
Board Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
March 9, 2000

President Larry Jacobson called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm with a quorum. Those in attendance were president Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, vice president Glen Jenkins - WB4KTF, treasurer Cameron Mitchell - K5CAM, past president John Moore - KK5NU, 3-year board member Mike Hardwick - N5VCX, 2-year board member Robert Moore - KK5UO, 1-year board member Darrell Kirk - KC5JAR. Ralph Higginbotham - KM5MG filled in for Irv Smith, who was out of town. Visiting was Dick Harrison - KB5WZI and Anita Kirk.

Since recording secretary by Doug Woodruff was not present and there were no minutes from the last board meeting to approve. The approval of the minutes was tabled until the next meeting per the request of Larry Jacobson. The motion was made and seconded.

No report was available from the corresponding secretary since Irv was out of town.

Treasurer report by Cameron was presented. Copies may be obtained from Cameron. Motion to accept was made by John Moore and Mike Hardwick 2nd. Report was accepted

Vice president report by Glen discussed upcoming programs. For April 6th will have model airplanes from the model airplane club that also uses that community center. On May 4th, Dale, KC2PZ, will discuss mobile operations on with highlights on antennas, interference, and mounting problems. No other programs have been set for June or further. Randy Pollard will probably have a program on repeaters in either June or July.

Larry presented a *Thank you* letter that had been received from Scott Medbury on the sale of the Girl Scout cookies at the last meeting. Scott thanked B-VARC for the opportunity to have the sale. It went very well for the Girl Scouts.

Old Business:

A code practice class later in the year was discussed. The location was the main focus, with the Red Cross building being the location that everyone preferred. Mike said that the Red Cross is a good location, a 60 day lead time for the request is a must. It was determined that the best time to have the class would be in the months of September and October. Mike said that he would apply for the classroom beginning on Tuesday for September 5th through the end of October. It was mentioned that other clubs such as ECHO might be interested to join in with the class.

The web space has been renewed at no charge at HAL-PC by John Moore. He said that the next expiration date will be 9/29/2000.

John said that he will continue doing the bulletin for a few more months but a place will need to be determined on where the bulletin can be done.

John reported that as of the BOD meeting the web-site has had 984 hits since January 1, 2000.

President report by Larry. Nothing new at this time. He said that he is still looking for a chairperson for Field Day to coordinate the event. He is looking for volunteers to help with the event as well. Larry said that he will be sending out e-mails to some of the club members.

Larry brought up the recent problems with the MERA repeater. The problems were discussed by Mike, Larry and Dick. The problems were centered on a bad CTCSS tone board that caused an intermittent failure whether it was on or not. Other problems were discussed and was passed along to Dick, who is a MERA board member. It was brought up that a "pass the hat" time may need to be done at one of the meetings to help with the funding of the repeater. Dick said that it would not be a problem doing that and in the past (last October) MERA was at the meetings requesting funds.

Mike brought up the recent news on the two hams that were fined \$8,000 each for interference on the MERA repeater. He said that this needs to be stressed more at the meetings to let other people know that the FCC is still enforcing the rules and even if it takes a while, the squirrels do get caught. Mike suggested that Larry should write something for the newsletter outlining the people that got caught. Larry said that he would write something for the next newsletter. There was a short discussion on a possible new squirrel that was on the repeater one day. The new squirrel was extremely vulgar during all transmissions. The squirrel exhibited no patterns similar to the past squirrels and he gave no indication of any type of identification. Mike said that even though there were two people caught, there may be more squirrels that were never caught.

Larry discussed his suggested changes to the by-laws to be discussed by the board and published in the next newsletter for review by the membership. The proposed changes will appear in the March newsletter and then can be voted on by the membership at the April general meeting which will have a large turnout due to the model airplane program.

New business:

Ralph Higgonbotham - KM5MG requested help on an estate sale of a friend of his, Jack McCallon - W5QMY, SK. Ralph has inventoried the equipment and presented a list to the club to ask for help on disposing the equipment for Jack's widow. John mentioned that Jack WN5A or Louis KD5GM would be two people to contact to help get fair prices on the equipment. Ralph was given their numbers to give them a call.

Dick Harrison, KB5WZI, discussed his thoughts on the proposed change in the by-laws on mail notice, listed in Article 5, Section F. Dick stated that he was against the change and that it could be a fatal action on the club. He said that he felt that the

move was not necessary and that any type of mail notification should be maintained at all costs. Larry discussed the proposed change as a necessary move to save funds. John said that a large percentage of the club membership has e-mail and notifications can be electronically as well. Dick was encouraged to attend the next general meeting to discuss the change and present his ideas on what could happen if the change is made.

Motion was made to adjourn by John and seconded by Darrell. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by board member Mike Hardwick -
NSVCX