



September 12, 2017 Meeting Minutes of the Bishop Amateur Radio Club

BARC's officers for 2017 are:

Paul Dostie	(KK6BAF)	– President
Jeff Tong	(AA7GK)	– Vice President
Terry Fenske	(K6UN)	– Treasurer
Gordon Baldwin	(KD6TLE)	– Secretary

Meeting called to order by President Paul at about 7 PM. The meeting was held at the Salvation Army in Bishop, CA.

Number in attendance: 12

Those present provided name and call sign.

Minutes

Minutes from prior meeting were electronically distributed to members following the last club meeting and therefore were not re-read at this meeting.

Treasurers Report

Terry (K6UN) provided the BARC financial report for two months, July 12, 2017 through September 12, 2017. Ending checking balance is \$2,916.78. Income during this period was \$2,169. Money is still being donated to BARC for the purpose of repaying the short term \$1500 loan made by three BARC members. Each of the three loaned \$500 to the club to use for paying the repeater site fee levied by the USFS for the Silver Peak and Mazourka Peak repeater sites. No repayment of this loan has been made as of yet. Terry also reported that the Sierra Amateur Radio Club (SARC) in Ridgecrest donated \$500 to BARC's USFS repeater site fund.

Old Business – Raffle Update

Terry (K6UN) and Ed (K6END) will partner on the process of getting the BARC raffle tickets ready to sell. This will consist of ticket design, verbiage, etc. Paul (KK6BAF) will seek a donation of a firearm which will be the first prize of the raffle. Paul asked BARC members to approach businesses they were on good terms with to ask about donations of items to use for the raffle. It was mentioned that the Owens Valley High School CIF was holding a raffle with a .22 Henry rifle as the first prize and a Yeti Cooler as the second prize. They are asking \$10 per ticket. Paul commented that BARC should be asking \$5 per ticket. John (AD6NR) stated that for this raffle, it would be best to exclude club members from purchasing tickets to avoid the appearance of something inappropriate. Bob (W7WOW) suggested that the drawing be held in a public venue. He also said we should consider putting the number of tickets available for sale on the ticket

so potential buyers can estimate the odds. Paul is thinking of three prizes. Paul noted that when the Fire Department held a raffle, they raised \$6,000 through sales of \$5 tickets.

John (AD6NR) suggested that we might want to re-think having a raffle, as there may not be enough energetic members who will actually go out and sell tickets. Rich and Mike commented that they have the energy to get out and sell and Mike also commented that he would take this kind of an opportunity to educate the public on the value and application of HAM radio. Raffle tickets will be start being offered for sale on October 1st, the drawing to be held on Friday, February 2, 2018. Bob (W7WOW) suggested that we might do lottery with a radio prize for SARC and BARC members at \$1 per ticket? This idea was not offered for a vote and merits more discussion.

Old Business – Fundraising Sale of Vintage Electronics in Storage with Jon (NW6C)

Jon (NW6C) continues to work on this but has not been able to focus on selling these items recently, as he has been addressing some other pressing issues. Discussion was held about advertising two of the most expensive radio items – some pricy commercial cavities and an antique radio of exceptional quality. Terry (K6UN) moved that he be authorized to open a second checking account to use with Pay pal to handle EBay sales of this and other old radio gear. By a vote of those present, Terry will open the second checking account to use when selling on EBay.

Old Business – Mazourka Peak Repeater Paint Detail

Paul (KK6BAF) asked Keith (W6KRF) for an update on this project and Keith advised that in about two weeks, he will be able to address this painting project. This will be around October 1st.

Old Business – Bodie Bowl

No update provided.

Old Business – Tioga Pass Run

This event took place on September 10, 2017. It is reported to have gone well although 60M was only available during the early morning portion of the run before the band closed down.

Old Business – Update on New CHP Tower Plans for Silver Peak

John (AD6NR) has made recent inquiries of CHP regarding their plans for the new radio site on Silver Peak. No one has responded to his inquiries as of yet.

Old Business – Overview of Possible BARC Involvement in Getting Three Repeaters Operational and Linked

At the last BARC meeting, Paul (KK6BAF) observed that it might be possible for BARC to take the lead in linking the Antelope, Conway Summit, and Leviathan repeaters. This process has progressed. John (AD6NR) repaired the Antelope repeater. He removed the duplexer and retuned it. Now, the duplexer needs to be reinstalled. There were concerns raised that because this repeater site is a public safety facility, there needs to be a safe guard to prevent the repeater radio and associated equipment from draining the facility

batteries and adversely impacting the public safety radios there. John suggested placing a 12.1 VDC shut off for the HAM equipment to forestall any negative impact on the public safety equipment. John worked closely with Kurt Hartstrom the IT lead who oversees this repeater site.

If Antelope becomes operational and linked to other BARC repeaters, there will be good communications from Olancho in the south to north of Carson in Nevada. Of note, it is possible to hit the Mazourka repeater using a hand held radio from the Antelope site – a distance of 100+ miles. A question arose about how to connect Antelope to Silver Peak. Greg (KJ6KO) recommended making Silver Peak a “link hub”. He advised that doing this on Silver Peak would simplify any future changes to this system.

John (AD6NR) indicated that the Tonopah repeater (a UHF remote access radio) may be able to be re-purposed to become a part of this system. The Tonopah radio is now a simplex link that we would change to get into Antelope.

50/50 Drawing

Paul (KK6BAF) was the winner and he donated his windfall back to the club for its USFS fund. Thank you!

New Business – Meeting of SARC and BARC to Explore Jointly Placing a Repeater Radio Facility above the Town of Cerro Gordo

On September 24th, some members of SARC from Ridgecrest will get together with a couple of members of BARC to talk about jointly placing a repeater at a radio site above Cerro Gordo. Apparently Jeff Tong (AA7GK) has talked with those who control the radio site and reported back to BARC leadership that they were interested in letting BARC place a repeater at their site. A previously conducted evaluation of how broadly a signal from this location can be heard revealed that a transmission from Cerro Gordo can be heard in distant places such as Palmdale, Tonopah, and even Las Vegas. The plan at this point would be to link Cerro Gordo to Mazourka Peak.

New Business – Replacing 2M Station Master Antenna on Mazourka Peak

John (AD6NR) commented to Bob (W7WOW) that it would be beneficial for Fish Lake Valley (FLV) HAMs and all other users if BARC were able to replace the defective 2M Station Master antenna presently on Mazourka Peak. John recommended the club purchase a new commercial quality antenna and place it so as to obtain an improved signal into FLV. A vote of those present gave him the go-ahead to buy the antenna, which will cost the club around \$1500.

Meeting Adjourned at about 8:30 PM.

Gordon Baldwin (KD6TLE)
Secretary
Bishop Amateur Radio Club, Inc.