



Anoka County Radio Club

Board Meeting Minutes

March 23, 2021

Board Members Present:

Shawn Rung K0SMR
Shep Shepardson N0NMZ
Dan Peitso N0PIY
Tim Neu KC0LQL
Jeff Smith N0KCK
Tom Lucey KD0NAA

Board Members Absent:

Bob Cordell KB0GIP

Members/Guests:

Called to order by the President at 6:38 p.m. A quorum for this meeting was met by count of Google Meet participants.

Announcements:

Next planned General Meeting is April 2nd. A virtual venue will most likely be held.

Next Board Meeting will be April 27th, 2021. A virtual venue will most likely be held.

Amateur Fees Date NOT YET ESTABLISHED, Sat, 20 Mar 2021:

Apparently, there is misinformation concerning a notice published by the FCC yesterday. This notice did not set the effective date for license fees. While it is anticipated the effective date will be this summer sometime the FCC will announce the date in advance. Below is from a message the ARRL's attorney sent to the Officers and Directors of the ARRL on the subject. -- **Bill Lippert AC0W, Director**

Dakota Division

The FCC fees Report and Order adopted last December was published in this morning's Federal Register. I want to note to everyone that although generally the rules take effect on April 19, collection of the amateur fees will NOT begin on that date. The effective date for new amateur radio fees has not yet been established. The FCC explicitly states in the published Notice (at p. 15061, para. 44, <https://tinyurl.com/y52ff2zy>) that the fees "will not take effect until the requisite notice has been provided to Congress, the FCC's information technology systems and internal procedures have been updated, and the Commission publishes notice(s) in the Federal Register announcing the effective date of such rules." I expect that the effective date will be some time this summer, but in any event we will have advance notice. -- **David R. Siddall, Managing Partner, DS Law, PLLC**

Treasurer's Report: Not Available.

Secretary's Report: Accepted and Approved.

VE Report: Shep reported that he is planning an April VE Session, limited to 10 candidates. Continuing to use canopy April – October. When building is open, we will be inside. Then we'll register Nov/Dec. Fee not active until this summer. ARRL will not collect the fee, candidate has to pay FCC.

Membership Report: We currently have 51 members (Tech: 6, General: 9, Extra: 17, Adv: 2, None: 13). We have 59% of non-child members that are ARRL members.

Old Business:

Email forwards for board positions have been updated. Setup new email forwarder active for club contesting.

Tim to update club officers on website (also include in General meeting minutes)
Shep mentioned updating business document from 2014. Shep will review and send it to Tim to update.

Discussion on updates for our website and web presence.

Still looking into a group session to work on ideas. Tim will work on migrating the website in the near future. Need a tech workshop for Google sometime soon.

New website prototype is a work in progress. Maybe look into file hosting next?

Shep would like to make sure that new members get a welcome email and give info about the website, and other info. Jeff asked about a member roster for members. Bob also wants to see a physical letter sent to new members as well. (also include new hams in our county, once established with ARRL)

ARRL club affiliation: Tim is gathering the details for the forms.

Logging – Tim to renew LOTW certificate

Auto-QSL card - “card code” entered and then offer a QSL code

Mailing is currently hosted on GoDaddy.

Bylaw Change Requests:

Shawn Rung K0SMR recommends that all the previously proposed bylaws changes be re-introduced as one proposal. Shep Shepardson N0NMZ motioned to remove the two proposed bylaw changes from the table and review changes needed to the bylaws including these, then re-submit them to the general membership at a future meeting, after board recommendation and review. Seconded. Motion passed.

Ham Radio Exam Classes: Look into online virtual instructional videos? Tabled for now due to the current conditions and lack of locations to hold them. Still Tabled.

Ideas for new small events: Look into fun club contests and learning sessions to bring in members and new hams. Demonstration table at community events. Contesting dashboard for our website, contesting email, etc.

Possible Upcoming Events:

Winter Field Day – Tim Neu KC0LQL said it will be held January 30-31st.

- Skywarn Training – March and May and maybe June?
- Field Day – Tim Neu - June 26-27th. Tim will work on Site and initial docs.
- Centerville Festival / Fete Des Lacs events – July 13-18 per the facebook group.
- Lions City of Columbus Fall festival - Tim Neu and Tom Holleran – September?.
- Simple supper
- Scouts Jamboree on the Air – October 25-27th.
- Halloween Special Event Station – October 31st.
- Christmas Party – First Saturday in December.

New Business:

Proposed donation. A local ham has offered a sizeable donation with the intent that it be used to fund a club DMR Repeater installation. After looking into some of the costs associated with this type of venture, our club would not be able to undertake the costs of such a project for neither the build nor ongoing costs to sustain it.

- 2-3k/mo & internet, rental, etc.
- 2k for repeater
- Duplexer
- Hardline
- Antenna
- Facility
- Internet
- Electricity

Shep motioned to send a letter to the donor declining the donation with the explanation that we cannot adequately fund this venture as a club. Seconded. The motion unanimously passed.

Matt Johnson KD0LVH has some items available for donations to a door prize type event at our upcoming in person meetings.

Presentation:

Matt Johnson KD0LVH presented details on his knowledge of the Google Workspace products.

Adjourned at 8:43 p.m.