

The Casper Amateur Radio Club – W7VNJ

Business Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2009

Call to order

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

Attendance Roster

The following persons were present:

Note: Asterisk indicates non-member or visitor

Mike – KE7AZF

Tate – KA7O

Warren – KU7D (ex KE7NPF)

Tiffany – KE7ZCT

Jared – KE7ZCS

Brad – KC7YRA

Mike – KE7WQP

Bob – W7AYH

Jay – W7DRJ

Josh – KA7JUN (ex KE7ZCO)

Paul – K7RXC

Steve – WA2SMS

Lou – No Call (yet!)

PRESSING BUSINESS: Mike, KE7AZF, began with a discussion about chain of command and the reasoning there. All of the officers stated their piece to make sure there is uniform understanding about everything. We don't want to stifle ideas or enthusiasm; we just want to make sure that we're putting our best face (and voice) forward.

Approval of minutes from last meeting / Treasurer's Report

CARC Secretary Warren Appel, KU7D, read the minutes from the last meeting. Motion to accept as read was made by Steve, seconded by Jay. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: CARC Treasurer Tate Belden, KA7O, gave the treasurer's report. Deposits total \$334.74. Current account balance is \$16,110.08. Still outstanding is the \$2k check to Sweetwater County ARC for Hamfest. Power bill for .235 site is paid, still have a \$214 credit which should take us through the end of the year. No other outstanding bills at this time. Motion to accept by Warren, seconded by Jay. Motion carried.

Old Business

Boy Scout Licensing/Class: Jay was to follow up.

- Jay has NEW ARRL info regarding BSA requirements. Has an appointment to meet with council to explain how we can be involved and why we can be important, if they're interested. More info to follow.

Sheep Mountain Special Event Station: Jay was to provide updates.

- They will not allow us to use the facility since the snow has wreaked havoc. There is an alternate site we can use, which is up for discussion. More info on that later.

Regain control of .940 machine and S-Com Controllers for the .235 and .940 machines

- Tate made a motion to defer this item's discussion until new business, seconded by Mike, KE7WQP. Motion carried.

Apply output tone to the .235 machine.

- Due to technical problems when we met at the Stuckenhoff site, this was not completed. Mike, KE7AZF, said he will be getting that done soon.
- More discussion about the output tone. Tate stated that he was mistaken about the need to have different tones for the input and output and that we might consider using the same input and output tones. He suggests that we wait on this pending discussion about the S-Com controllers under "New Business" to which everyone agreed.

Wyoming State Hamfest 2009: Seed money has been sent, Warren has made contact regarding VE availability

- Some side discussion about where it's going to be and seed money workings. Talked about Rocky Mtn. Convention 2010 here in Casper.
- CARC's VE team will be doing VE testing at this year's hamfest. Warren encouraged VE activity from any/all qualified and interested persons.

RFI committee to have informal meeting at Tate's on Saturday afternoon.

New business

Communication/Chain of Command policies (discussed at beginning of meeting, immediately after introductions)

ICS/ARES/RACES Requirements

- Mike discussed how the ICS-200 training works and why we need to have completed it. Tate will place a link for these on the club website. All members are encouraged to complete the training, since this is the first step toward being "useful" in official capacity with the County's Emergency Response team.

Wyoming Medical Center EmComm contact

- Mike McGee at WMC asked for our help in learning how to implement amateur radio in their disaster plan, so we're answering.
- We will be having a presentation with the hospital to discuss amateur radio's role in EmComm and how we can help. A few members

expressed interest in attending the meeting, but it will likely be the officers taking care of this one.

- Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 0900 – we have an open invite to come to any meeting and will coordinate our efforts.

Strategic Plan Questionnaire

- The officers discussed what it's for and why we're doing this; so we as a club can meet people's expectations and move forward.
- There was some discussion that perhaps we're getting a bit ahead of ourselves, and it was explained that this is so we can ensure EVERYONE is having a good time doing what we do best: playing radio!

S-Com Controllers and .940 machine control: Mike, KE7AZF, discussed the history behind KCOFUP's (Brent) offer to donate a controller to the club as a "reward" for seeing the 501(c)(3) process through; now that Brent is aware, he is ready to give us the controller.

- Mike suggested that we need to purchase the second controller, getting both of them to K7YE for setup (and returning HIS controller back to him). The purchase of the second controller has already been voted on and approved, and now it's just time to proceed; Mike will be making the order in the immediate future.

Warren motioned adding a snipe (at cost) to the billboard which includes the repeater frequencies and tone information.

- Tate suggests that we allow the sign to run as-is for now before we add another methods of communication added.
- Mike, KE7AZF, made comment that the main reason for doing this would be for the benefit of hamfest travelers, not for most of the folks already in town.
- Tate amends the motion that we'll go ahead with the snipe, but would like to wait to post it until immediately before the hamfest. Amended motion was seconded by Jay; Motion carried. Warren will get it done and make sure the cost is known before we actually commit.

Jay suggested that we offer to "buy" the repeater in Tate's garage from Jim Doyle by offering him a charitable donation receipt. Some discussion there, and Jay will make the contact there to see if he's interested.

- Location for this repeater, if we DO get it, was discussed.

Discussed having road signs that "advertise" local repeater frequencies for travelers.

- Jay will follow through on this at next business meeting.

FIELD DAY: We're asking for volunteers to help Jay plan Field Day as the "Field Day Committee." Jay has those names, and they will plan and get back to the rest of the group.

- Mike gave background about our informal discussion at last activity meeting.

- Jay told quite a tale about his process of making contact with City Parks to give them information and request permission to use a city park as a field day site. After much runaround with the City folks, City parks are out (since they will not allow us to transmit after 2200). Jay called NCHS and KWHS about using their facility. The Kelly Walsh High School practice field is ours for field day, if we want it, but we have absolutely no “support” services such as electricity, latrine, cover/shelter, firepit/barbecue, etc. So we’re back to Edness Kimball Wilkins State Park (which everyone’s really okay with).
- Tate discussed the true purpose of Field Day, which is a public exposure event. It was discussed to set up TWO locations; one “public” at Washington Park (since we won’t need a “public” site after 2200 anyway) or at KWHS, and the “main” site at EKWSP.
- Lots of side conversation ensued.
- Field Day Committee will get back to us at next business meeting so we can get any other details worked out.

Tate discussed the new section website that will be going up, but isn’t quite ready. Wyomingsection.org

Paul’s uncle has donated to the club a Yaesu FT-1000 that has some receiver problems and Paul is curious what we intend to do with it.

- Mike, KE7AZF, discussed that we can repair it and use it; we can repair it and sell it to purchase 1-2 FT-897D’s for portable or emergency ops.
- Tate made a motion that the radio gets sent to Burghardt’s for repair, seconded by Paul. The idea here is that regardless, if the radio doesn’t work properly, it’s not useful to us or anyone else. Motion carried.
- After the radio is repaired, we will make a decision about final disposition.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Tate and seconded by EVERYONE. **Mike Coley, KE7AZF** adjourned the meeting at **2056**.

Warren made comment that Rev Morton, WS7W, made comment to him on the repeater (before the meeting) about needing to get his 2009 dues paid and that he may take care of that at one of our upcoming Saturday breakfast get-togethers. One of the officers will see that through.

Most of us proceeded on to the Platte River Restaurant for victuals, conversation and the general debauchery that ensues when you get a group of hams together.