

The Casper Amateur Radio Club – W7VNJ

Business Meeting Minutes

4 February 2009

I. Call to order

CARC President **Mike Coley, KE7AZF** called to order the monthly business meeting of the **Casper Amateur Radio Club** at **1930** on **4 February 2009** in **Natrona County's Emergency Operations Center**.

II. Attendance Roster

The following persons were present:

Note: Asterisk indicates non-member or visitor

Mike – KE7AZF

Tate – KA7O

Jay – W7DRJ

Steve – WA2SMS

Paul – K7RXC

Josh – KE7ZCO

Dave – N0AXE

Gabe – KE7ZCQ

Tiffany – KE7ZCT

Warren – KE7NPF

Mike – KE7WQP (was late and receives a tardy).

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 Paul. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tate gave the treasurer's report. Current balance is \$15,557.38. Paid last Killmer bill for \$318 and change. Still have \$150 or so worth of outstanding VE fees (from VE session) yet to be deposited. Also outstanding are two member dues payments from Dave, K7YE and Dave, N0AXE. Motion to accept made by Jay, seconded by Steve; Motion Carried.

IV. Old Business

- a) Boy Scout licensing class/Radio merit badge for Boy Scouts. Jay was to follow-up.
 - No information received from council yet. Jay is going to get things followed through to make sure people are aware, distributing information, etc.

- b) Special Event Station at Sheep Mountain (Big Horns). Jay was to propose dates.
 - BLM has not sent us the rest of the information we need yet... Jay is following through.
- c) Club newsletter: Warren's still working out details, hopes to begin publishing soon. Tate, discussed procedure to sign up for the reflector for the newsletter.
- d) Billboard: It's up! For now, it can be viewed on Collins Drive, directly across from NC stadium.
 - Letter thanking Lamar advertising for their donation is to be sent, as will a "thank-you" letter to the editor.
 - Will appear in an upcoming edition of QST in the "Up Front" section.
- e) Seed money to Sweetwater County group for '09 hamfest.
 - No evidence has been found that we *have* sent the money out. We can't find a specific amount that we received for ours. Tate motions that we send \$2,000.00, seconded by Mike, KE7AZF. Motion carried.
- f) Regaining control of .940 machine.
 - Tate has not made contact with Dave, K7YE about this. Mike, KE7AZF mentioned to Dave, K7YE during breakfast last Saturday the interest in getting an S-Com controller at the site. Also discussed the donation of a second, identical controller by another club member in consideration of our earning 501(c)(3) status.
 - Advantages and perks of the controllers were discussed, specifically relating to their linking capability.
- g) March 21 VE session publicity: Jay was to arrange for broadcast, Warren to arrange with newspaper.
 - Announcement has been sent to newspaper's "Town Crier"
 - Jay states he has not done anything on his end. He will get it done.

V. New business

- a) 501(c)(3) update: Mike, KE7AZF, announced that CARC has been awarded the status as pursued; now the real fun and work begins!
 - Amended articles and by-laws with required language have been filed with the Wyoming Secretary of State's office, as required by the IRS. There was no discussion regarding revisions on the discussion board, so they were submitted "as-is." We can amend/revise most of the language at any time.
 - Discussed exactly what this means, as far as grants, DHS funding, etc. as well as political neutrality.

- b) Jay made a motion to remove the PL tone from the .235 machine in the interest of opening it up to persons that have radios that are NOT PL-tone capable.
- Was discussed that Bresnan's cable system causes interference to the .235 machine, and that's why there's a tone. We discussed putting a tone on the output, since there's so much interference in town.
 - Discussion was had that perhaps we should create an RFI committee to research and document specific cases/instances/locations of interference and present this to Bresnan so they can fix the offending circuit(s).
 - Paul seconded Jay's original motion.
 - Vote was 2 yea / 4 nay. Motion failed.
 - Tate suggests an amendment to the motion, tabling it until we are able to create an RFI committee to address the interference.
 - Motion made to create an RFI committee, and seconded. Vote was unanimous "for"
 - RFI Committee is created: Tate, Jay, Mike (KE7AZF), Paul, Gabe and Josh
 - Tate motions that until the RFI committee has a solution, we place an output PL tone on the .235 machine. Benefits/Drawbacks discussed. Seconded by Warren. Vote was 6 yea, 0 nay, 2 abstain. Motion carried. Output tone will be 77.0 Hz.
 - Tate proposes all interested to meet at .235 site this Saturday (Feb 7) at noon to see what's out there and generally play around.
- c) Hamfest: May 22-24 at the Ramkota hotel in Casper. Info is on the WY Section website. Current schedule was discussed. Warren will make contact regarding our VE team's availability to assist with the VE session.
- d) Jay spoke about late-night/early-morning DX work on 20m in all modes, using only 100w. Some side conversation ensued.
- e) Jay also discussed "rapid-fire" keying a repeater and that some of us have developed that bad habit. Just a comment.

VI. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Jay and seconded by Paul. **Mike Coley, KE7AZF** adjourned the meeting at **2029**.

Discussion was had about where folks are going to meet & eat. Dave, N0AXE, paid his dues and we now have his information in the membership roster.