



September 14, 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 19:09. This was meeting combined in-person and Zoom attendance.

Number in attendance: 8. They were, in alphabetical call sign order: John AD6NR, Walter K6BDI, Dave KO6ST, Bev N6BEV, Paul N6SIT, Jon NW6C, Noam W6RT and Bill W6WWY.

Minutes

Financial Report

Terry (K6UN) was again unable to attend and will deliver a combined report (covering 4 months) at the next meeting.

Tioga Pass Run Recap

Jon (NW6C) reported that the race was held this year as usual, but there was no lunch at the Whoa Nelly Deli. The weather was beautiful. The number of participants was roughly ½ of historical levels, and most were masked. Radio volunteers included Len (WA6IQO), Jon (NW6C), Tom (K6TLH), John (AD6NR) and Marilyn (W6MSO). Due to the early start, Jon drove up the night before and slept in this truck, and was rewarded with a sunrise over Mono Lake. Tom took the top station and used an HT with a mobile cross-band repeater. A station below him relayed his transmissions to the start line in Lee Vining. One station had trouble programming the PL tone on a Wouxun radio.

Mammoth Tuff Gravel Bike Race

Noam (W6RT) reported that the Mammoth Tuff race was canceled due to the statewide Forest closure.

Repeater System Status

John (AD6NR) reported that the new Mazourka Peak camera was working in his shack and that he successfully argued with the Forest Service that our permit allows us access to repeater sites even during a closure. Jon (NW6C) will move the old camera to make room for the new one (the plan is to have both of them on Mazourka, pointed north and south, respectively).

John is seeking volunteers for re-racking equipment at the Silver Peak site. Bill (W6WWY) and Dave (KO6ST) said they could help.

John asked for approval for \$200 to buy Mountain West Radio RigRunners, so that we can individually fuse our repeater equipment at both Silver and Mazourka Peaks. (Currently there is a master fuse only, which means an overcurrent situation will cause all our equipment to lose power.) The motion passed unanimously.

Silver Peak Digipeater

Noam (W6RT) reported that the APRS digipeater is working but the coverage is not great - for example, when driving south from Bishop on 395 it fades out around Aberdeen. Walt (K6BDI) pointed out that coverage used to be much better. A 3-element beam pointed south provided coverage all the way to Haiwee, Tonopah, Las Vegas and Tehachapi. Given that we are trying to cover hiking areas as well as the main roads, John (AD6NR) suggested using good (e.g., Stationmaster) omnidirectional antennas at Silver and new potential "fill-in" digipeaters, such as on Mazourka.

Items from the Floor

Bev (N6BEV) reported that there were severe storms in North Carolina due to the recent hurricanes and that she successfully weathered them.

Noam (W6RT) added a reminder for the California QSO Party, October 2-3.

Bill (W6WWY) asked if we should do our usual Christmas Party (putlock during our December meeting). All seemed amenable.

Bill (W6WWY) also pointed out the remarkable fact that Dennis (W6IY), who got his ham license when he was in high school, is the longest-serving repeater trustee in Inyo County.

Meeting adjourned at 20:05.

Noam Shendar (W6RT)

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