



December 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes of the Bishop Amateur Radio Club

BARC's officers for 2020 are:

Vacant		- President
Bill Chezum	(W6WWY)	- Vice President
Terry Fenske	(K6UN)	- Treasurer
Noam Shendar	(W6RT)	- Secretary

Meeting called to order by Vice President Bill Chezum (W6WWY) at 19:01. Due to the need to observe social distancing, the meeting was held as a directed net over the club's linked 2m repeater system as well as a Zoom online conference.

Number in attendance: 12. They were, in alphabetical call sign order: K6TLH Tom, K6UN Terry, KD6TLE Gordon, KE6IWM Mike, KG6JZJ Dave, N6BEV Bev, N6SIT Paul, N6TGE Don, NW6C Jon, W6RT Noam, W6WWY Bill, and WA7YXY Olin.

Minutes

Financial Report

Terry (K6UN) reports that we received donations in the sum of \$100 and \$2,500 both from Dennis Clark (W6IY) to be used as we see fit. **Thank you!** Our expenses were larger than normal thanks to 2 months of Edison, licenses for the 2 repeater sites, and the PO Box fee. That leaves us with a balance of \$4,673.16, with a pair of bills totaling around \$200 remaining payable.

Repeater System Status

John (AD6NR) reports that Paul (N6SIT) and Jon (NW6C) went up to the Mazourka repeater site and laid out 7/8" hardline to move the UHF antenna from the container to the top of one of the poles. Prior to that, David (W6TNT) put brackets on the ends of the utility poles for hanging antennas. Paul, Jon and John went up today trying to fix a problem with the Mazourka-Silver microwave

link. They changed out a radio and things are looking better. This means we will soon have a picture coming from Mazourka Peak (looking up the Owens Valley), as well as site monitor parameters such as battery voltage.

Dennis Clark

John (AD6NR) reports that Dennis (W6IY) made the contribution because he is not doing well. Dennis specifically wants to apply the donation to the club's repeater sites. John is open to suggestions. Unrelated to this donation, we have already set aside funds to improve grounding and power infrastructure.

One option is to replace the duplexer. The current one is old and has attenuation that is twice what it should be. However, first we should test the duplexers that Dennis has to see if either one is usable.

A second option is a digipeater. It would preserve our analog FM repeater capability and add digital capabilities, including talk groups. The downside is that it requires digital HTs (expensive) and there are 3 incompatible systems to choose from (DMR, Fusion and D-STAR).

Terry (K6UN) suggested we link our system via internet to Echolink or Allstar. The estimated cost is around \$1,800. Mike (KE6IWM) pointed out that Echolink is not hard to implement. Terry added that one can either use a computer at the repeater site or a remote radio linked to the site, and that he'll look into it.

Items from the Floor

Jon (NW6C) renewed our membership with NARCC (Northern Amateur Relay Council of California), to help keep the Mammoth repeater on the air.

Terry reported that Inyo County saw 22 new COVID cases yesterday. Schools are closing due to a teacher with COVID. Don (N6TGE) added that Bakersfield saw 1,000 new cases today.

Meeting adjourned at 19:41.

Noam Shendar (W6RT)

Secretary, Bishop Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (BARC)