

CCARC Fall Meeting

Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2012

I. Call to order

Chairman Doug Sharp called to order the regular meeting of the Colorado Council of Amateur Radio Clubs at 1300 L on October 20, 2012 at Glenwood Springs.

II. Roll call

Chairman Sharp asked each person present to identify him or her self. The following persons identified themselves as present. Doug Sharp K2AD; Jack Ciaccia WM0G; John Maxwell W0VG; Tony Ferris NA0US; Dan Meyer N0PUF ; George Packer WB0CBI; Doug Tabor N6UA; Paul Deeth WA2YZT; Joel Talbot N0DNE (guest); Leroy KB0RCI (guest); Bob Witte K0NR; Dan Scott W0RO; Pam Scott W0PRS; Doug Nielson N7LEM; David Balsick WB0DMQ; Philip Schechter W0OJ; Wayne Heinen N0POH; Pamela Henderick KD0GCX (guest); Jim Reimer AC0SO.

Chairman Sharp welcomed club members and individual trustees. He then reminded those present that delegates only vote, except that all members may vote for the Frequency Coordinator.

III. Approval of minutes from Spring 2012 meeting

Chairman Sharp asked for an approval of the minutes. The minutes were posted on the CCARC website.

A motion to approve was made from the floor and seconded.

The minutes were approved by unanimous vote

IV.-Treasure's Report

The treasurer's report was given by the Treasurer Wayne Heinen N0POH

Map sales were reviewed in detail

Non recurring expenses relating to legal fees (see discussion below regarding the Frequency Coordinator position) were presented and were reported as \$131.00.

The current balance in the CCARC treasury is \$4669.50

V- Report on activities pertaining to the position of Frequency Coordinator

Chairman Sharp reported in detail on activities relating to the position of the Frequency Coordinator. A summary of these details is noted here:

Randy Long K7AVV was elected to the position of Frequency Coordinator (FC) at the Spring meeting.

He was trained by the retiring FC Doug Sharp and was to immediately assume the duties of that position. Randy Long was given all of the historical data and original coordinations by Doug Sharp.

Randy Long's home was involved in the Hyde Park fire. It became apparent to the Chairman and the Executive Committee that Mr. Long was not functioning in his new role as FC. Chairman Sharp reached out to Mr. Long who stated "I am out of my life".

After that communication, despite numerous attempts to communicate with Mr. Long, he did not respond. The Board became increasingly aware of a significant backlog of coordination requests that had not been processed (estimated to be around 15 applications).

The bottom line was that the FC Mr. Long was out of touch and not working in his position as FC. This dysfunction had occurred over months. As a result, Chairman Sharp called emergency meetings of the Executive Committee (EC). The EC supported the decisions for Chairman Sharp taking over the back log and after numerous unsuccessful attempts to communicate with Randy Long voted that Mr. Long had "vacated" his position as FC. (see those minutes online for details of the process).

Legal consultation was obtained from Robert Wareham Esq. He suggested that CCARC obtain a Writ of Replevin. (from Wikipedia: **replevin**, sometimes known as "claim and delivery," is a legal remedy for a person to recover goods unlawfully withheld from his or her possession, by means of a special form of legal process in which a court may require a defendant to return specific goods to the plaintiff at the outset of the action (i.e. before judgment). CCARC has filed such a Writ in an attempt to recover all records and archives.

VI. The discussion turned to Chairman Sharp discussing the need to correct/ improve the 144 MHZ FC plan. **A motion was made to correct and modify the related Frequency Utilization Plan and that it be consistent with ARRL Band Plan.**

The motion was seconded from the floor and passed unanimously.

VII. Chairman Sharp discussed the need for a budget allocation of \$300.00 for the annual mailing

Motion to that effect came from the floor and was seconded and approved unanimously without further discussion.

Further discussion ensued about allowing Pikes Peak to complete repairs of their 146.97 repeater and that they had six months which could be extended by the FC 's discretion.

A digital and dual mode update was given and the changes agreed upon at the Spring meeting were made and "enabled".

VIII. Colorado ARRL Section Manager Update (Jack Ciaccia WM0G)

The report was given. Highlights include:

40 clubs are active in the Section

Two new youth clubs were discussed. Including the Denver Council Boy Scouts (KBOBSA)

Mention of the Ham of the Year and Young Ham of the Year

Two ARES articles were published, reporting on activations and action around the Colorado fires.

The mountain emergency radio network is evolving with education, training and 50 new licensees.

There are now local DXCC card checkers

The NTS was discussed and support was encouraged.

The rule changes being evaluated by the FCC were discussed.

IX. HAMCON COLORADO 2013 UPDATE (John Maxwell W0VG)

John gave an update and mentioned the highlights including technical forums, many vendors, expectation of more than 500 people participating, David Sumner and other prominent amateurs are speakers and there are to be numerous activities for non-hams, inexpensive entry. Scheduled for June 28-30 2013

20 minute break

X. CCARC repeater maps were discussed. Maps are water proof but not oil proof. Map sales were discussed as well as using the maps as an alternate form of advertising as a promotional for CCARC.

A motion from the floor was made and seconded to allocate funds to make 600 maps. The motion was modified and then seconded to allocate up to \$1200.00 for the production of maps at the discretion of the Treasurer.

This was approved unanimously

Additional discussion took place: 14er maps will be available with sales supporting BARC groups.

NEW BUSINESS:

AFFIRMATION FROM THE DELEGATES REGARDING THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DECISION TO DECLARE THE FC POSITION AS VACANT.

Chairman Sharp initiated the discussion and detailed the key issues. The EC knew that something needed to be done urgently to meet the needs of the Colorado amateur radio community and moved ahead guided by existing Bylaws.

A motion was made and seconded to affirm the EC action removing Randy Long from the FC position and vacates that position.

There was considerable discussion about removing a non responsive FC. There was discussion reviewing the action, how Randy's health, mental health and situation were considered and actions taken based on the existing bylaws.

The motion was amended to include confirmation of a new FC to the vacated position. This was seconded and the amended motion passed unanimously.

A statement of thanks to the EC for taking these emergency actions was made and was widely agreed upon.

Noted in the discussion:

Every member of the EC put CCARC ahead of any individual agenda

The EC acted in awareness of protecting the 40 year history of service of the CCARC

Xi. Report of activities to recover the FC files from Randy Long.

Chairman Sharp discussed the attempts to recover the FC files that were not successful and that led the need for a Writ of Replevin to retrieve all of the materials in Randy Long's possession.

A hearing in Court is scheduled for October 31, 2012.. Discussion was heard on the importance of retrieving all documents that could be required if any "repeater wars" occurred and if original documents were ever requested by the FCC.

A motion was made and seconded to support the action of recovering the CCARC property by a Writ of Replevin. The motion was modified and seconded to authorize up to \$250.00 in legal costs.

Discussion mentioned the intention of total transparency in this matter. Multiple members discussed the need to put the materials on disk in the future.

The motion on the floor was passed unanimously.

XII Frequency Coordinator Election

The floor was opened for nominations. Doug Sharp nominated Jim Reimer ACOSO. Chairman Sharp discussed Mr. Reimer's qualifications for the FC position. No other nominations were heard.

Motion to close nominations was made and seconded from the floor.

Motion and second to unanimously confirm Jim Reimer ACOSO as Frequency Coordinator was passed unanimously.

XIII. Vote regarding changes to the CCARC Frequency Coordination Policy as submitted at the Spring 2012 meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the future implementation of propagation modeling. There was discussion of fundamental changes to the appeal process to increase fairness for appellant which were included in the revised policy.

There was also discussion of changes relating to mixed mode systems and digital systems.

A vote was called:

All in favor of approval of the changes in the Frequency Coordination Policy as written. This was approved unanimously.

XIV. Discussion of Notice of Proposed Rulemaking FCC 12-121

There was discussion in support of the use of single slot systems. The Executive Committee was charged with writing a reply in support of the proposed changes as being in the public interest. FXD and FSE were supported as not harmful

A motion was made and seconded to respond in the affirmative in this matter. This was passed unanimously.

Additional discussion in support of rural needs and as a representative in a rural location the Secretary (Philip Schechter W00J) was asked to send a response in favor the proposal to decrease the number of Volunteer Examiners to 2 examiners instead of the current requirement for 3. This was felt to be especially important in rural communities where it was more difficult to get Extra Class VEs.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to have the secretary write a letter in support of this change.

General discussion occurred in support of linking repeaters embracing turbo technology.

The Chairman thanked the Ski Country Amateur Radio Club for hosting this meeting. The next scheduled meeting, the Spring Meeting may be sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Ham Radio Club and will be held on April 20, 27 or May 4 at Inspire Health in Longmont, Colorado.

Chairman Sharp closed the meeting at 4:05 pm