

The Casper Amateur Radio Club – W7VNJ

Business Meeting Minutes

2 September, 2009

I. Call to order

CARC President **Mike Coley, KE7AZF** called to order the monthly business meeting of the **Casper Amateur Radio Club** at **1902** on **2 September, 2009** at the Casper office of Wireless Advanced Communications located at 1240 West Collins.

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.

Tate – KA7O

Josh – KA7JUN

Tiffany – W7TIF

Julie – KF7CXJ

Terese

Cecil

Bruce – KF7CFY

Paul – K7RXC

Mike – KE7WQP

Rev – WS7W

Mike – KE7AZF

Warren – KU7D

Jay – W7DRJ

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 Jay. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tate gave the treasurer's report. Repeater controller check has cleared, also paid out a check for \$44.00 for a roll of postage stamps so we could send out the mailers for the special election notice. Current account balance is \$13,233.63, and we have earned a whole .52 in interest income. Power bill is current and paid up with a little over \$100 remaining on account. Motion to accept made by Mike (KE7WQP), second by Paul.

IV. Old Business

- a) **Antenna/Feedline at EOC:** City of Casper is being reviewed by Motorola for a major upgrade and tie-in to the WyoLink system. It is very likely that our antennas and feed-lines will be replaced for us by this project at no cost to us, though nothing for sure. Tate has not determined the specifics from Stu Anderson.
- b) **Educational Committee:** Has not convened as of this date. There is some concern about how to proceed, with a “boot camp” style or with a more traditional program. We will determine how, what, when, etc. and report back to club.
- c) **.940 Repeater Link to Rawlins:** The Rawlins crew is considering a selectable link that will tie these systems in to the Colorado system, giving us continuous coverage from Albuquerque to Casper. This would be an as-needed only (not full-time) link.
 - Discussed the inconsistency with the messaging system in the .235 machine. Tate also told the story about the batteries at the 235 site, where it was determined that the backup battery there had been “cooked” by the charging system. Long story made very short, Tate replaced the system using some deep-cycle batteries that Bruce had donated and a computer UPS system. It’s not the prettiest system, but it will work and will likely keep the system online for approximately one month in the event of a power failure.
- d) **MEETING LOCATION:** The EOC is back to normal and we have been given the green light to proceed with meetings there, so the next meeting will be at the EOC. Special thanks to Wireless Advanced Communications for allowing us to use their offices in the interim.

V. New business

- a) **SPECIAL ELECTION:** Steve, WA2SMS, has resigned as the Vice-President citing work responsibilities. According to the by-laws, this requires the membership to hold a special election to select an interim officer to complete the existing term. Required notification by mail was sent out by the club secretary and we proceed to the special election.
 - Josh, KA7JUN was nominated to be the VP by Steve, WA2SMS (absentee nomination), seconded by Julie.
 - Bruce, KF7CFY was nominated by Paul, seconded by Mike (KE7WQP).
 - Motion was made to close nominations by Tate, seconded by Paul. Votes will be on written ballots. Brent is on the phone, will abstain from voting due to his absence.
 - Josh, KA7JUN was elected Vice-President for the remainder of the term by a significant margin.
- b) Discussed the tower/shack and property on the Goat Ranch to the north of town. There is some interest with the BB Brooks people in allowing us to use

the tower and shack in exchange for some good press. There has been no official discussion there, so it's something to pursue. Sounds like all the old antennas and wires are gone and that the building is in poor shape.

- Rev had used this site before and was able to supply us with the old paperwork, information on the site, as well as provide an oral history so we all know what's been done before we jump in.
 - Warren motions that we create a committee to look into this site and determine its usability/viability and report back to the rest of the club. Motion was seconded by Mike, KE7WQP. Committee is created with Mike (KE7AZF), Bruce and Jay as members.
- c) **Microphone for FT-1000:** Paul motions that the club purchase a microphone for the FT-1000, since it's not really usable without one and we don't have one. We estimate them to cost \$30, though Tate has seen them go for \$60.
- Rev mentioned that he may just have a suitable microphone at his house in a drawer somewhere that he'd be willing to donate/trade to the club. Motion was retracted until we hear from Rev.
- d) **Extra Repeater:** Tate wants the repeater out of his garage, and the option exists for us to bring it to the Wireless Advanced Communications office for a tune-up/overhaul, and ultimately install the thing so it's useful. We might even be able to use the fax line after hours for an auto-patch. We will determine an available repeater pair and get it on the air. Those interested will meet at Tate's house this Saturday morning after breakfast and we'll get it moved.
- e) **Simulated Emergency Test:** Mike (KE7WQP) brought up the possibility of CARC participating in annual the Simulated Emergency Test mentioned in the most recent edition of QST. He was suggesting that we could set up an info booth somewhere to show us, out in the field, using the equipment.
- Mike (KE7AZF) is going to make the point made to those that matter that we are interested in participating and we'll see when/where things are going to happen.
- f) **Editorial Comment:** Tate wants to drive home the point that while we're amateurs, we are professional communicators. Everything we do and say, how we look and present ourselves should be professional.

VI. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Paul and seconded by Mike (KE7WQP). **Mike Coley, KE7AZF** adjourned the meeting at **2021**.