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BBARC Minutes of Meeting  
March 14, 2023

The meeting was attended by 19 members and 1 visitor

K5LON.....Lonny.....Van Horn  
KI5ANQ.....Scott.....Alpine  
N5CET.....Charlie.....Alpine  
KI5OQB.....Brad.....Terlingua  
KI5EXF.....Sharon.....Alpine  
K5WSA.....Bill.....Ft. Davis  
KG5ZIB.....Judi.....Ft. Davis  
KE5WCP.....Stephen.....Ft. Davis  
KG5ZIC.....Pam.....Ft. Davis  
K7VEN.....Art.....Ft. Davis (Davis Mountains Resort)  
KE5KNQ.....Rob.....Alpine  
WA5POK.....Mike.....Alpine  
KI5ZVK.....Roy.....Alpine  
KD5KBU.....Jim.....Ft. Davis  
W5NPR.....Billy.....Alpine  
KB5R.....Rusty.....Alpine  
WA5ROE.....Bob.....Alpine  
KG5WT.....Roger.....Marfa  
N5HXZ.....Stewart.....Ft. Davis  
K1MRS.....Mark.....Manchester, NH (visitor)

The location of the meeting was the Mason's building in Alpine. The meeting was called to order at 1905 (7:05 pm) by President Charlie N5CET.

A motion to accept the February minutes was made by Scott KI5ANQ and seconded by Rusty KB5R, the motion carried.

Charlie N5CET, noted that a Treasurer's report was not available. Additionally, he informed the members that Bob WA5ROE had deposited some checks (member dues payments) into the club bank account.

Lonny K5LON gave the Secretary's report. The new repeater is at Gordo's K5CLO ranch, mounted on a trailer at the proposed deployment location. The next steps are to aim the antennas and turn it on, weather permitting. The joint 2-meter net between the BBARC and the Midland Amateur Radio club will have a "trial run" on April 19, 2023. If that is successful, a full-scale joint net will be set for April 26, 2023. A motion to accept the Secretary's report was made by Jim KD5KBU and seconded by Rusty KB5R. The motion carried.

Charlie N5CET, announced that Mike WA5POK had been selected to receive the President's Award for 2022. Congratulations Mike.

**Members / Friends list.** Charlie N5CET reminded members that those folks who have not paid their 2023 dues by March 31, 2023 will be placed on the “friends of the BBARC” listing rather than on the “members of BBARC” listing. This initiative will result in a true and accurate member count. Such a count will aid the club in determining its ARRL affiliation status.

**WinLink Training** Charlie N5CET, is willing to conduct additional WinLink training, either group sessions or individual training. Interested members can coordinate with Charlie directly. Eleven club members are WinLink Telnet capable, and five of those are WinLink HF capable.

**April BBARC Meeting** A special presentation by Foster Rich K5EUZ will take place. Foster lives in California and at one time lived in Alpine. He is active on the BBARC Emergency net. The presentation will center on Amateur Radio station hardening( grounding, lightning protection, EMF rejection). Foster has vast experience in this area. We expect a fair number of guests and visitors to join us for the presentation.

**Field Day 2023** We would like to have more operators at each of the stations. We will continue with the advanced assignments of duties, tasks, and responsibilities as initiated last year. This allows the club to fully prepare for field day, as much as possible, ahead of time. Stephen Cook KE5WCP, has volunteered to be the club’s Field Day Boss for this year’s Field Day events. Before this meeting the club had entertained the idea of moving the Field Day location to a new site, possibly the open area around the Mason’s building. To that end, at this meeting, Charlie N5CET read a letter submitted by Rachel KI5JTB. The letter, a heartfelt advocacy for keeping the Double Diamond Pavilion as our Field Day site, prompted a discussion among the group. Ultimately, Rusty KB5R made a motion that the club retain the Double Diamond Pavilion as the Field Day site, the motion was seconded by Mike WA5POK. The motion carried. Charlie N5CET informed that the pump that supplies water to the pavilion area is not operational, it is unknown if the pump is off or in disrepair. Bob WA5ROE, will check with Susan, regarding the matter. An attempt to mitigate interference among the various operating stations will be made by changing antenna placements and station operating positions. Club members also came to the consensus that attracting more visitors to our Field Day activities should be a priority.

**Phone Tree** Scott has updated the phone tree with additional phone numbers and groups. The phone tree is for rapid notification, among the membership, in the event of an emergency. When activated, key members of the tree will be notified of the situation at hand. Those members will, in turn, notify the other members of their groups. Groups are kept small so that no single person must make many calls/notifications.

**March Emergency Exercise** Sometime on March 30, 2023, the phone tree will be “put to the test”. On that day, Bob WA5ROE will activate the phone tree, this will serve as a test to gauge the efficiency of the procedures that are in place for such activations. The overall goal is to reach the greatest number of members in a short time and provide them with additional instructions, requests, or assignments. This may include monitoring the club’s HF emergency net and/or the club’s 2-meter repeater system to render radio assistance to the emergency or to receive news or updates regarding the emergency event. Another test, unannounced, will most likely take place sometime before Field Day 2023. This may lead to a reinvigorated and revised Emergency Action Plan for the club.

**SkyWarn Training** April 18, 2023, 7:00pm at the Sul Ross Everett Turner Range Animal Science Center on Highway 90, about one mile east of the main Sul Ross campus. The training will be in Room 130. The expected duration is less than two hours. There is no need to pre-register for the training. Attendance by all those that are interested is encouraged.

**New Business** Bob WA5ROE mentioned that Hector, the automated information voice of the 2-meter repeater system gives a wrong time for our club meetings. Hector says the meetings are at 7:30pm. They start at 7:00pm. Scott has spoken to Doug N5HYD about the erroneous message. Doug will retire soon, hopefully he will be able to fix it after his retirement, if not sooner. The fix may be somewhat involved.

Marvin KG5LMG has installed a 2-meter radio at the Davis Mountains Resort fire station. Jim KD5KBU told the membership that the Fire Station in Ft. Davis is also equipped with a 2-meter radio. Club members discussed the pending Midland Hamfest and the possibility, weather permitting, that some members would attend.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bill K5WSA and seconded by Pam KG5ZIC, the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2011 (8:11pm).

Respectfully submitted,

Lonny L. Hillin  
BBARC Secretary  
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