get online, look at the options. In October, a decision will be made. It's our repeaters at the end of the day. Sky Hub & Fun machine presentations in October. Think about what's best for the club.

-QSL Card. Decide on and vote on spending funds to obtain. Adam to come up with. Adam motion. Robert second. Motion carries to get QSL Cards. Create 2-3 & do an online pole.

-Elections are in December for officers positions.

### Officers & Directors:

-Robert, VP. Report. None.

-Adam, Secretary. Website & Social Media Report. Report given.

-Josh, Treasurer. Report. 23 paying members and \$995 in the funds. \$159 is repeater, the rest is general fund.

-Dave, Trustee. Report. Nothing. Bob asked, what to do about the net outside the valley? Not at this time. HT coverage in Alamosa is a priority. How to improve this? EOC is quick & dirty way to do it. Dual band radios are restricted on Fun System, UHF only is what they prefer.

-Frank, Net/Outreach:

-Net Controls for September & October? 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, Bob will take it. Erik-2<sup>nd</sup>. Adam 4<sup>th</sup>.

-Upcoming contests and events. None covered.

-James, Testing/Education. Next tentative testing date. October meeting. 3 Oct at Noon at church. Get the word out. No walk-ins, only pre-registers, send Phil an email. No deadline.

-Phil, EMCOMM:

-ARES Sunday night net reminder. Please work on ICS courses. Need to maintain membership. 8PM net on Sunday night on Fun Machine or CO Connection. Region 6, District 1.

-Fun Machine system overview. Next meeting, maybe

Presentation: Josh Hill. Repeater In A Bag.

Don to bring his mobile set up in next meeting. Repeater in a tool box.

Do a foxhunt next year. Idea seemed popular with the group.

Robert. Solar prediction. Will put the video up on the FB group.

Next Meeting: October 3.

Adjournment. End at: 11:13PM.