

The Casper Amateur Radio Club – W7VNJ

Business Meeting Minutes

7 October 2009

I. Call to order

CARC President **Mike Coley, KE7AZF** called to order the monthly business meeting of the **Casper Amateur Radio Club** at **1900 local time** on **October 7, 2009** in **Natrona County's Emergency Operations Center**.

II. Attendance Roster

The following persons were present:

Note: Asterisk indicates non-member or visitor. Per club by-laws, meetings are open to the public, however only full members in good standing are allowed to vote on club business.

Bruce – KF7CFY

*Dan Sanford – KI4ILI

Jay – W7DRJ

Paul – K7RXC

Mike – KE7WQP

Brad – KC7YRA

Mike – KE7AZF

Tate – KA7O

Josh – KA7JUN

Warren – KU7D

Tiffany – W7TIF

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting / Treasurer's Report

Warren read the minutes from the last meeting. Motion to accept as read was made by Tate, seconded by Josh. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tate gave the treasurer's report. The check for the postage stamps has finally cleared, and we received 49-cents worth of interest this quarter. Current account balance is \$13,190.62. Both power bills are here, and we owe nothing on them, still have \$50.64 on credit with power company. Some sidebar discussion on the power bills was had. Nothing else outstanding at this time. Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report by Paul and Mike (WQP). Motion carried.

IV. Old Business

- a) **ANTENNA AND FEEDLINE AT EOC:** Still no updates on this – City/County hasn't been spending money like that lately. This is going to be a long project. Ultimately, the antennas and whatnot are City/County property, so we'll see where this goes.
- b) **EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE:** Still has not met. Members of the committee (Tate, Warren and Bruce) are going to stay after the business meeting to make some plans.
 - Discussed the e-mail from Dave at Casper College and how that really opens the door for us to have a presence at the college. Also discussed the past contact with Megan Graham at CC. This is a good thing, since it paves the way for an alliance/partnership with the college folks. We'll continue to pursue this.
- c) **.940 REPEATER LINK TO RAWLINS:** Tate spoke with Yancey today about this, and apparently the link to Colorado is at least a year out since there is some equipment that needs to be built/modified before it can happen. There is a possibility of adding a link on the Copper Mountain (.805) machine to tie in to the Carter Mountain machine outside of Jackson. Nothing sure yet.
 - Discussed the intermittent link with Copper Mountain (apparently due to icing on the link-side antenna). Apparently Copper got some snow/ice and this was causing intermittent problems, but as the ice melted, the link came back. There was much rejoicing. We do know for sure that the PA on the Copper side of the link is bad, putting out only 4-watts into an omni-directional antenna. There is a plan to fix this, but we don't know specifics.
- d) **BB BROOKS/GOAT RANCH SITE/TOWER:** Paul was added to the committee after the fact. The committee members reported to the club what they know so far:
 - We're ready to take the next step, though we're still waiting for clarification with the easement(s). Bruce has had some conversation with the BB Brooks people in Phoenix. They want a proposal from us to start the ball rolling. Power is still running there, though it has been shut off from the building. Telephone also runs to the fence. The tower itself is in great shape, though the building is in disrepair. The T-posts for the old Beverage antennas are still out there, as are the terminators (although these are in poor condition).
 - Some of the committee members went out to the tower and connected an HF receiver to it and report that it hears EXTREMELY well, even during the day.
 - The opinion seems to be that it would be a decent spot for an occasional-use site, i.e. drive out there in your car, plug your mobile rig in and use the antenna, or for a special-event station.

- Club officers recommend that the committee continue investigating the easements and get proposals made to the BB Brooks folks before we continue.
- e) **MICROPHONE FOR FT-1000:** Rev did end up having one at his house that was brand new, still in the box and wrapper. He offered to trade it to the club in exchange for a waiver on his 2010 Membership Dues. The officers accepted and we now have the microphone.
- f) **EXTRA REPEATER:** Many thanks to the folks that helped move this out of Tate's garage. We have received word from the coordination body on an available pair (147.280 +). Tate will continue to work towards getting this thing online and tone info will be published later. We have plenty of receive radios, but need a radio with a 16-pin accessory port to tie in with the controller. Mike (AZF) has one. We have the antenna (but need to stretch it and put it on the WAC building) to make it work. Will have an outward-dialing autopatch.
- g) **SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST:** The ARES State officer has told us to do our own thing. Mike (AZF) has something in mind. It can happen at any time, and will not involve any other agencies.

V. New business

- a) WE WILL BE HAVING ELECTIONS FOR THE 2010 TERM IN DECEMBER – NEED TO START THINKING ABOUT NOMINATIONS.
 - Requirements and responsibilities of officers are outlined in the By-laws, which will be posted to the members-only section of the website, if they're not already there.
- b) Steve, WA2SMS, was the named party on the coordination paperwork for the .940 machine. Tate suggests that he should be the one to take care of this and get the .940, .235 and .280 machines coordinated in his name, since he is also the trustee for the club call sign. Paul makes the motion to proceed, seconded by Bruce. Motion passed.
- c) Brad put up a tower, brought his logbook and a map showing the countries he has worked. Brad extends an open invitation for folks with HF privileges over to come use his station (must use your own call sign, however).
- d) On third weekend of October each year, JOTA takes place. Starts on Saturday the 17th at 0000 and runs through Sunday the 18th at 2359. Jay had asked the Scouts if anyone wanted a JOTA station, and the Scout office had no idea what JOTA was. Jay sent paperwork over, but has not yet had any contact from the Scout folks. Jay, Mike (WQP), Mike (AZF), and Brad will participate there, if the demand is there.
- e) There is a resurging interest in the southern part of the state regarding AX.25 packet activity. Tate said that he has made known that we're not presently doing anything as a club and that the club doesn't. Individuals that are interested should pursue this on their own.

- f) Bruce discussed his trip out to the veterans museum at the airport, and he asked them if they knew anything about the tower at the goat ranch. The director recalled a map of the entire airport facility, including the surrounding towers. They weren't able to find the map, but another lady remembered a lot, and she said that there was a tower in that general area that they looked into for radio-navigation. She couldn't recall if that tower specifically was there as part of that or not. The museum did accept Bruce's request for research, so he'll be getting info back.

TOPIC FOR OCTOBER 21st ACTIVITY MEETING: Propagation and Solar Forecasting

VI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Warren and seconded by Mike (WQP). **Mike Coley, KE7AZF** adjourned the meeting at **2018**.