

The Casper Amateur Radio Club – W7VNJ

Business Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2011

I. Call to order

The CARC Secretary, Paul Long, K7RXC, called to order the monthly business meeting on the Casper Amateur Radio Club at 1900 MST on January 5, 2011 at the Natrona County Emergency Operations Center. Tate, KA7O, took over the meeting at 1902 MST and presided over it until its conclusion.

II. Attendance Roster

The following persons were present. Note: Asterisk indicates an associate member or a visitor. Per club by-laws meeting are open to the public, but only full members in good standing are allowed to vote on club business.

Mike – KE7AZF, President
Tate – KA7O, Vice President
Paul – K7RXC, Secretary
Bruce – KF7CFY, Treasurer
Mike – KE7WQP
Don – N7RQX
Mike – AE7EC
Jay – W7DRJ
Ben – KF7LFN
Chuck – KF7GNB
Warren – KU7D*
Kirk – KI7YY*
Paul – KB7FGN*
Jack Burn, associate member*

III. Minutes from Last Meeting

CARC Secretary, Paul Long, K7RXC, read the minutes from the last meeting. Upon motion by Mike, KE7WQP, to accept minutes as read, Jay, W7DRJ, requested that the minutes be amended to indicate Warren's, KU7D, objection to how Dave's, N0AXE, equipment was initially handled by some members of the club. After some discussion, Mike, KE7WQP, moved that the amended minutes be approved by the club, and Chuck, KF7GNB seconded the motion. The motion carried with one objection from Warren, KU7D.

IV. Old business

Status report of Dave's, N0AXE, radio equipment: Tate, KA7O, asked if the committee had done anything since its forming. Bruce, KF7CFY, informed the club, that they (he and Josh, KA7JUN) had talked informally, but haven't met yet. Tate discussed the methods of identification that the club would use to commemorate Dave and maintain custody of the donated equipment. Also, the removal of the antenna at Dave location was discussed. The proposals were referenced to the committee for future consideration. The removal of the antenna was tabled until next spring.

The upgrade of the 145.235 MHz repeater site: According to Tate, KA7O, the possibility of the upgrade is still in the air; and therefore, is presently tabled until further notice.

LORAN-C station: The LORAN-C station project is still held in abeyance until Bruce, KF7CFY, can talk to those who have the authority to approve our participation at the Gillette LORAN-C station. He assured the club that dialogue with those persons would occur in the next few days.

North Pole Net: Jay, W7DRJ, presented radiograms that the club would send out tonight concerning follow-up of the North Pole Net traffic. Paul, K7RXC, suggested that Bruce, KF7CFY, write a check of \$3.52 to Jay to cover the cost of postage.. The general consensus was that this suggestion was appropriate. Paul assured the club that these radiograms would be mailed that night. The files for this year's project were handed over to Paul for storage for next year's North Pole Net project. Chuck, KF7GNB, suggested that next year's project be held on Black Friday (the day after Thanksgiving) to assure better foot traffic. The club thought that was a good idea and that it would consider that in next year's planning. Paul reminded the club that TV-13 covered the event as well as, per Jay, the newspaper.

SKYWARN Appreciation Day: Tate, KA7O, asked who went to this event. W7DRJ, K7RXC, KE7WQP, AE7EC, and KF7GNB stated that they went to Riverton, via Jay, W7DRJ providing the ride and participated in various activities. Everyone who attended stated that it was a good experience.

V. New business:

Tax-exempt status: Tate, KA7O, informed the club, that all the required documents for our 501(C)3 status were filed last year, and that the next required documents wouldn't need to be filed until October 2011.

New membership for 2011: As we have modified the eligibility period for membership, methods of notification were discussed. Tate, KA7O, suggested that we use the club's email reflector as the major method for notification. The club vice president and secretary will touch bases in the near future concerning the club's membership notification. A present membership list was generated at the meeting

with Jay's, W7DRJ, initial help. The list was completed and the club secretary took possession of it.

This year's hamfest: Tate, KA7O, stated that this year's hamfest arrangements have not been picked up by any ham club entity. One suggestion was a fairground situation as opposed to a convention setting. The date for this year's anticipated event is Memorial Day weekend, but other than that nothing else has developed.

Congestion on the 146.94 MHz repeater: According to Tate, KA7O, some local hams have expressed dislike for increased link traffic on the .94 machine. Tate suggested that those who are unhappy with the present situation move off to the 146.64 MHz repeater as that has the same coverage.

Field Day Planning: It was brought up by Tate, KA7O, that the field day 2011 should be thought about from now until the big event. One possibility for a site was the Casper Planetarium. Also, the Muddy Mountain campsite was suggested as a possible field day site. Paul, KB7FGN, brought up the problem with indeterminate fees being assessed over the years with campsites. The Planetarium was thought to be a better site for its satellite and ISS possibilities during field day. In a related discussion the Planetarium was thought to be a good possibility for the North Pole Net project. Mike, KE7AZF, thought that the North Pole net project could be a multiple event during the holiday season with the Planetarium being a good place to hold it.

Activity meeting: Tate, KA7O, stated that the theme of the next activity meeting would be the building of power supplies from computers. Jay, W7DRA and Mike, AE7EC, suggested that the club go to the landfill and ask Mr. David Jordan if we could extract power supplies. That possibility was going to be explored.

Mass mailing for new members: Jay, W7DRJ, told the club that he had gleaned a list of hams in the Casper area and suggested that the club use it to generate a mass mailing to invite current and recently expired hams to the club meetings. One reason would be to help those who had expired to renew, and the other reason would be to ask those who were current to join the club.

VE sessions: Don, N7RQX, asked in the meeting when the next VE session would be?

WYOCOMM link: Paul, KB7FGN, gave a few remarks about the current status of the WYOCOMM link.

Response to Don's question: Warren, KU7D, assured the club that a VE class would be set-up with testing to follow in the near future. Tim, AB7BJ, with the Platte River Radio community is in cooperation with our club concerning the next VE session and test. He also stated that a short-notice test could be scheduled whenever

someone thought they were ready to test. Another VE concern was the need to establish a separate banking account for the VE portion of the club. Currently, the club has in its possession \$247 of VE funds that do not belong to the club. Warren suggested that two of the current club officers go to the bank and set up a separate account for that purpose. Warren also made an accounting of \$1.65 for Ben's, KF7LFN, test last June during field day. Jay, W7DRJ, asked Warren who was accountable for the VE funds. Warren and Tate stated that the VE's were accountable for their own generated funds. The club president and treasurer stated that they would go to the bank and set the separate account up.

Membership by virtue of passing a club VE technician test: Jay, W7DRJ, raised a concern about whether or not a radio amateur by virtue of passing the technician's test at one of our club VE sessions was a member in good standing. He stated that there was confusion about this matter during the last officer's election. Warren thought they were voting members whereas Tate, KA7O, thought otherwise. It was decided that a closer inspection of the bylaws might solve this dispute. Jay said that the current changes in the bylaws were not transmitted to him the Wyoming Secretary of State. Warren blamed the Secretary of State for that omission. The club decided on a new password for the "members only" section of the website.

Adjournment of the meeting: Warren, KU7D, moved that the meeting be adjourned and Mike, KE7WQP, seconded the motion. The approved the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 2039 MST.