

*NOTE: The 1996 in the title below is a typo. These are the March 1997 minutes.*

**Meeting of the Board of  
Directors of  
The Brazos Valley Amateur  
Radio Club  
March 6, 1996**

A quorum of the Board of Directors met on the MERA 145.47 repeater on March 6, 1997. This was the third meeting of the calendar year. The meeting was called to order at 7:28 P.M. by President, Gailen Marshall -- N4SKR.

The following Board Members and guests were present: Gailen Marshall -- N4SKR, Rick Hiller -- W5RH, Terri Van Slyke -- W5BKK, Nizar Mullani -- K0NM, Jackie Burton -- KC5OHJ, John Dryton -- KM5HP, Terry McCoy -- W5TEM, Bud King -- N5UOG, Ron Grimes -- WA5SCE, Mike Hardwick -- N5VCX, Scott Pederson -- KI5DR, Allen Brier -- WB5BIR, Randy Pollard -- AK5G, Joe Sam -- KM5DG, Claude Sessions -- K5HFY, Carl Hacker -- KB5LDY, Sam Wilson -- N5CPA, Jack Van Demark -- WN5A, and Pete Norris -  
- KJ5SS.

Vice President and Program Chairman, Rick Hiller -- W5RH, stated that programs had been scheduled through July. These programs include: Houston Amateur Television Society, Alan Cross with ARRL, QRP, transmitter fingerprinting, kit building, and refurbishing old radios. He also said that last month's meeting had good attendance.

Corresponding Secretary, John Dryton -- KM5HP, reported that the membership roster had been updated and that copies would be available at March's meeting. He also said that Technical Corner topics would include RF safety, antennas, and SAREX.

Recording Secretary, Terri Van Slyke -- W5BKK, presented the January and February minutes. The minutes were approved with a motion that passed unanimously. She introduced the topic of what kind of food to have at the upcoming B-VARC picnic in April. After much discussion, it was decided that the picnic would be catered. A motion was made to authorize Terri to arrange for a barbecue dinner in the \$ 6.00 - \$ 7.00 a plate range. The club would also furnish drinks in addition to the tea usually included with the meal. This motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer, Nizar Mullani -- K0NM, was present for a treasurer's report, but much of his transmission was lost due to a battery problem.

Board Member, Bud King -- N5UOG, had nothing to report.

Board Member, Jackie Burton -- KC5OHJ, had nothing to report.

Board Member, Terry McCoy -- W5TEM, had nothing to report.

Newsletter Editor and Public Service Chairman, Scott Pederson -- KI5DR, stated that he had 6 people signed up for the K-9 Fun Run and needed two more. He also said he had received comments

by e-mail regarding the print size in March's newsletter. He stated that he had used the smaller type in order to fit everything in and asked if there was a way to expand the newsletter beyond its current 10-page length. He said it would be worth it to expand the number of pages, even if it would cost more.

Claude Sessions -- K5HFY, stated that he had checked into a bulk rate permit, that it was not economically viable and difficult to use. After much discussion regarding postal rates and cost, it was determined it would cost too much to expand the newsletter at this time. Nizar Mullani -- K0NM stated that the newsletter was available on the Web.

Gailen Marshall -- N4SKR, said that the Web version was abbreviated. He said the newsletter was also available by e-mail. Bud King -- N5UOG, said that 74 club members currently have e-mail.

Scott Pederson -- K15DR, stated that the electronic version requires a reader that can be downloaded. Nizar Mullani --

K0NM, suggested polling the membership to determine how many would like to receive their newsletters by e-mail. This was approved with a motion that passed unanimously. Carl Hacker -- KB5LDY, suggested sending an announcement to members with e-mail regarding the availability of the newsletter on line. This was approved with a motion that passed unanimously.

Board Member, Jackie Burton -- KC5OHJ, reported that she had not received a newsletter by e-mail or regular mail. She had requested her newsletter in plain text. Scott Pederson - KI5DR, stated that it was difficult to convert the newsletter to plain text.

After some discussion, it was decided that the newsletter would not be available in plain text on line.

President, Gailen Marshall -- N4SKR, stated that there had been some interest in items with the B-VARC logo, such as shirts and caps. Allen Brier -- WB5BIR, offered to check into finding a supplier for these items.

B-VARC Rag Chew Net Manager, Sam Wilson -- N5CPA, reported that the net was doing well, with 8-17 check-ins per week for the month of February.

President, Gailen Marshall -- N4SKR, presented the topic of acquiring a vanity call sign for the club. He stated that he had contacted Trustee, George Jolly -- N5DE, who will allow the club to do this. He said there would be a contest held to choose a list of call signs, with the Board approving the final list. Allen Brier - WB5BIR, suggested getting started on the contest soon, as many of the 1x2 and 2x1 call signs are running out. Rick Hiller -- W5RH, volunteered to download the list of call signs available and make a presentation to the club at the next meeting. He asked if the \$30.00 required fee had been approved by the Board and Terry McCoy -- W5TEM, said that it had been approved.

Public Service Chairman, Scott Pederson -- KI5DR, reported that he is preparing a proposal for a Public Service Awards program.

Vice President, Rick Hiller -- W5RH, stated that some members did not like the Board Meeting on the air and that a

Board Meeting in person might be needed. Bud King - N5UOG, agreed with this. Nizar Mullani -- K0NM, suggested meeting 1/2 hour before the regular meeting. Terry McCoy -- W5TEM, said that it was his understanding that Gailen Marshall -- N4SKR, had agreed to run for President on the condition that Board Meetings be held on the air as it was difficult for him to get to Sugarland twice a month. He also said that he liked the Board Meetings on the air. Rick Hiller -- W5RH, said that he liked the Board Meetings on the air, but felt that a formal meeting time was needed for paper work, etc. It was generally agreed that the Board would need to meet in person on occasion.

Allen Brier -- WB5BIR reported on plans for Field Day. He said that he needed insurance forms. He said there was a need to rent or buy a tent and he will bring prices to the next Board meeting. Pete Norris -- KJ5SS, said that Nizar Mullani -- K0NM, had the needed insurance forms.

Carl Hacker -- KB5LDY, stated that he would like to participate in the K-9 Fun Run as he had done in the past, and had not been contacted.

With no further business, this meeting was adjourned by President, Gailen Marshall --N4SKR, at 8:55 P.M., with a motion, second, and unanimous vote.