



## March 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes of the Bishop Amateur Radio Club

BARC's officers for 2021 are:

Bill Chezum	W6WWY	- President
Jon Patzer	NW6C	- Vice President
Terry Fenske	K6UN	- Treasurer
Noam Shendar	W6RT	- Secretary

Meeting called to order by Vice President Bill Chezum (W6WWY) at 18:59. 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: 13. They were, in alphabetical call sign order: AD6NR John, K6UN Terry, KE6IWM Mike, KF6RRR Hal, K6RND Randy, N6SIT Paul, N6TGE Don, NW6C Jon, W6RT Noam, W6WWY Bill, W7KRF Keith, W7WOW Bob, and WA7YXY Olin.

## Minutes

### Financial Report

Terry (K6UN) reports \$165 of dues income, a \$60 wash from testing dues (same amount in and out), and about \$57 for electricity (which is average). The updated balance is \$4,907.99.

### Repeater System Status

Noam (W6RT) reported that John (AD6NR) is unable to join until later in the meeting but that he indicated prior to the meeting that there is no change, and all repeaters are up and running.

## Items from the Floor

Bill (W6WWY) said that Sherry from the Salvation Army requested our key, because they are moving to a new building (on Main St. in Bishop, near La Casita restaurant). We expect to have access to the new building.

Noam (W6RT) reported that he spoke with Todd Vogel (KM6SKV), president of Inyo County Search & Rescue. Todd said that the Bishop Ultramarathon is currently slated to go ahead, on May 21<sup>st</sup>. This may change as it is ultimately the county's call on whether to allow the event or not.

Bill (W6WWY) updated us that Bev (N6BEV) had left on Sunday for her new home in North Carolina, and that she had by now reached Arkansas.

Jon (NW6C) said that Dylan (KN6IVW) spotted lights on Mt. Tom on Sunday night. This was part of a search and rescue of 2 hikers, one of whom fell 40 feet. Noam (W6RT) added that this rescue was hampered by extremely strong winds, which prevented helicopters from multiple agencies from reaching the hikers. Inyo SAR hiked up, provided supplies and transported the injured hiker to a lower location. A helicopter hoist was finally accomplished at 03:30 on Tuesday.

Jon also pointed out that Inyo County is in the unenviable position of being first in the state in terms of new COVID infections per capita.

Don (K6TGE) asked when in-person meetings are expected to restart. Terry (K6UN) said there is no date yet, due to at least 2 issues. First, all participants must be vaccinated. Second, a venue has to be approved by either the county or the building owner (or both).

Terry (K6UN) added that 6,116 have been vaccinated in the county. Noam (W6RT) adds that this is out of about 10,000 eligible people (ages 16+).

Don (K6TGE) asked about Echolink. Bill (W6WWY) said he is getting started with it. Jon (NW6C) added that the Ridgecrest club is very active with it. Terry (K6UN) reported that he has the radio, cables and computer ready, and he added himself to the station directory. However, he hasn't put it all together yet. It will get done but not imminently, due to competing priorities. When done, his Echolink node will talk to the Mazourka repeater.

Bob (W7WOW) asked if on-site equipment is always required for Echolink. Terry (K6UN) says it's also doable with a remote radio, but then it runs into duplex issues, as well as conflicting station IDs. John (AD6NR) said that if we go the on-site route, then this solves the duplex and ID issues. He asked Terry (K6UN) for the interface requirements so that he can figure out how to connect this to our repeater controller on Silver Peak.

Jon (NW6C) has been speaking with Steve (K9DDG). Steve is doing radio surveys for the new owners of Cerro Gordo. It is interesting work!

W7KRF reminded us that the BARC HF Sunday moved to 07:30 (3.950 MHz LSB)

W6WWY reminded us of the Saturday 2m SSB net (19:00 on 144.210 USB)

K6UN reminded us that we spring forward this weekend (daylight saving).

Olin (WA7YXY) plugged the QSO Today Virtual Ham Fest (\$12 "at the door") this Sat/Sun. About 80 presenters. Presentations are available to be viewed online for a month afterward.

Olin also had a lot of fun at the ARRL DX SSB contest. His all time new one: Luxembourg. And his farthest: Australia

Don (K6TGE) asked if BARC still does testing (Yes.) The next exam will take place on the first Saturday in May. This was followed by a discussion on how to get license certificates if certified prior to 1987. (Search online for call sign books.)

**Meeting adjourned at 19:48.**

Noam Shendar (W6RT)

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