



General Meeting Minutes

Date: August 11, 2018, 10:00

Location: Winters EOC, 702 Main St, Winters, CA 95694

Attendees:

Joe DeAngelo AG6QO, Ken Wilson K6WLS, Damian Appert AB6WB, Dale Dennis KJ6HHY, Bill Gustavson K6BIL, Bob Jordan KIBBZR, Dennis Kelleher KI6HAA, Mick Bowlin W6KRY, Doreen Appert KE6ROR, Dave Woodruff KM6AJS, Bob Williams N6UTX, Bill Ragsdale K6KN, Greg Kruckewitt KG6SGT, Darrel Horst KM6KFW, John Prenton W6FAQ, Paul Jordan KJ6GCP

Meeting was called to order at 10:00am, and attendees introduced themselves.

Treasurer's Report:

Although treasurer Doug KK6LDS was not present, he previously provided Joe the monthly financial statement. This statement shows the current account balance as of July 31, 2018 was \$3,489.12, which includes some fire recovery donations. This however did not include the PayPal account that was set up for fire recovery, which had a balance of \$505.97. Joe indicated that he would work with Doug to confirm the exact number, but estimated that the club had received about \$1,200 in donations for fire recovery.

Secretary's Report:

Paul did not have any updates, but assumed the duties of taking meeting minutes, aided by a voice recording. Joe provided the update that the minutes for the May 12th general membership meeting had been posted on the club's website.

Old Business

Repeater Site Status and Plans:

Ken gave an extensive report on current status of the repeater site and progress of post-fire repairs.

- All systems are fully functioning, but mostly running on temporary cables until plans are solidified for a more permanent post-fire setup. This will include replacing the cables with



hardline, and also incorporating lighting arrestors. Ken indicated that this would involve a significant amount of effort and planning to complete.

- Ken also indicated that the state of the ground system for antenna tower needed some investigation to ensure that it would support the lightning arrestors.
 - After a question from Damian, Ken detailed how he discussed the post-fire structural integrity of the antenna tower with the company that built it, and determined that no substantial damage had occurred.
 - Ken described the current plans and diagram that he had put together with the tentative plan for cable and lightning arrestor placement. He also indicated that this setup would likely result in improved communication due to reduced interference from nearby sources.
 - Joe described the most cost effective way of installing a good ground system was to use ¾" copper pipe. Bill G, John, and Joe discussed how braiding helped for RF grounding, but that would require occasional replacement due to rusting.
- Joe indicated that he had come up with an initial estimate of a worst-case scenario repair cost to replace equipment damaged in the fire, which was given to the Board of Directors. The total estimate was about \$2,200, which includes the antennas that were already purchased for about \$400.
- Ken indicated that design plans needed to be solidified before additional equipment was purchased, to ensure that proper lengths of cables and hardline were determined.
- Joe and Ken discussed the importance of getting all repairs completed prior to the rainy season to prevent damage to the repeater site access road.
- Joe and Ken noted that the solar panels and equipment inside the building were remarkably undamaged by the fire.
- Ken, Bill G. and Joe discussed the plans and costs for replacing the hardline, which could be pre-cut with connectors installed.
- Ken discussed the possibility of boring two additional holes in the building to run the hardline from each antenna through separate entry points, which BLM requires.

Bylaws Update:

Joe indicated that the major proposed changes to the bylaws were outlined on the meeting agenda, and would be posted on the club's website after the meeting. He asked that everyone read through them, and asked that any questions or concerns be brought to him or any member of the Board of Directors as soon as possible. A vote to approve the proposed changes will occur at the November annual membership meeting. Joe gave a brief explanation for each of these changes which are the below.

- Office location - bylaws and articles of incorporation
- Membership roster - Treasurer
- Simplified membership eligibility
- Added voting rights eligibility
- Incorporated previously approved resolutions: 7 Board of Directors, proxy voting



- Updated notification requirements to include email / web
- Updated default meeting times
- Modified quorum definition to reflect proxy resolution

BLM Lease Renewal:

Joe clarified for members that the 50-year lease BARK has with the BLM is set to expire on in January 2023. Bill G. explained that he had yet to hear back from BLM regarding the club's response to the site plan that had been drafted. Joe indicated that the site plan was available to board members, but could be emailed to any member if requested.

New Business

2018 General meeting schedule:

The remaining 2018 General Membership and FCC test schedule is as follows:

Sat. Nov 10, 10am-noon - Offices of Luhdorff and Scalmanini, 500 First St, Woodland, CA 95695

The remaining FCC Test Session will be held the morning of the same day:

Sat. Nov 10, 7:30am - 9:30am - LDS Chapel on Pioneer, Woodland

Joe asked for feedback regarding using the Winters EOC as a location for the test session and subsequent general membership meeting. There was an agreement that it would suffice as a back-up location to Bill G's office in Woodland, though it did require a longer drive for most members. Joe did specify that the City of Winters was providing the location at no charge, given the club's assistance with emergency situations. Ken suggested having two meetings/test sessions in Woodland, and two in Winters each year.

FCC Test Session Results:

Ken explained that all five individuals passed their respective exams, including one that achieved a perfect score on the Amateur Extra exam. The split of new license levels as a result of the exams were as below.

- Two new Amateur Extra licensees
- Two new General licensees
- One new Technician licensee



Legal Counsel - Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation:

Joe indicated that he would be in contact with an attorney referred by Dave to review the bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. This individual was interested in getting into Amateur Radio and would be willing to assist the club with these documents. Ken indicated that he would be able to get Technician textbook for individual. Joe provided a few examples of why it would be beneficial for an attorney to review both legal documents. Bill G. posed the question of whether there was any interest in reviewing the club's status of a non-profit organization. Joe indicated that this had previously been reviewed, and that there are many possible implications of doing so, which might outweigh the benefits it would be to the club. He did state that this would be brought at during the attorney review.

Elections - Two Board of Directors Positions Open:

Joe explained that both John W6FAQ and Paul KJ6GCP experienced interest in running for re-election. Joe asked for volunteers to join an election committee to take nominations and oversee the election process. Mick W6KRY and Damian AB6WB volunteered to join this committee.

Other:

Joe asked Bob N6UTX to give an introduction, as this was the first meeting he had attended. Bob explained the he was a member of the Winters fire department as a communications representative. He also gave an overview of his Amateur Radio interests.

Adjournment of the business portion of the meeting:

Business portion of the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:50am.

Presentation:

Bill R. K6KN gave an excellent presentation on the use of satellites to communicate over long distances with a handheld transceiver and a special antenna. Along with showing a video demonstration of how this is done, he explained some specific considerations that are required to have the best chance of a successful contact.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30am.