



NARS Board Meeting Minutes March 17, 2023

Northwest Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 11483
Spring, TX 77391

Board Attendance

✓ - In Attendance, X – Absent

Board Voting Privileged Officers		Board Non-Voting Associate Members	
✓	President: Ron Matussek, WA6TQH	✓	Admin. Secretary: Neal Naumann, N5EN
✓	Vice President: Paul Kent, KI5FJS	✓	Social Media Liaison: Sam Labarbera, N6HB
✓	Treasurer: Tom Hoherd, KK5YU	X	Public Information Liaison: Sheree Horton, WM5N
✓	Secretary: Brandon Rogers, K5BLR	✓	Webmaster: Bill Buoy, N5BIA
✓	Director: Rich Jones, W5VEK	✓	Repeater Team Lead: Marty Fitzgerald, W5MF
✓	Director: Sam Labarbera, N6HB	X	ARRL/VEC Liaison: Sheree Horton, WM5N
		✓	Repeater Trustee: Paul Owen, N5NXS

Meeting Logistics

Meeting was in person at Klein Fire Station #3 starting at 6:00pm on March 17, 2023.

Minutes

- I. Ron Matussek, WA6TQH, welcomed the attendees and called the meeting to order.
 - a. Official welcome
 - b. All future board meetings will be same day as general meeting the third Friday of the month.
- II. Secretary's Report
 - a. The minutes were reviewed from the previous Board Meeting on February 17, 2023.

http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/2023/BoardMeeting_20230217.pdf

- b. After review, Paul Kent motioned to approve the minutes.
 - i. Tom Hoherd seconded the motion.
 - ii. The minutes were approved.
- III. Treasurer's Report
 - a. The following financial reports were presented to the board:

http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/financial/TreasurerReport_Mar2023.pdf
 - b. Brandon Rogers motioned to approve the minutes.
 - c. Paul Kent seconded the motion.
 - d. Treasurer's report approved by board.
- IV. Administrative Secretary Report

- a. The Administrative Secretary indicated that due renewal reminders had been sent to all members who were delinquent or coming up for renewal.
- b. The current membership report is:

ARRL members = 120
Non-members = 41
Total membership = 161

75 % of NARS members are also ARRL members

V. Reports of Standing Committees

a. **Repeater Committee**– Marty W5MF (Lead Repeater Team Engineer)

- i. General Report
 - 1. Repeater is now working well
 - 2. EchoLink is up and running again.
 - 3. Some intermittent reports of issues with the repeater. Sounds like this is due to crossband and Allstar repeaters that may be misconfigured.
 - 4. AllStar/EchoLink node was tweaked and everyone seems very happy with it.
- ii. DSTAR Report
 - 1. Nothing new has been communicated
 - 2. Some rumors that this activity is some time in the future
 - 3. No new activity that needs to be addressed by the board.
- iii. ACTION: Paul Kent will map out the membership to understand if there are areas of membership that can be served better.

b. **ARRL/VEC Liaison** – Sheree Horton WM5N – VE Session Results

- i. Sheree provided these results from the February VE Session:

http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/2023/VE%20Session%20Reports/VE%20Session%20Report_20230211.pdf

c. **Weekly VHF Net Update** – Kirc Breden

- i. Still have a rotation of the 3 Net Control Operators
- ii. Averaging about 17 check-ins this month
- iii. Training is still happening as new Net Control Operators are onboarded
- iv. Question from Rich Jones
 - 1. At least one Net Control Operator is hard to hear.
 - 2. Several Board Members offered to help improve reception (e.g., giving them a better antenna) for any net control operator, if needed (and possible)

d. **Weekly DMR Net Update** – Sam N6HB

- i. 10 individuals checked in to the DMR Net this past week
- ii. Suggestion to remove color code and Brandmeister specific information from the VHF Net script.
- iii. ACTION: Sam and Kirc to review the script to clean it up.

- e. **Update on Sociate sites** – Sam N6HB
 - i. About 140+ members on Facebook
 - ii. All good, allowing folks with call signs and know the rules in and encouraging them to join the club.

VI. Old Business

- a. Update on non-profit review, 501 c3 organization – Tom Hoherd KK5YU
 - i. Begin process of filing for 501 c3.
 - ii. Rich Jones will contact attorney used by ESD for assistance in preparing applications and filing.
 - 1. Contacted, but did not get a call back.
 - 2. Rich will contact another attorney to describe the help we need and get a general estimate
- b. Update on Trailer project i.e., funds for wrap design – Paul Kent – K15FJS
 - i. http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/2023/Other%20Files/Trailer%20Design.png
 - ii. Some issues with the images which were low-resolution and they needed to be replaced
 - iii. NASA gifted an image of the ISS with compliments to replace the previous image.
 - iv. The wrap company is donating the wrap (~\$4500)
 - v. Should be completed over the next couple of months.
- c. April Meeting – Presentation, discussions, suggestions – Going forward each board member on a rotating basis will be responsible for establishing General Meeting presentations.
- d. Plans to sell off donated equipment – Paul Kent K15FJS.
 - i. The club has a large amount of donated equipment to sell
 - ii. Paul and Rich will be testing some of the Collins equipment soon
 - iii. Rich: How do we market this so that people can see and buy the equipment?
 - 1. Paul: A couple of things:
 - a. Offer to the club for purchase
 - b. A radio-specific auction house will buy in bulk and auction off
 - c. Otherwise will sell via online services

VII. New Business

- a. Completed Facility usage reservation documents – Yr-2023 – Ron Matusek
- b. It was offered (on loan to NARS) a D-Star system 2m, 70cm, 1.2gig - Update
- c. NARS “Field Day” planning
 - i. Coordinator – Robert Ewers K9HOU has volunteered for this position. – Organizational plans.
 - ii. We found 2 of the 3 band pass filters in the trailer (the third may be in the trailer).
 - iii. Rob would like to see 4 band pass filters for Field Day.
 - 1. Do we really need more than 3, considering the number of operators?
 - 2. Likely would not have the number of operators or band space to operate that many radios

VIII. **MOVE TO CLOSE & DISMISS**

- a. Rich moved to close the meeting.

- b. Paul Kent offered a second to the motion.
- c. Meeting adjourned @ 6:55pm