



May 12, 2020 Meeting Minutes of the Bishop Amateur Radio Club

BARC's officers for 2020 are:

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|--------------|---------|------------------|
| 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 18:58. Due to the need to observe social distancing, the meeting was held as a directed net over the club's linked 2m repeater system.

Number in attendance: 9. They were, in alphabetical call sign order: K6SEC Steve, K6TLH Tom, K6UN Terry, KD6TLE Gordon, KG6JZJ Dave, NW6C Jon, W6RT Noam, W6WWY Bill, and W7KRF Keith.

Minutes

Financial Report:

Terry (K6UN) reported that Edison charged us \$41.62, and we received \$30 in. Our bank balance now stands at \$3,235.

Emergency Communications Drill:

Noam (W6RT) reported on behalf of John (AD6NR) that the EmComm exercise is postponed indefinitely because it cannot be conducted in a manner consistent with COVID-19 social distancing guidelines.

Field Day 2020:

Noam (W6RT) also reported that Paul (KK6BAF) informed him that the Inyo National Forest will remain closed through at least June 30, and therefore our group campground permits for Field Day have been canceled.

This leaves the club without a Field Day venue. Bill (W6WWY) has an idea for an alternate venue and will update the club once he secures it (it should take only a few days). *[Ed. Note: Bill (W6WWY) has secured permission from Jim (N7IU) to use his property in Fish Lake Valley.]*

Items from the Floor:

Terry (K6UN) reminded everyone that given that we are not holding in-person meetings, dues checks should be mailed to **BARC, PO Box 1024, Bishop, CA 93515**.

Keith (W7KRF) pointed out that SARC has been using Zoom for their club meetings, and the Tahoe club has been using Zoom and their repeater system simultaneously. He recommends we use Zoom as well, either with or without the club's repeaters.

Jon (NW6C) reported that he drove the Silver Canyon to Big Pine loop and the road is completely clear.

Jon also reminded us that we have a candidate, Dylan, who would like to take the ham exam. He was able to take an online exam given by an LA club, but missed a passing score by only one question.

Keith (W7KRF) said that he added information to the BARC Facebook page on how to conduct online ham exams. Please check it out.

Noam (W6RT) relayed a message from John (AD6NR) that we have an upcoming project to install a microwave link between Silver and Mazourka peaks. This requires trips to both peaks to install the dishes, and at least one of the trips requires simultaneous presence at both peaks in order to align the dishes. **Volunteers are needed**, please contact johnshepherd@earthlink.net.

Terry (K6UN) mentioned he's interested in helping with ham exams. He mentioned at the previous meeting that the Masonic Lodge may be a good venue, allowing for ample spacing among candidates and examiners. However, we must first secure the approval of both the county and the Masons' leadership for such a gathering.

Keith (W7KRF) asked what our backup plan for Field Day would be – or is it “every man for himself”? He added that he and Joy (AG6WM) will likely be in Winnemucca and will operate from there. Bill (W6WWY) replied that he's working on a backup location and will update us in a few days.

Tom (K6TLH) pointed out that the ARRL website has an article on adapting Field Day to the present situation (link: <http://www.arrl.org/news/field-day-2020-a-time-to-adapt>). Some of their suggestions include:

- operating from home but on emergency power ("Class E"),
- using repeaters for communicating among club members, and
- having families set up portable stations in their backyards.

The ARRL has so far not modified any of the Field Day rules.

Meeting adjourned at 19:17.

Noam Shendar (W6RT)

Secretary

Bishop Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (BARC)