



October 13, 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 19:00. 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: 16. They were, in alphabetical call sign order: AD6NR John, K6END Ed, K6UN Terry, KC7VFT Melanie (Duane's daughter), KE6IWM Mike, KG6JZJ David, KM6SGM Kees (Case), N6BEV Bev, N6JED Jed, N6SIT Paul, NW6C Jon, W6RT Noam, W6WWY Bill, WA7YXY Olin, WB9RER Duane, and Francina (Kees's wife, a new tech who has not yet received her call sign).

Minutes

Financial Report

Terry (K6UN) reported we paid 2 months of Edison bills, bought a ladder, and paid for web hosting and personal property taxes for both repeater sites - for a total of \$364.75. Income \$69 (new ARRL membership - club keeps \$15). The club's remaining balance is \$2,649.

Special Presentation: Hospital Emergency Communications

Duane Mariotti (WB9RER) generously offered to brief us on hospital emergency communications. His presentation will be distributed alongside these minutes.

Repeater System Status

John (AD6NR) reported that after a lot of work and help from our networking friend in Pahrump as well as experts he brought in, we figured out what was going wrong with the microwave system. We replaced the microwave dish antenna (with Paul N6SIT's and Jon NW6C's help) with a horn antenna. It appears that the problem was microwave multipath, which severely limited throughput. Things are working really well now. The Silver webcam is now updating again as it should. Note that the data below the picture is not yet correct because John took the site monitor home for recalibration.

Silver: Now fully functional, but a bit messy and not where we were hoping it would be before snow cuts off our access to the repeater site.

Mazourka: John (AD6NR) put in a request to buy some materials for grounding and lightning protection. This is needed because our antenna is now the highest at the site. We will need Jeff's (AA7GK) help, but he's tied up at work with a fire at the moment. Together with lightning protection for the Silver peak camera and microwave link, this will not exceed \$750. Motion passed with no objections.

Mono repeaters: waiting for Eric (KM6OIA) to connect his end via the internet. Now that our internet connection is stable, John will nudge Eric. This is now our top priority for installing before winter sets in.

Items from the Floor

Bill (W6WWY) asked if we should have an in-person Christmas party in December, assuming Inyo County remains at a permissible COVID level and we have an appropriate location at which to meet. Some comments from high-risk members that they are going to play it safe and not join in person.

John (AD6NR) noted that we need nominations for officers this month, for a vote in November. We also need to catch up on BOD meetings and elect directors. Terry (K6UN) said he will have this ready for the next meetings. He recommends nominating one director each for a 1-, 2-, and 3-year term, respectively.

Nomination: The following officer slate has been nominated with no objections:

- President: Bill W6WWY
- VP: Jon NW6C
- Treasurer: Terry K6UN
- Secretary: Noam W6RT

Terry (K6UN) noted that testing is scheduled for Nov. 7. He will be busy with the presidential elections and needs someone else to coordinate. He will transfer the test materials to K6TLH as a first choice and NW6C as a second choice.

Jon (NW6C) mentioned that the FCC's auctioning off of certain segments of spectrum for 5G cellular services is affecting amateur radio. For example, the Ridgecrest club (SARC) will need to decommission some of their equipment, which is using frequencies no longer available to radio amateurs. Each time the FCC takes spectrum away from amateur radio, it is highly disruptive.

Terry (K6UN) also reported that we have 5 new cases of COVID-19 in the county - all in South County. Please be careful out there.

Meeting adjourned at 20:18.

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