



NARS Board Meeting Minutes February 16, 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 Matusek, WA6TQH	✓	Admin. Secretary: Neal Naumann, N5EN
X	Vice President: Paul Kent, KI5FJS	✓	Social Media Liaison: Sam Labarbera, N6HB
✓	Treasurer: Tom Hoherd, KK5YU	X	Public Information Liaison: Sheree Horton, WM5N
X	Secretary: Brandon Rogers, K5BLR	✓	Webmaster: Bill Buoy, N5BIA
✓	Director: Rich Jones, W5VEK	✓	Repeater Team Lead: Mike Pate, K5MAP
X	Director: TBN	X	ARRL/VEC Liaison: Sheree Horton, WM5N
		✓	Repeater Trustee: Paul Owen, N5NXS

Meeting Logistics

Meeting was in person at HCESD 16 Admin – 18606 Stuebner Airline 77379 starting at 6:05pm on February 16, 2023.

Minutes

- I. Ron Matusek, WA6TQH, welcomed the attendees and called the meeting to order.
 - a. Official welcome – Recognition of visiting members.
 - b. Overview of board meeting process rules.
 - c. General Meeting Presentation – Show & Tell Projects along with a limited swap or sale of equipment.
 - d. Openings
 - i. “Public Information Officer” effective January 2024 (a) See By-Laws for position description.
 - ii. Director, a voting position
 1. Several members have expressed interested in serving
 - e. **Public Comments**
 - i. Individuals who are not voting board members will be allocated three minutes to share material you would like the Board to consider or items you would like to present to the Board.

- II. Secretary’s Report
 - a. The minutes were reviewed from the previous Board Meeting on November 17, 2023. http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/2023/BoardMeeting_20231215.pdf
 - i. No Board Meeting during January due to the Banquet
 - b. All minutes are posted so that all members can access them on the Club Document Repository at http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/

III. Treasurer's Report

- a. The following financial reports were presented to the board:
http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/financial/TreasurerReport_Jan2024.pdf
- b. Banquet action brought in around \$200
- c. A few checks to pay are outstanding:
 - i. P.O. Box - \$216 (per year)
 - ii. GoDaddy Web Hosting – \$178.96
 - iii. Trailer Registration – \$61.28
- d. Approval
 - i. Rich Jones motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report
 - ii. Tom offered a second to the motion
 - iii. The motion passed

IV. Administrative Secretary Report

- a. The current membership report is:

ARRL members = 113

Non-members = 42

Total membership = 155

73 % of NARS members are also ARRL members

3 new members this month

Groups.io

58% are Members

23% are not Members

V. Reports of Standing Committees

- a. **Repeater Committee**– Mike Pate
 - i. Mike updated the board on the estimated cost of installing Allstar nodes at the Galleria site and internet options. Internet at the downtown site will be more difficult to establish and will be the last site the team will connect to, if it is economically feasible.
 - ii. Mike also prepared a detailed status Powerpoint presentation which was presented to the general membership at the Feb NARS meeting. A copy of the presentation is available on the website here:
[http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/mtg_pres/NARS_Allstar_Project_Update - K5MAP.pdf](http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/mtg_pres/NARS_Allstar_Project_Update_-_K5MAP.pdf)
 - iii. Downtown Repeater
 1. Mike Pate previewed the Repeater Status presentation to the board prior to the General meeting.
 - a. The 66 controller was replaced and is now standalone
 - b. We moved back to the old antenna
 - c.

- iv. **Galleria Repeater**
 - 1. Able to access the Galleria repeater and it was replaced. However, it later failed. We will have access again on March 16th.
 - 2. We have the equipment ready to add Allstar to the Galleria repeater and repair the repeater on the net visit on March 16th.

- b. **ARRL/VEC Liaison – Sheree Horton WM5N – VE Session Results**
 - i. Sheree provided these results from the November VE Session:
http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/2024/VE%20Session%20Reports/VE%20Session%20Report_20240210.pdf

- c. **Weekly VHF Net Update – Mike**
 - i. There has been trouble with having the VHF and UHF repeaters linked for both the VHF and DMR nets.
 - ii. Discussed going with alphabetic checkins or by method (i.e. RF, Internet, hotspot, etc.)
 - iii. A recommendation was provided to operate the 146.66 machine as standalone, which will be tried next week.
 - iv. Discussed the possibility of combining the nets into one net possibly starting at 7pm
 - v. Mike Pate recommended a survey of the membership to see how they feel about one net and start time/day.
 - vi. Average net participation about 14 to 16 per night for each VHF and UHF.

- d. **Weekly DMR Net Lead – Mike**
 - i. Mike indicated that there are no comments to share
 - ii. Mike Pate indicated that there are some issues with DMR/Brandmeister
 - 1. Signal was not getting from hotspot to the talk group and visa versa
 - 2. Submitted a ticket to Brandmeister, but not solution was offered.
 - 3. Another ticket requesting configuration has been submitted, but still waiting
 - iii. 17 check-ins on the DMR net.

- e. **Social – Sam Labarbera**
 - i. A number of folks are interested in getting Facebook, but not willing to answer some of the basic questions. As a result, membership on Facebook is flat.
 - ii. Facebook group is still active

- f. **Update on ARRL Website – NARS Information**
 - i. No further action is continuing for the ARRL website

VI. **Old Business**

- a. Next Steps in upgrading our NARS mobile trailer. – Paul Kent KI5FJS
 - i. No action to report at this time.
- b. Plans to sell off donated equipment – Paul Kent KI5FJS.

- i. The board discussed a used equipment event at ESD 16 to try and eliminate the large amount of material that is currently stored in the rental space. Ron will be asking someone to coordinate the event, possibly in April or May.

VII. New Business

- a. Rich Jones presented a form that retailers will require to purchase items using the Club 501c tax exemption.
- b. Paul Owen, N5NXS, informed the Board of his efforts to get Gordon West to present a program on Zoom. The board had no objections to Paul planning this presentation at the April meeting.

VIII. **MOVE TO CLOSE & DISMISS**

- a. Ron moved to close the meeting.
- b. Rich offered a second to the motion.
- c. Meeting adjourned @ 6:55pm