



NARS Board Meeting Minutes March 15, 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
✓	Vice President: Paul Kent, KI5FJS	X	Social Media Liaison: Sam Labarbera, N6HB
✓	Treasurer: Tom Hoherd, KK5YU	X	Public Information Liaison: Sheree Horton, WM5N
✓	Secretary: Brandon Rogers, K5BLR	X	Webmaster: Bill Buoy, N5BIA
✓	Director: Rich Jones, W5VEK	X	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 6:03pm on March 15, 2023.

Minutes

- I. Ron Matusek, WA6TQH, welcomed the attendees and called the meeting to order.
 - Official welcome – Recognition of visiting members.
 - Overview of board meeting process rules.
 - General Meeting Presentation – Rich Jones K5VEK will list the June Field
 - Day actions for discussion and organization.
 - Opening – “Public Information Officer” effective January 2024
 - See By-Laws for position description.
 - Opening – “Director” effective January 2024
 - See By-Laws for position description.

- II. Public Comments
 - a. Individuals who are **non-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.

- III. Secretary’s Report
 - a. The minutes were reviewed from the previous Board Meeting on February 16, 2024: http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/2024/BoardMeeting_20240216.pdf
 - b. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Board Meeting
 - i. Paul Kent motioned to accept the Secretary’s Report/Minutes
 - ii. Rich Jones offered a second to the motion
 - iii. The motion passed

- 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/

IV. Treasurer's Report

- a. The following financial reports were presented to the board:
http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/financial/TreasurerReport_Feb2024.pdf
- b. Question from Paul Kent
 - i. Do the numbers at the bottom reflect expenses or are they a forecast? If so, should they be set as negative numbers?
 - ii. Tom's Answer: These are notes, not financial forecasts, per se, so it isn't intended to be part of the ledger, yet.
- c. Approval
 - i. Brandon motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report
 - ii. Paul offered a second to the motion
 - iii. The motion passed

V. Administrative Secretary Report

- a. The current membership report is:

ARRL members = 113

Non-members = 41

Total membership = 154

73 % of NARS members are also ARRL members

0 new members this month

VI. Reports of Standing Committees

- a. **Repeater Committee**— Mike Pate
 - i. Mike is out due to illness/injury.
 - ii. Mike provided a report via a recent email that indicated the following:
 1. Net check-ins are trending downward.
 2. David WJ9O is now a member of the team. He makes his debut next Wednesday on VHF.
 3. VHF net is stand-alone
 4. Allstar has not been reliable; it is recommended to not continue using it with the DMR net.
 5. DMR worked reliably this past week (Klein, Richmond & Hot Spots). Allstar was down for some reason and that may be the reason.
 6. Would appreciate a heads up if the repeater team is aware of a problem before conducting a net.
 - iii. Getting close to the next net... Can we get someone to contact Mike to see what we can do for the repeater?

1. Paul Kent volunteered to contact Mike to see what can be done

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_20240309.pdf

c. **Weekly VHF Net Update** – Mike

- i. Mike sent the following check-in report for the Nets:

	Date	Time	Net Control Station	Name	Backup NC	# of Check-Ins
15	February 20, 2024	0700 PM	WA2TOP	Mike	N5XJB	15
16	February 21, 2024	0800 PM	KF5IUM	Mike	N5XJB	14
17	February 27, 2024	0700 PM	KF5IUM	Mike	WA2TOP	13
18	February 28, 2024	0800 PM	WA2TOP	Mike	K15VPF	9
19	March 5, 2024	0700 PM	WA2TOP	Kirc	WA2TOP	11
20	March 6, 2024	0800 PM	N5XJB	Kirc	KF5IUM	11
21	March 12, 2024	0700 PM	WA2TOP	Mike	N5XJB	16
22	March 13, 2024	0800 PM	WA2TOP	Mike	N5XJB	11

- ii. Re-discussed the possibility of combining the nets into one net possibly starting at 7pm
 1. The board was reminded that this question was raised because, if all the tools are working, then the DMR, VHF, Allstar, etc. are all on the same bands/modes. This would make both Nets *feel* redundant.
 2. However, since the technology is not working perfectly yet, it was also suggested to postpone this discussion until the technology is stabilized.
- iii. Rich Jones and Paul Owen recommended a survey of the membership to see how they feel about one net and start time/day.

d. **Weekly DMR Net Lead** – Mike

- i. Mike was not present at a meeting

e. **Social** – Sam Labarbera

- f. Sam provided the following report via email:
 - i. 173 members on Facebook and quite a bit of activity this month
 - ii. Quite a bit of activity during this past month

VII. **Old Business**

- a. Next Steps in upgrading our NARS mobile trailer. – Paul Kent K15FJS
 - i. Internal trailer workspace configuration.
 - ii. Proposed Equipment. Donated vs Purchase
- b. Plans to sell off donated equipment – Paul Kent K15FJS. – ONGOING
 - iii. Considering (swap meet type) sale in the next couple of months at Admin
 - iv. ESD#16 – Need coordinator for this event.

VIII. **New Business**

- a. Encourage donations under 501 (c) (3)
- b. Looking for a volunteer Field Day coordinator for this year 2024. If interested, please contact a board member.
- c. Tom Hoherd

- i. On Stripe system, an email is sent out when people use the system to pay dues.
- ii. Emails being sent about payment when Stripe transaction hasn't been completed.
- iii. Tom and Neal will observe the emails to make sure we're watching this and ensuring there are no issues.
- d. Scott will play announcements for the NARS VHF and DMR nets on his repeater to try and drive traffic to the net

IX. **MOVE TO CLOSE & DISMISS**

- a. Brandon moved to close the meeting.
- b. Rich offered a second to the motion.
- c. Meeting adjourned @ 6:34pm

Post Meeting Note: A comment came to the board came up about the [missing] presence of the club and trailer at the BVARC HamFest. No comment provided from the board.