

May 11, 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 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: 15. They were, in alphabetical call sign order: AD6NR John, K6TGE Mike, K6UN Terry, KE6IWM Mike, KG6JZJ Dave, KN6IVW Dylan, KO6ME Dave, N6BEV Bev, N6SIT Paul, NW6C Jon, W6RT Noam, W6WWY Bill, W7KRF Keith, W7WOW Bob and WA6IQO Len.

Minutes

Financial Report

Terry (K6UN) reported expenses of \$56.46 for repeater power, and \$75 in and out (net \$0) for ham exam VEC fees.

Repeater System Status

John (AD6NR) explained that he and Bill (WA6QZY) have been working since Saturday (5/8) on controller interfaces, levels, etc. It should have taken a half a day, but finally last night they worked out the last bug. Noam (W6RT) sent out a document describing the new operation of the linked repeater system. It will be different and is designed to be better and more reliable than what we had before. It will also make it easier to link UHF/VHF repeaters and add connectivity like EchoLink and IRLP.

Bishop Ultramarathon Races

Noam (W6RT) reported that we are set. For volunteers who want t-shirts, they will be available on Friday at Millpond. Noam also went over basic instructions (also sent via email). Keith (W7KRF) suggested that Millpond do roll calls periodically, when things are slow at the Start/Finish. Len (WA6IQO) mentioned that it's not critical to get runners' times down to the minute. Within 5 minutes is fine. Keith also asked if we plan to disconnect Mazourka from Silver - John (AD6NR) said yes (if the new controllers are in place).

Field Day

Bill (W6WWY) said that Field Day will take place at the same place as last year – Jim's (N7IU) place. Bring tents and food and be self-sufficient. Noam (W6RT) will share a map of how to get to Jim's. Noam also mentioned we have K7D confirmed as our event call sign (home stations can participate as well, using their own call signs and by including "Bishop Amateur Radio Club" in their Cabrillo file submission. Keith (W7KRF) recommended we use FT8 to rack up a lot of points (same point count as CW) – Noam will handle this. Dylan (KN6IVW) said he's looking for a mic for his Kenwood (8-pin RJ-45 modular connector).

BARC Website

Noam (W6RT) expressed a heartful THANK YOU Bob (N7RAP) for building and maintaining the BARC website (www.n6ov.com). A motion to award Bob \$100 passed with no objections. Noam will design a certificate and send to John (AD6NR) who will deliver the certificate and \$100 to Jon (NW6C), who will deliver it to Bob.

Tangentially related (because we list test dates on the website), Terry (K6UN) noted that we need new info for testing: must have an FCC FRN. No test without one. Noam (W6RT) will provide instructions that we will also post on the website.

Items from the Floor

Bill (W6WWY) asked whether we want to do an in-person meeting in June. Noam (W6RT) recommended we hold off until July to accommodate the presentation by Tim Duffy (N3IR), CEO of DX Engineering (he will join via Zoom).

Jon (NW6C) noted that 2 SAR team members were doing radio checks from Fish Lake Valley. Terry (K6UN) added that hang gliders were on 146.52 earlier today.

John (AD6NR) said that Fish Lake Valley (FLV) still wants to have a repeater there that would be tied to the Silver Peak repeater. Bob (W7WOW) said he is yet to coordinate a frequency for that repeater. He also used to have a 440 MHz repeater, but it was being interfered with by pager frequencies. John suggested that the easiest way to tie to FLV is to treat the FLV repeater as a remote base (half-duplex link to Silver – similar to how we tie to Mammoth and the Mono County repeaters). Bob (W7WOW) suggested an internet link instead. John came back with a microwave link idea, but the question is whether there's a line-of-sight path.

Meeting adjourned at 19:56.

Noam Shendar (W6RT) Secretary, Bishop Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (BARC)